

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

March 23, 2025 9:45 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship & Music

P = Pastor C = All L = Leader

PRELUDE: *COUNT 'EM*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

EXCHANGING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

OPENING SONG: *THESE ARE THE DAYS*

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

READINGS: Zechariah 11:7-14;

Psalm 63:1-8 see insert

↑ GOSPEL: Matthew 26:6-25, 36-50 see insert

SERMON Ethan Miller

↑ SONG OF THE DAY: *BLESSED ASSURANCE*

↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH:
THE APOSTLES' CREED

MINISTRY MOMENT

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "God, in your mercy," please respond, "Receive our prayer."

When the prayers conclude, please respond, "Amen."

OFFERING

<https://coslutheran.org/give/>

We acknowledge that you may have given Online or through the mail. Thank you.



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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING COMMUNION AT CHURCH
or at home with your household

COMMUNION SONG: *BE STILL*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING &
BENEDICTION

P God our tender parent,
God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *HOLY WATER*

DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

DIALOGUE

Sunday, March 23

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Compassionate One,

☞ **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.
We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.
We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.**

☞ Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.
In ✠ Christ, your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

☞ **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Zechariah 11:7-14

☞ The 1st reading is from Zechariah, the 11th chapter

⁷So, on behalf of the sheep merchants, I became the shepherd of the flock doomed to slaughter. I took two staves; one I named Favor, the other I named Unity, and I tended the sheep. ⁸In one month I disposed of the three shepherds, for I had become impatient with them, and they also detested me. ⁹So I said, "I will not be your shepherd. What is to die, let it die; what is to be destroyed, let it be destroyed; and let those that are left devour the flesh of one another!" ¹⁰I took my staff Favor and broke it, annulling the covenant that I had made with all the peoples. ¹¹So it was annulled on that day, and the sheep merchants, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the LORD. ¹²I then said to them, "If it seems right to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them." So they weighed out as my wages thirty shekels of silver. ¹³Then the LORD said to me, "Throw it into the treasury" — this lordly price at which I was valued by them. So I took the thirty shekels of silver and threw them into the treasury in the house of the LORD. ¹⁴Then I broke my second staff Unity, annulling the family ties between Judah and Israel.

☞ The Word of the Lord. ☞ **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING: Psalm 63:1-8

☞ We read the Psalm responsively

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
²**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**
³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.
⁴**So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**
⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
⁶**when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**
⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
⁸**My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

Gospel on the back.

GOSPEL: Matthew 26:6-25, 36-50

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 26th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

⁶Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. ⁸But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, "Why this waste? ⁹For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor." ¹⁰But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. ¹¹For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. ¹²By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. ¹³Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

¹⁷On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; ²¹and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²²And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." ²⁵Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." ³⁹And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." ⁴⁰Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴²Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." ⁴³Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.