

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor William Flippin, 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.*

☐ Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
☑ Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ⬆ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

☐ The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always  
☑ And also with you.  
*We share a sign of God's peace.*

### ⬆ GATHERING HYMN: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

*ELW Hymn 631*

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

## ↑ GREETING

- [P] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
 [C] And also with you.

## ↑ HYMN 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] Let us pray. O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
 [C] Amen.

**FIRST READING Acts 9:36-43**

*see insert*

**SECOND READING Psalm 23**

*see insert*

## ↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Be Not Afraid*

*ELW Hymn 388*

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

**Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!**

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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## ↑ GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

*see insert*

## SERMON

Pastor William Flippin

## ↑ HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Lord's My Shepherd*

*ELW Hymn 778*

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want. he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.  
He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still;  
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast richly spread in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.  
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,  
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling-place shall be;  
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling-place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650

Text in the public domain.

## ↑ 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, "We commend these and all our prayers ... in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior." Please respond, "Amen."*

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

We now dedicate the financial gifts we offer to the Lord and the Lord's agenda, gifts either already given online, or before or after the service in the offering box. Likewise, we prayerfully consider the ways we offer ourselves to God's kingdom throughout the whole week.

*Link to give:* <https://coslutheran.org/give/>



## MUSICAL OFFERING

### ↑ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>P</b> The Lord be with you.   | <b>C</b> <b>And also with you.</b>                         |
| <b>P</b> Lift up your hearts.  | <b>C</b> <b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>                  |
| <b>P</b> Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.   | <b>C</b> <b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b> |
| <b>P</b> It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn: |  |
| <b>C</b> <b>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.</b>  |  |
| <b>Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.</b>        |  |
| <b>Hosanna in the highest.</b>   |  |
- ELW page 144*

## ↑ 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 grape juice and gluten-free wafer.*

- C** **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

## COMMUNION HYMN: 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.**

*Hymn continues on next page.*

- 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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### ↑ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING and PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.  
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,  
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
- C** **Amen.**

### ↑ BLESSING

- P** The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.
- C** **Amen.**

### ↑ SENDING HYMN: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

*ELW Hymn 768*

**Refrain**-Lead me, guide me, along the way; for if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

- 1. I am weak and I need thy strength an pow'r to help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain**
- 2. Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain**
- 3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy light to see.  
Lord, just always let me thy servant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain**

Text: Doris Akers, 1922-1995

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### ↑ SENDING

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P** Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### ↑ POSTLUDE

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in the United States of America. Used by permission.

*Altar Guild: Jan Christopher*

*Communion servers: (8:30) Sue & Bob Blackburn, Pat Ronco*

*Lector: (8:30) Pat Ronco*

*Tech team: (8:30) Davida Kilgore*

*Usher: (8:30) Stephen Gundersen, Buddy Troy*

# THE LESSONS

Sunday, May 11

## FIRST READING Acts 9:36-43

℣ The 1st reading is from Acts, the 9th chapter.

<sup>36</sup> Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God

## SECOND READING Psalm 23

℣ We read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

ℙ The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter. ☞ Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup> At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one."

ℙ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

