

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
January 26, 2025
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Anna Walker, Preacher
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

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

*The prelude is the beginning of the worship service and is a time to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.
Please be respectful of the worshippers around you who are using this time for that purpose.*

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

⤴ 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: *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

ELW Hymn 886

**1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**

**2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**

**3 The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.**

**4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.**

**5 Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!**

**6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

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.**

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE *Now the Feast and Celebration*

ELW Hymn 167

**Refrain-Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!**

**1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. Refrain**

2 Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. Refrain

**3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God;
to make all things new. Refrain**

Text: Marty Haugen b. 1950

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↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray. Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 2:1-4

see insert

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:11-16, 21-24

see insert

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Listen to the Word*

ACS Hymn 974

**Listen to the word that God has spoken; listen to the One who is close at hand;
listen to the voice that began creation; listen even if you don't understand.**

Text: Anonymous, Canada

Text is in the public domain.

↑ GOSPEL: Luke 6:39-49

see insert

SERMON

Pastor Anna Walker

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

ELW Hymn 843

**1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
praise the One who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.**

**2 Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;
praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**

**3 Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one.**

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

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↑ 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.**

Continued on next page.

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 “God of grace,” please respond, “Hear our prayer.”

The prayers are ended with these words, “We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.” 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.



MUSICAL OFFERING (11:00) Carol of the Epiphany, John Bell

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 power and might, heaven and earth are 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 S200*

↑ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN: Lamb of God

ELW S201

**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, grant us peace.**

COMMUNION HYMN: Christ, Be Our Light

ELW Hymn 715

- 1** **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**

Continues on next page.

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**3 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**

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

**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**

**5 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

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† PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

☞ The Spirit of the triune God ✚ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

☛ 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

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† SENDING

☞ Go in peace. GROW in hope.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

☛ Thanks be to God.

† POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Carol Talbott

Lector: (8:30) DeLee Rehak

(11:00) David Beecher

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

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

Usher: (8:30) Jim Basinger, Buddy Troy

(11:00) Mike & Pat Oliver

Communion servers: (11:00) Sharon Lynch, Jeff & Mary Jeffrey

THE LESSONS

Sunday, January 26

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 2:1-4

The first reading is from 1st Peter, the 2nd chapter.

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

📖 The Word of the Lord. 🙏 Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:11-16, 21-24

The second reading is from Ephesians, the 4th chapter.

Christ himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to **equip** the saints for the work of ministry, for **building up** the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to **maturity** to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we must **grow up** in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, **joined and knit together** by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

For surely you have heard about Christ and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus, to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be **renewed** in the spirit of your minds, and to **clothe** yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

📖 The Word of the Lord. 🙏 Thanks be to God

GOSPEL: Luke 6:39-49

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter. 🙏 Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹He also told them a parable: "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher. ⁴¹Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? ⁴²Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

⁴³No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; ⁴⁴for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. ⁴⁵The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.

⁴⁶Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I tell you? ⁴⁷I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. ⁴⁸That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house."

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

