



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

God and Country Sunday ☩ July 2, 2023 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship & Music

P = Pastor **L** = Lector [reader] **C** Congregation *ELW*=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (hymnal)

PRELUDE

Carolyn Callison, flute

Welcome to worship! This special service has been observed by Christ Our Shepherd for decades, perhaps from the church's beginnings. 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

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE: *My Country, 'Tis of Thee*

- 1 **My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side, let freedom ring.**
- 2 **My native country, thee, land of the noble free, Thy name I love,
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills, like that above.**
- 3 **Our forebears' God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might, Great God, our king.**

Text: Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895). Text is in Public Domain.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE - July 4, 1776

- L** from The Declaration of Independence.
"We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.
To secure these rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness—
whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it."

↑ DIALOGUE

- L** Please stand and let us read responsively God's words entrusted to us.
God said, "Let us make humans in our image." **GENESIS 1:26**
- C** **When God created humankind, he made them in the likeness of God.** **GENESIS 5:1**
- L** The LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and then God breathed into his nostrils the breath of LIFE. **GENESIS 2:7**
- C** **The spirit of God has made us, and the breath of the Almighty gives us LIFE.** **JOB 33:4**



- Ⓛ In Him (Jesus) was LIFE, and the LIFE was the light of all people. Jesus said: “I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of LIFE. JOHN 1:4; 8:12
- ☞ **“I came that they may have LIFE and have it abundantly. JOHN 10:10**
- Ⓛ The Lord says: Proclaim LIBERTY to the captives. Bring good news to the oppressed. Bind up the brokenhearted. ISAIAH 61:1
- ☞ **For freedom Christ has set us free.**
- Ⓛ Therefore, stand firm, ... for we are called to freedom, brothers and sisters. GALATIANS 5:1
- ☞ **Jesus said, “I came that they may have LIFE and have it abundantly. JOHN 10:10
Come share my HAPPINESS with me.” MATTHEW 25:21**

↑ GREETING

- Ⓟ From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.
- ☞ **And also with you.**

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Ⓟ Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties working toward justice and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ☞ **Amen.**

THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

- Ⓛ We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America.

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 6:12 and Isaiah 1:16-17

- Ⓛ The Old Testament lesson is from Deuteronomy, the sixth chapter, and from the Prophet Isaiah, the first chapter.

Respect the Lord your God, and do what he has told you to do. Love him. Serve the Lord your God with your whole being,¹⁷ and learn to do right. See that justice is done—help those who are oppressed, give orphans their rights, and defend widows.” NRSVUE

- Ⓛ Word of God, word of life. ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON: Galatians 5:13-14

The New Testament lesson is from Paul’s Letter to the church in Galatia, the fifth chapter,

It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don’t use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that’s how freedom grows. For everything we know about God’s Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That’s an act of true freedom. (Amen) THE MESSAGE

- Ⓛ Word of God, word of life. ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

↑ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Battle Hymn of the Republic*

ELW Hymn 890

**1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword: his truth is marching on.**

Refrain: **Glory, glory! HALLELUJAH! Glory, glory! HALLELUJAH!
Glory, glory! HALLELUJAH! His truth is marching on.**

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910

Text is in Public Domain.

↑ **GOSPEL: Luke 4:18-24**

📖 The Gospel according to Luke, the fourth chapter. 🎧 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord. 🎧 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *God of Our Fathers*

Tune: *National Hymn*

**1 God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
leads forth in beauty all the starry band
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:
our grateful songs before your throne arise.**

**2 Your love divine has led us in the past;
in this free land by you our lot is cast;
oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
your word our law, your paths our chosen way.**

**4 Refresh your people on their toilsome way;
lead us from night to never-ending day;
fill all our lives with heav’n-born love and grace
until at last we meet before your face.**

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841-1907, alt.

Text is in Public Domain.

↑ 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.

FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

L "It is for us, the living ... to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought ... have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to ... take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we here highly resolve that ... [our] dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that the government: of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

C **¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**

L ¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God." {Psalm 46:1, 10}

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "God, in your mercy," please respond, "hear our prayer."

The prayers are ended with these words, "Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ." Please respond, "Amen."

OFFERING

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

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



OFFERING MUSIC: *Patriotic Medley*

Carolyn Callison, flute

↑ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. —ELW Hymn #193

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- ☐ 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 COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

*As the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church.
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
(as we have been using throughout the pandemic).
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."*

COMMUNION HYMN: *Land of Bounty! Land of Beauty!*

Tune: *BEACH SPRING*

- 1 **Land of bounty! Land of beauty! Land of hope, so rich in Grace!
From our founding in new promise to our rocketing through space,
Creature habitats abounding, mountain grandeur, tidal streams,
Fertile farmland, vast resources shine as gifts surpassing dreams.**
- 2 **Called to share fair freedom's treasures, we became a beacon bright,
Off'ring to the yearning pilgrims opportunity as right;
Mettle strengthened by our melding, all earth's cultures our alloy,
Tempered and refined by talent, fruitful in creative joy.**
- 3 **But when pride in independence joins with passion to possess,
Social bonds sell out to power; common good, to selfishness.
When we seek mere private riches, poor in heart t'ward others' needs,
All our high words may ring hollow if not matched by caring deeds.**
- 4 **Just and loving God of nations, guide our mending ev'ry flaw.
Shed again your light, your mercy, on our liberty in law.
May our noblest patriot visions prize anew this land, our home,
And yet see, in sharper focus, your bold truth and peace now come!**

Text: William A. Pasch, 2011. Dr. Pasch is Organist and Composer-in-Residence at First Presbyterian Church in Peachtree City. He is married to Pastor Katie Pasch.

↑ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

- ☐ The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed
✚ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. ☐ **Amen.**

↑ **SENDING HYMN:** *America, the Beautiful*

ELW Hymn 888

- 1** O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain:
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.
- 2** O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life.
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine.
- 3** O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears:
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

Text: Katherine Lee Bates, 1859-1929 Text is in Public Domain.

↑ **DISMISSAL**

- P** Go in peace. Share the harvest. Announce to all the possibilities of Jesus' joy and life.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

↑ **POSTLUDE**

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Tech Crews: *Davida Kilgore and Dakota Atkins, 8:30;
Carol Jensen-Linton, Linda Volckmann, Joni Siepert, Natalie Irvin 11:00*

Ushers: *Tor Brunso, Buddy Troy, 8:30; Tom Conrad, Rich DuBreuil, 11:00*

Readers: *Debi Handy, Bill Grabill, 8:30
Patrick Bauer, 11:00*

Altar Guild: *Carol Jensen-Linton*

Service Musician: *Dave Byers, euphonium*

Sanctuary flowers are given by *Karl and Cheryl Dietmeyer* in honor of their wedding anniversary on July 3rd.

