

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

New Chapters



NEW CHAPTERS IN LOCATION

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
March 3, 2024
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

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

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

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.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

↑ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

☐ Holy God,

☑ **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**

We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

Amen.

☐ Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ.

☑ **Amen.**

↑ **GATHERING HYMN:** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

ELW Hymn 324

- 1 **In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.**
- 2 **When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.**
- 3 **When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.**
- 4 **Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.**

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
Text is 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.**

↑ **KYRIE**

ACS page 31

**Kyrie eleison, Lord, have mercy. Christe eleison, Christ have mercy.
Kyrie eleison, Lord, have mercy.**

↑ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- ☞ Let us pray. Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- ☞ **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Numbers 14.1-12

see insert

↑ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Return to God*

**Return to God with all your heart, the source of grace and mercy;
Come seek the tender faithfulness of God (sing 2 times)**

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↑ **GOSPEL: John 1:43-46; Mark 1:35-39; Luke 9:51; John 2:13-22**

see insert

SERMON

Pastor Fritz

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *What Is This Place*

ELW Hymn 524

- 1 **What is this place where we are meeting? Only a house, the earth its floor.
Walls and a roof sheltering people, windows for light, an open door.
Yet it becomes a body that lives when we are gathered here,
and know our God is near.**
- 2 **Words from afar, stars that are falling, sparks that are sown in us like seed:
names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders sent from the past are all we need.
We in this place remember and speak again what we have heard:
God's free redeeming word.**
- 3 **And we accept bread at this table, broken and shared, a living sign.
Here in this world, dying and living, we are each other's bread and wine.
This is the place where we can receive what we need to increase:
our justice and God's peace.**

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933
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↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us profess 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 CHURCH

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

The prayers are ended with these words, "Accompany us on our journey ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior." Please respond, "Amen."

↑ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C And also with you.

We share a sign of God's peace.

REJOICE AND RENEW: A Call to Sanctuary Renewal

Ingathering and dedication of pledges.

INVITATION TO OFFERING (to resource the general core fund) *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 *Lamb of God, F. Melius Christiansen*

(11:00)-Sanctuary choir

↑ 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, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, 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 190

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ 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.

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.

C O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

—ELW Hymn 196

COMMUNION HYMN: *How Great Thou Art**ELW Hymn 856*

- 1 **O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

Refrain

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!**

- 3 **But when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing he bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain***

- 4 **When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain***

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989.

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↑ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

- ☞ Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage, and ✚ give you peace.

☞ Amen.

↑ SENDING HYMN: *Built on a Rock**ELW Hymn 652*

- 1 **Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling—
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.**
- 2 **Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling—
high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling.
Yet God who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.**
- 3 **Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.**
- 4 **Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant,
granting his children the kingdom.**
- 5 **Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.

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↑ SENDING

- ☞ Go in peace. Share your bread.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- ☞ Thanks be to God.

↑ POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild:

Lector: (8:30)-Jaycine Lester; (11:00)-Rod Barkow

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

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

Ushers: (8:30)-Tor Brunso; (11:00)-Ethan Miller

THE LESSONS

Sunday, March 3

FIRST READING: Numbers 14.1-12. Message Version.

The first reading is from Numbers, the 14th chapter.

This story takes place after Moses sends twelve spies into the location that God has promised them as the Holy Land. After scouting the territory, 2 of the 12 spies are excited to enter the new land immediately. But 10 of the 12 spies report that there are too many challenges . . .

1-3 The whole community was in an uproar, wailing all night long. All the People of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The entire community was in on it:

(All men read) **“Why didn’t we die in Egypt? Or in this wilderness? Why has God brought us to this country to kill us? Our wives and children are about to become plunder. Why don’t we just head back to Egypt? And right now!”**

4 Soon they were all saying it to one another:

“Let’s pick a new leader; let’s head back to Egypt.”

5 Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in front of the entire community, gathered in emergency session.

6-9 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, members of the scouting party, ripped their clothes and addressed the assembled People of Israel:

(All women read) **“The land we walked through and scouted out is a very good land—very good indeed. If God is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land that flows, as they say, with milk and honey. And he’ll give it to us. Just don’t rebel against God! And don’t be afraid of those people. Why, we’ll have them for lunch! They have no protection and God is on our side. Don’t be afraid of them!”**

10-12 But, up in arms now, the entire community was talking of hurling stones at them. Just then the bright Glory of God appeared at the Tent of Meeting. Every Israelite saw it.

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☒ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God

The Gospel reading is on the back.

GOSPEL: John 1:43-46; Mark 1:35-39; Luke 9:51; John 2:13-22

P The Gospel according to John and other passages. **C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 1.43-46

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Mark 1.35-39

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Luke 9.51

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

John 2:13-22.

13The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. 15Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. . . . 18The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" 19Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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