

# ASCENSION SUNDAY



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Peachtree City, Georgia  
June 1, 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: *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!*

*ELW Hymn 393*

- 1 **A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 **The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
and with his faithful foll'wers see their Lord ascend in majesty.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 **To whom the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" Alleluia! Alleluia!  
"This is the Savior!" thus they say, "this is his glorious triumph day!"  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 **"You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky." Alleluia! Alleluia!  
"Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 5 **O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## ↑ 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. Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
 ☞ **Amen.**

## READING Acts 16:16-34

*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: Luke 24:44-53

*see insert*

*11:00-Children may go to Children's church*

## SERMON

Pastor Fritz

## ↑ HYMN OF THE DAY: *With High Delight Let Us Unite*

*ELW Hymn 368*

- 1 With high delight let us unite in songs of sweet jubilation.  
 You pure in heart, all bear your part, sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.  
 To set us free forever, he is ris'n and sends to all earth's ends good news to save ev'ry nation.**
- 2 True God, he first from death has burst forth into life, all subduing.  
 His enemy now vanquished see; his death has been death's undoing.  
 "And yours shall be like victory o'er death and grave," says he, who gave his life for us, life renewing.**
- 3 Let praises ring; give thanks, and bring to Christ our Lord adoration.  
 His honor speed by word and deed to ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.  
 So shall his love give us above, from misery and death set free, all joy and full consolation.**

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-1599; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976, alt.

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## ↑ 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 “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** (11:00) *Do Not Be Afraid, Philip Stopford*  
*Sanctuary Choir; Casie Groover, soloist*

## ↑ 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>☑ <b>Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.<br/>Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.<br/>Hosanna in the highest.</b></p> | <p>☑ <b>And also with you.</b></p> <p>☑ <b>We lift them to the Lord.</b></p> <p>☑ <b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b></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: *Blessing, Honor, and Glory*

*ELW Hymn 433*

**Blessing, honor, glory to the lamb. Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.  
Death could not hold him down, for he is risen!  
Seated upon the throne, he is the Lamb of God!  
Blessing, honor, glory to the lamb. Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.  
Death could not hold him down, for he is risen!  
Seated upon the throne, he is the Lamb of God!  
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb of God (*repeat as needed*)**

Text: Geoff Bullock and David Reidy  
Music: BLESSING, HONOR AND GLORY, Geoff Bullock and David Reidy  
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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

- ☐ 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.
- ☑ **Amen.**

↑ **SENDING HYMN:** *Go to the World*

- 1**     **Go to the world! Go into all the earth.**  
**Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,**  
**baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.**  
**Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 2**     **Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place.**  
**Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.**  
**Go seek God's presence in each time and space.**  
**Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 3**     **Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;**  
**the nights of tears give way to joyous day.**  
**As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.**  
**Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 4**     **"Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,**  
**for I am with you till the age shall end,**  
**when all the hosts of glory cry, Amen!"**  
**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

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↑ **SENDING**

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

↑ **POSTLUDE**

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*Altar Guild: Susie Lucsko*

*Communion Servers: (8:30) Buddy & Joyne Troy (11:00) Dave & Sue Byers, Miki Stork*

*Lector: (8:30) Debra Neu (11:00) Carolyn West*

*Tech crew: (8:30) Davida Kilgore, Brad Milburn*

*(11:00) Linda Volckmann, Brad Milburn, Joni Siepert*

*Usher: (8:30) Stephen Gundersen, John Musil (11:00) Ethan Miller, Tom Conrad*

# THE LESSONS

Sunday, June 1

## READING Acts 16:16-34

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

<sup>16</sup> One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” <sup>18</sup> She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup> When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup> and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” <sup>31</sup> They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

## GOSPEL: Luke 24:44-53

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter. 🙏 Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup> [Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup> Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup> and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🙏 Praise to you, O Christ.

