

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
August 17, 2025 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Wes Smith, Associate Pastor
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

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

*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 (11:00) *Beautiful Savior* Carolyn West, flute
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

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- ☐ In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
☑ **Amen.**
Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.
- ☐ Merciful God,
☑ **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.
Amen.**
- ☐ You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
- ☑ **Amen.**

↑ 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 *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

ELW Hymn 876

- 1 **Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty king!"
Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;
sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice.**
- 2 **Servants striving for the Lord, prophets burning with the word,
those to whom the arts belong add their voices to the song.
Pow'rs of knowledge and of law, to the glorious circle draw;
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"**
- 3 **Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold,
and let children's happy hearts in this worship take their parts;
from the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll:
"Holy, Holy, Holy One; glory be to God alone!"**

↑ 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 *Glory Be to God in Heaven*

ELW S204a

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
 Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
 we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
 Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
 Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
 For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth.
 Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants
 and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 C Amen.

FIRST READING **Jeremiah 23:23-29**

see insert

SECOND READING **Hebrews 11:29—12:2**

see insert

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
 Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
 Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

—*ELW S205a*

↑ GOSPEL **Luke 12:49-56**

see insert

(11:00) Children may go to Children's Chapel

SERMON

Pastor Wes

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

ACS Hymn 1084

- 1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;
 God, be the strength to now uphold me:

Refrain O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

- 2 Bind to myself the name of Holy, great cloud of witnesses enfold;
 prophets, apostles, angels witness: *Refrain*

- 3 Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
 depth of the sea to soil of planet: *Refrain*

- 4 Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way,
 and from beneath, above, and all ways: *Refrain*

- 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
 Christ in the hearts of all who know me: *Refrain*

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

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↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- A** 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, "Confident in God's presence and promise, ... through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion." Please respond, "Amen."

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

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.



MUSICAL OFFERING (11:00) *Lift Thine Eyes, Felix Mendelssohn*
Casie Groover, Judy Owen, Carolyn West

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C** Amen.

↑ 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, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. | |
| Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. | |
| Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. | |

—ELW S207

↑ 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.

- C** O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
 you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.
 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.
 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
 eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

—ELW S208

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. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

☞ **Amen.**

↑ **BLESSING**

- ☞ The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace.

☞ **Amen.**

↑ **SENDING HYMN** *God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*

ELW Hymn 603

- 1** God, when human bonds are broken and we lack the love or skill
to restore the hope of healing, give us grace and make us still.

- 2** Through that stillness, with your Spirit come into our world of stress,
for the sake of Christ forgiving all the failures we confess.

- 3** You in us are bruised and broken: hear us as we seek release
from the pain of earlier living; set us free and grant us peace.

- 4** Send us, God of new beginnings, humbly hopeful into life.
Use us as a means of blessing: make us stronger, give us faith.

- 5** Give us faith to be more faithful, give us hope to be more true,
give us love to go on learning: God, encourage and renew!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

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↑ **SENDING**

- ☞ Go in peace. Live and love by the Spirit.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

↑ **POSTLUDE**

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Altar Guild: Sue Forward, Betty Schmidt

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Tom Rehak (11:00) Ethan Miller

Communion Servers: (8:30) Bill Grabill, Pat Ronco, Jaycine Lester (11:00) Gail & Fred Herber, David Beecher

Lector: (8:30) Debra Neu (11:00) Dave Byers

Tech crew: (8:30) Brad Milburn, Joni Siepert (11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Brad Milburn, Joni Siepert

Usher: (8:30) John Musil, Buddy Troy (11:00) Mike & Pat Oliver

Altar flowers given by Carol Jensen-Linton in honor of the COS Preschool.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, August 17

FIRST READING Jeremiah 23:23-29

📖 The 1st reading is from Jeremiah, the 23rd chapter.

²³ Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

SECOND READING Hebrews 11:29—12:2

📖 The 2nd reading is from Hebrews, the 11th & 12th chapters.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

Gospel is on the back.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter. **G** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

P The Gospel of the Lord. **G** **Praise to you, O Christ.**