

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia

May 25, 2025 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Wes Smith, Pastor
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: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* *ELW Hymn 834*

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, 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:** *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**

☞ Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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 Acts 16:9-15

see insert

SECOND READING Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

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 14:23-29

see insert

SERMON

Pastor Wes

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Come Down, O Love Divine*

ELW Hymn 804

- 1 **Come down, O Love divine; seek thou this soul of mine
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**
- 2 **Oh, let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**
- 3 **Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing--
true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**
- 4 **And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;
no soul can guess Love's grace till it become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

Text in the public domain.

↑ **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.

Continued on next page.

**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

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

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

- ☐ **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.*

- ☐ **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: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

ELW Hymn 815

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

**Refrain—In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. Refrain**

- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain**

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

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↑ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING and PRAYER

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ **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: *Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded*

ACS Hymn 933

- 1 Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the news, the gospel spread!
 Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead!
 Sing of the sun from darkness appearing; sing of the seed from barren earth greening;
 sing of creation, alleluia!
 Sing of the stream from Jesus' side flowing; sing of the saints in water made holy;
 sing of salvation, alleluia!
- 2 Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the news, the gospel spread!
 Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead!
 Sing now of mourning turned into dancing; sing now the myst'ry, hope of our glory;
 sing with thanksgiving, alleluia!
 Sing now of fasting turned into feasting; sing the Lord's favor lasting forever;
 sing, all things living, alleluia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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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:

Lector: (8:30) Sue Blackburn (11:00) Dannee Barkow

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

(11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Brad Milburn, Joni Siepert

Usher: (8:30) Tor Brunso (11:00) Ethan Miller

Altar flowers given in honor of Pastor Miriam Beecher's 25 years of faithful service at COS.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, May 25

FIRST READING Acts 16:9-15

📖 The 1st reading is from Acts, the 16th chapter.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

📖 The 2nd reading is from Revelation, the 21st chapter.

¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

Gospel is on the back.

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

📖 The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter. 🙏 Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does

not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”



The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.