# MULTIPLYING LOVE WEEK 3: MULTIPLYING LEADERS



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia November 12, 2023 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

P = Pastor □ = Lector [reader] □ Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)

↑ Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE (11:00) Let All Things Now Living & How Majestic Is Your Name

Rita DaNell, flute

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.

#### **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Miriam

#### **THE PEACE**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always
- **And also with you.**

We share a sign of God's peace.

**† GATHERING HYMN:** Christ, Be Our Light

ELW Hymn 715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

#### Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice. *Refrain*
- Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. *Refrain*
- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. *Refrain*
- Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

#### **†** 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.

# **THYMN OF PRAISE:** This is the Feast

ELW pg. 140

Refrain-This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. to Refrain Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. to Refrain Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. to Refrain

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. to Refrain

#### **† PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- Amen.

# FIRST READING: Ephesians 3.14-21

see insert

**†** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: We Are an Offering

ELW Hymn 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,

we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,

Lord, use our lives they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are,

all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,

we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Text and music: Dwight Liles

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see insert

# SERMON

### **1 HYMN OF THE DAY:** Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

ELW Hymn 707

Pastor Miriam

- Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice; and with that have freely given blessings countless as the sand to the unthankful and the evil with your own unsparing hand.
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you gladly, freely, of your own. With the sunshine of your goodness melt our thankless hearts of stone till our cold and selfish natures, warmed by you, at length believe that more happy and more blessed 'tis to give than to receive.
- Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest charity in your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it all to me." Naked, sick, in prison, hungry—in the least, your face we view, saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
- 4 Lord of glory, you have bought us with your lifeblood as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice.

  Give us faith to trust you boldly, hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of all your graces, with your love our love renew.

#### **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, "We offer our spoken prayers … through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord." **Please respond, "Amen."** 

#### "MULTIPLYING LOVE" INSPIRATION AND RECEPTION OF GIVING INTENTS

#### 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.

MUSICAL OFFERING (11:00) Now Thank We All Our God, Michael Rosewall Sanctuary Choir

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
- Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

  Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

  Hosanna in the highest.

  —ELW page 144

#### **① WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### 

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.

#### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

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.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

—ELW page 146

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#### **COMMUNION HYMN:** Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW Hymn 689

- Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer for all things living, you have made good: harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.
- God, bless the labor we bring to serve you, that with our neighbor we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with you, harvesting, milling for daily bread.
- Father, providing food for your children, by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share one with another, so that, rejoicing with us, all others may know your care.
- 4 Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people, freely confessing your gracious hand. Where you are reigning, no one will hunger; your love sustaining showers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.
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#### **† PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION**

- P The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.
- Amen.

## **TO SENDING HYMN:** O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW Hymn 632

- 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.
- Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 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.

## **<b>立 SENDING**

- P Go in peace. Invite all to join in multiplying love and connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- **Q** Thanks be to God.

#### **☆ POSTLUDE**

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Altar Guild: Pat Oliver, Pat Frye

Lector: (8:30) Jaycine Lester

(11:00) Marty Hagberg

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

(11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Linda Volckmann, Brad Milburn

Usher: (8:30) Buddy Troy

(11:00) Ben McCumber, Harper McCumber, Mike Oliver

Altar flowers given in honor of Matthew Hawkins' birthday by Laura and Kevin Hawkins.

# THE LESSONS Sunday, November 12

# First Reading: Ephesians 3.14-21

The New Testament reading is from Ephesians, the 3rd chapter.

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. 

Thanks be to God

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

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

# Moravian Christmas Love Feast

All those wishing to sing in the choir for this year's Moravian Christmas Love Feast, are welcome and strongly encouraged to attend choir rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. Rehearsals begin at 7:00 and will rehearse the Love Feast music at the beginning of the rehearsals on November 15, 29 and December 6.