

ELEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
August 13, 2023
8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

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Peachtree City, Georgia

11th Sunday after Pentecost ☩ August 13, 2023 ☩ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

Cheryl Dietmeyer, Service Musician

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation *ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)*
⬆ Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

Cheryl Dietmeyer

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

⬆ **EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

⬆ **GATHERING HYMN: *You Servants of God***

ELW Hymn 825

- 1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol; his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!**
- 2 Ascended on high, almighty to save, yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!**
- 3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**
- 4 Then let us adore and give him his right, all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Text in the public domain.

⬆ **GREETING**

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
☑ **And also with you.**

⬆ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- ☐ Let us pray. O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ **Amen.**

READING: Isaiah 43:16, 1-2 and 41:13

- ☒ The Old Testament reading is from Isaiah, the forty-third and forty-first chapters.



This is what the Eternal One says, the One who does the impossible,
the One who makes a path through the sea, a smooth road through tumultuous waters:
... See, you have nothing to fear. I, *who made you*, will take you back.

I have chosen you, named you as My own.

² When you face *stormy* seas I will be there with you *with endurance and calm*;
you will not be engulfed in *raging* rivers.

^{41:13} After all, it is I, the Eternal One your God, who has hold of your right hand,
who whispers in your ear, ‘Don’t be afraid. I will help you.’”

Ⓛ Word of God, Word of Life. ☑ Thanks be to God

PSALMODY: Psalm 69:1-3, 14-15; and Psalm 18:16

We read the verses responsively

Ⓛ ¹ *Reach down for me*, True God; deliver me.
The waters have risen to my neck; *I am going down!*

☑ ² **My feet are swallowed in this murky bog;
I am sinking—there is no sturdy ground.**

Ⓛ I am in the deep; the floods are crashing in!

☑ ³ **I am weary ...but I still look for my God.**

Ⓛ ¹⁴ Pluck me from this murky bog; don’t let it pull me down! Pull me from this rising water.
¹⁵ Don’t let the flood take me under or let me be swallowed into the deep

☑ ¹⁶ **He reached down *His hand* from above me; He held me.
He lifted me from the raging waters.**

⤴ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Ask the Complicated Questions*

ACS Hymn 1005

**1 Ask the complicated questions. Do not fear to be found out;
for our God makes strong our weakness, forging faith in fires of doubt.**

**4 For in struggle we discover truth both simple and profound;
in the knocking, asking, seeking, we are opened, answered, found.**

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

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⤴ **GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33**

Ⓟ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourteenth chapter. ☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Directly after this Jesus insisted on his disciples’ getting aboard their boat and going on ahead to the other side, while he himself sent the crowds home. And when he had sent them away he went up the hill-side quite alone, to pray.

When it grew late he was there by himself while the boat was by now a long way from the shore at the mercy of the waves, for the wind was dead against them.

In the small hours Jesus went out to them, walking on the water of the lake.

When the disciples caught sight of him walking on the water they were terrified. “It’s a ghost!” they said, and screamed with fear.

But at once Jesus spoke to them. “It’s all right! It’s I myself, don’t be afraid!”

²⁸ “Lord, if it’s really you,” said Peter, “tell me to come to you on the water.”



^{29a} “Come on, then,” replied Jesus.

^{29b-33} Peter stepped down from the boat and did walk on the water, making for Jesus. But when he saw the fury of the wind he panicked and began to sink, calling out, “Lord save me!”

At once Jesus reached out his hand and caught him, saying, “You little-faith! What made you lose your nerve like that?”

Then, when they were both aboard the boat, the wind dropped. The whole crew came and knelt down before Jesus, crying, “You are indeed the Son of God!”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord. ☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

11:00-Children go to Children’s Chapel

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

⤴ HYMN OF THE DAY: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

ELW Hymn 756

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.
- 2 O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.
- 4 O Trinity of love and pow'r, all trav'lers guard in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt. Text in the public domain.

⤴ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES’ CREED

- ☐ Let us confess our baptismal faith together.
- ☑ **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 CHURCH

When the petition concludes “Hear us, O God.,” please respond, “Your mercy is great..”

The prayers are ended with these words, “Into your hands, ... in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.” Please respond, “Amen.”

INVITATION TO 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

↑ 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 and 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

- P** 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

- C** **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

*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 either the chalice of wine or the 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."*

COMMUNION HYMN: *This Is Christ's Body*

ACS Hymn 967

**This is Christ's body, broken and blest. Feed us with mercy and love.
We are Christ's body, broken and blest. Heal us and make us one. (sing 3 times)**

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960
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COMMUNION HYMN: *When Peace like a River*

ELW Hymn 785

- 1** **When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.**

Hymn continues on next page.

Refrain

**It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**3 He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain**

**4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul. Refrain**

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888. Text in the public domain.

† 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: O God, Our Help in Ages Past*ELW Hymn 632*

**1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:**

**2 Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

**4 A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.**

**6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Text in the public domain

† SENDING

☞ Go in peace. Share the harvest. Announce to all the possibilities of Jesus' joy and life.

☩ Thanks be to God.

† POSTLUDE*Cheryl Dietmeyer*

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Altar Guild: Betty Schmidt, Sue Forward

Lector: Laura Musil (8:30); April Peterson (11:00)

Tech crew: Davida Kilgore, Dakota Atkins (8:30)

Carol Jensen-Linton, Joni Siepert, Brad Milburn (11:00)

Ushers: Mark Barbour, Bob Spruck (8:30); Ben McCumber, Pat Oliver (11:00)

Altar flowers given by Joni Siepert in loving memory of our father, John Henry Siepert