TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia August 20, 2023 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

12th Sunday after Pentecost # August 20, 2023 # 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

PRELUDE

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 Fritz

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

TO GATHERING HYMN: Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW Hymn 665

- Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.
- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.
- Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.
- Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

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† GREETING

- P 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

- P God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- **G** Amen.

READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

L The Old Testament reading is from Isaiah, the fifty-sixth chapter.

hus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD. and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— ⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

■ Word of God, Word of Life. ■ Thanks be to God

† 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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P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fifteenth chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

SERMON Pastor Fritz

THYMN OF THE DAY: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW Hymn 588

- There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.

 There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n.

 There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.
- There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

 There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.
- For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

 But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all: greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall.

 Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt. Text in the public domain.

1 OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

- **P** 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

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 (11:00) For the Least, Wayne Wold

Sanctuary choir

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- 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:
- 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

企 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.

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: Build a Longer Table

ACS Hymn 1062

- Build a longer table, not a higher wall, feeding those who hunger, making room for all. Feasting together, stranger turns to friend, Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.
- Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail; where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail. For any place where justice is denied, Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.

Hymn continues the next page.

- Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence. Love protects all people, sparing no expense. When we embrace compassion more than fear, Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.
- When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad, Christ became our doorway to the reign of God. So must our tables welcome those who roam. None can be excluded; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

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† 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.

立 SENDING HYMN: To Be Your Presence

ELW Hymn 546

- To be your presence is our mission here, to show compassion's face and list'ning ear, to be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!
- To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold, to be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!
- To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all the broken and oppressed, to be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!
- We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your people is our call and choice, and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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☆ SENDING

- P Go in peace. Share the harvest. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

† POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Betty Schmidt, Sue Forward

Lector: Stephen Gundersen (8:30); David Turk (11:00)

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

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

Ushers: John Musil, Tor Bunso (8:30); Paul Talbott, Rich DuBreuil (11:00)

Altar flowers given by Kathie Manes in honor of Anna's Birthday