

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
June 16, 2024
11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Carla Knobler, Interim Associate Pastor
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music David Beecher, Guest Musician

☐ = 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 take a pre-packaged kit with grape juice and a gluten-free wafer from the center communion server. Please tell an usher if you need communion brought to you where you sit.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Carla

⤴ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always

☑ **And also with you.**

We share a sign of God's peace.

⤴ GATHERING HYMN: *We Know That Christ Is Raised*

ELW Hymn 449

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold, and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah!

2 We share by water in his saving death. Reborn, we share with him an Easter life, as living members of our Savior Christ. Hallelujah!

3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God. Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah!

4 A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Text © John B. Geyer. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

⤴ 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

☐ O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

FIRST READING Ezekiel 17:22-24

see insert

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

see insert

† **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy*
Refrain

ELW Hymn 762

**Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,
God, the Lord of earth and heaven. Holy, holy is our God.
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,
God, the Lord of all of hist'ry. Holy, holy is our God.**

**Who accompanies our people, who lives within our struggles,
of all the earth and heaven the one and only Lord.
Blest are they who in the Lord's name announce the holy gospel,
proclaiming the good news that our liberation comes. *Refrain***

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955; tr. Linda McCrae
Text © 1993, 1994 GIA Publications Inc. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

† **GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34**

see insert

Children go to Children's Chapel

SERMON

Pastor Carla

† **HYMN OF THE DAY** *God of the Fertile Fields*

ACS Hymn 1063

- 1 God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
that all in ev'ry land be clothed and fed.**
- 2 We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share, teach us like you to care
for people ev'rywhere, that all may live.**
- 3 As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows.
Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused,
no humble task refused your love bestows.**
- 4 God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one:
we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.**

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, alt.
Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Use by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

† **OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED**

☞ Let us profess 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 "Merciful God," please respond, "Receive our prayer."
The prayers are ended with these words, "Receive our prayers,... through the power of the Spirit and
the love of Jesus Christ." 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/>



MUSICAL OFFERING

↑ 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, my heart, my heart adores you. My heart is glad to say the words:**
You are holy, God. —*ELW Hymn 473*

Text: Argentine traditional. Text in the public domain.

↑ 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 use either the communion station at the rear or front of the room.
 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 pre-packaged cup with grape juice and a gluten-free wafer.*

COMMUNION HYMN *As the Grains of Wheat*

ELW Hymn 465

Refrain

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread;
 so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.**

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929.

COMMUNION HYMN *For the Fruit of All Creation*

ELW Hymn 679

**1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
 For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
 For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
 future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**

**2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
 In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
 In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
 in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
 For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
 For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

↑ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

- ☞ The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✝ be upon you now and forever.
- ☞ Amen.

↑ SENDING HYMN *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

ELW Hymn 551

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.**
- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.**
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.**
- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.**

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

↑ SENDING

- ☞ Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

↑ POSTLUDE

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000345.
Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, administered by Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America. Used by permission.

Altar Guild: Susie Lucsko

Lector: Jaycine Lester

Tech crew: Carol Jensen-Linton, Joni Siepert, Brad McCumber

Ushers: Tom Smith, Paul Talbott

Worship flowers given by Leona Davis in memory of her beloved father, Paul Davis.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, June 16

FIRST READING Ezekiel 17:22-24

☐ The first reading is from Ezekiel, the 17th chapter.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:
I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.
²³On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.
I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

☐ The Word of the Lord. ☑ **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

☐ The second reading is from 2 Corinthians, the 5th chapter.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

☐ The Word of the Lord. ☑ **Thanks be to God**

Gospel is on the back.

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter. ☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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