

The Fourth Sunday
after The Epiphany



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia

January 29, 2023

8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

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Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Fritz Wiese and LuAnne Wiese, Musician Leaders

☐ = Pastor ☑ = Lector [reader] ☒ = Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship
↑ Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDES

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion. Communion is offered by intinction: you may receive a wafer and dip it in the chalice with wine or white grape juice. Or you may pick up a prefilled communion "kit" on the altar rail as you approach the altar. Please tell an usher if you need a communion kit brought to you where you sit. At home you may prepare ahead of time wine/grape juice and bread appropriate for your family. Our liturgy declares we celebrate with "the church on earth and the hosts of heaven."

We acknowledge that communion always connects us "remotely" and powerfully with the Church through time and space.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Miriam

VOICES IN PRAISE A GUITAR LITURGY FOR HOLY COMMUNION

↑ GATHERING

☐ In the name of the Father, and the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☒ Amen.

↑ FATHER, FORGIVE

☐ Almighty God, prior to coming before you, we must admit that we have sinned against your will and against your name.

☒ **Father, Forgive.**

☐ When we have not loved our neighbors and family members, and when we have worked against their favor, causing hurt, anger, or pain. For the things we have done and the things we have left undone,

☒ **Father, Forgive.**

☐ Merciful Father,

☒ **We have sinned against you with our whole being,
and are not worthy to ask your forgiveness,
but through your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us,**

☐ Almighty God, in his mercy, sent Jesus Christ to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins!

With clean hearts and new futures, let us lift our voices in praise.

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE

1 All praise to the Father, from whom all things come.
All praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son.
All praise to the Spirit, the three-in-one.
All heaven and earth, let's praise him in song.

Refrain: Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia. ▶

- 2 Our heavenly maker, created us whole.
 God sent Jesus Christ to save our souls.
 His Spirit's alive here in you and in me.
 Let's praise the Lord joyfully now as we sing.

Refrain: Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.

↑ GREETING AND SHARING OF PEACE

- P** Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us greet one another with the peace of the Lord.

↑ OPENING SONG

- 1 We gather here today, to lift our voices in praise,
 Sing Hosanna * and allelu.
 Praise to the Father, praise to the Son,
 Praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
- 2 The week that we've been through, at times was dark and blue,
 We lift our prayers of hope to you.
 You take away the worry, you take away the pain,
 We thank you Lord, in Jesus' name.
- 3 Bless our worship here, your Spirit's always near. Come to our hearts as we pray.
 We want to know about your will, How your kingdom's on its way.
 We want to be more like you everyday.

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**
P Let us pray. Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly
 and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving
 for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ,
 our Savior and Lord. **C** **Amen.**

↑ KYRIE

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| L In peace let us pray to God above. | C Lo-ord, have mercy. |
| L Salvation and grace be ours today. | C Lo-ord, have mercy. |
| L For all who need your help at this time, | C Lo-ord, have mercy. |
| L For peace in the world let us pray. | C Lo-ord, have mercy. |
| L For all who gather here and give praise, | C Lo-ord, have mercy. |
| L Comfort and save us, Lord, we pray. | C Lo-ord, have mercy. |

READINGS: From Genesis 37-42, Exodus 2 and 19, and Matthew 1-2

- L** Today's Lesson comes from verses from both the Old and New Testaments.
 Scripture is read aloud and presented on the screen.
Part 1 ~ Dreams, Egypt, and Two Josephs
Part 2 ~ Mount Sinai, Moses, God
- L** Word of God, word of life. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

↑ GOSPEL SONG

You gave us the words of Christ, Who bought our sins * at a great price.
He showed us all how to live, And all the reasons * for us to give.

Refrain: We say, Lord, thank you for this day. We know Jesus has come to save.

Christ came and led a human life,
Filled with pain, * suffering and strife.
His Spirit works in you and in me.
He lives in us * for all to see. **Refrain**

Bless the words we're about to hear.
Let them comfort * and bring us cheer.
We want to hear more of your love,
And the place you made * for us above. **Refrain**

↑ GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

Ⓟ The Holy Gospel Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 5.

Ⓒ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Ⓟ ¹When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain. After he sat down his disciples came to him.

²Then he began to teach them by saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called the children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness,
for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

¹¹⁻¹²“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil things about
you falsely on account of me. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, because your reward is great in heaven,
for they persecuted the prophets before you in the same way. —*New English Translation*

Ⓟ The Gospel of the Lord.

Ⓒ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY: *Blessed Are the Poor Among You*

Tune: PROMISES

1 **Blessed are the poor among you, Jesus said. Blessed are you hungry ones who long for bread.
Blessed are you mournful when your tears abound. God is turning everything around.
Hear the good news! God is giving you the kingdom and the laughter.
God will fill you — and you will know the joy that overflows. ▶**

- 3 **Woe to all you rich who live with blinders on, feasting at your tables till the food is gone.
Woe to you who laugh and live without a care; Woe! When people praise you everywhere.
God has spoken: You have all received your joy and consolation.
I was hungry — but did you share what God had given you?**
- 4 **God, your way of working is a great surprise! Help us all to see your world through faithful eyes.
Only in your kingdom is our true joy found. By your Spirit, turn our lives around!
Yours is good news! You have offered us the kingdom and the laughter.
Please, God, fill us, and we will know the joy that overflows.**

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette ©1998 We purchased her book, *Gifts of Love*, and so have permission to use this hymn.

↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** Let us confess our baptismal faith together.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*When the petition concludes "Merciful God," please respond, "receive our prayer"
 The prayers are ended with these words, "We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God,
 trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified." Please respond, "Amen."*

OFFERING

We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail. Thank you.

Link to give: <https://coslutheran.org/give/>



OFFERING MUSIC

I give as you have given me, all I have and will ever be.
 You cared from the start, I give from my heart, I give as you have given me.

I pray the prayer you gave to me, You've blessed my life incredibly.
 My worries and cares, now I can bear, I give as you have given me.

I think you for my enemies, My job, my friends, my family.
 I can never repay, all that you gave, I give as you have given me.
 I give as you have given me.

↑ WE PREPARE FOR THE MEAL

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts. **C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

↑ JESUS' COMMAND and PROMISES

I Corinthians 11:23-25

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

SHARING OF THE MEAL

*Please approach the altar using the diagonal aisles and return by the side or middle aisles.
You will be offered a wafer, which you may dip in the chalice of wine or white grape juice.
You may also choose a packaged cup with wine or grape juice, or a gluten-free wafer with wine.
At home commune each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:
"The body of Christ for you" and "The blood of Christ for you."*

↑ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C Amen.

↑ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P** Let us pray: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

↑ CLOSING SONG, BENEDICTION, and SENDING

We gathered here today, to lift our voices in praise.
Sing Hosanna * and Allelu.
Praise to the Father, praise to the Son, Praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
You blessed our worship here; your Spirit's always near.
You came to our hearts as we prayed.
We heard about your will,
How your kingdom's on the way,
We'll try to be more like you every day.

Guitars will play the first two lines of the last verse while the Benediction is offered.

Praise to the Father, praise to the Son, Praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
Praise to the Father, praise to the Son, Praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.

- C** Thanks be to God!

↑ POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Carol and Paul Talbott

Tech crew: Davida Kilgore and Dakota Atkins (8:30); Linda Volckmann (11:00)

Ushers: Mark Barbour and Bob Spruck (8:30); Pat and Mike Oliver (11:00)

Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God by Kathie Manes.

