

Reformation Sunday

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

October 26, 2025 8:30 & 11:00 am

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor

Wes Smith, Associate Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

P = Pastor

A = Assisting Minister

L = Lector [reader]

C = Congregation

ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion. Communion is offered by intinction. 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

CALL TO WORSHIP

God Is Love, Mark Mummert

Sanctuary Choir

Please stand as you are able

EXCHANGING THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We share a sign of God's peace.

GATHERING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

ELW Hymn 504

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

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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 page 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, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

You may be seated

FIRST READING *Jeremiah 31:31-34* *see insert*

SECOND READING *Romans 3:19-28* *see insert*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Listen, God is Calling* *Sanctuary Choir*

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL *John 8:31-36* *see insert*

You may be seated

SERMON *Pastor Fritz*

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY *Founded on Faith* *ACS Hymn 1048*

- 1 **Founded on faith, the church—alive by grace—proclaims the gospel here and ev'ry place.
The word of God resounds through time and space: Alleluia!**
- 2 **Your cross, O Christ, renews our life each day. Baptized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Fed by your love, with thankful hearts, we say: Alleluia!**
- 3 **Equipped by prayer, we live the Spirit's call. Empow'ed to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we bring the living hope of God to all. Alleluia!**
- 4 **Growing in grace for God's created earth, we yearn for justice, peace, and human worth;
a world restored; a faithful, caring church. Alleluia!**
- 5 **Founded on faith, called forth, empow'ed to serve, we share God's endless love without reserve.
Then let us shout aloud the living Word! Alleluia!**

Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

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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.**

You may be seated

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "God of grace," please respond, "Receive our prayer"

The prayers are ended with these words, "We offer our prayers, O God, ... through Jesus Christ our Lord." 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 *I Will Sing the Story of Your Love, O Lord, L. Peterson*
Please stand as you are able

Sanctuary Choir

OFFERTORY *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

ELW Hymn 186

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 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 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.**
- 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.**

You may be seated

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 the chalice of wine, or you may also choose a packaged cup with grape juice and a gluten-free wafer. Please indicate to the ushers if you need to have communion brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMN *Lamb of God*

ELW page 146

**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.**

COMMUNION HYMN *The Church's One Foundation*

ELW Hymn 654

- 1** **The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**
- 2** **Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.**
- 3** **Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

Hymn continues on next page.

4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace evermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900. Text is in the public domain.

Please stand as you are able

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

P Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Built On a Rock

ELW Hymn 652

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling—
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.

2 Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling—
high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling.
Yet God who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love, making our bodies his temple.

3 Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.

4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant, granting his children the kingdom.

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.

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SENDING

A Go in peace. Be filled with hope. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgements on insert.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, October 26

FIRST READING *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

📖 The 1st reading is from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

SECOND READING *Romans 3:19-28*

📖 The 2nd reading is from Romans, the 3rd chapter.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

GOSPEL *John 8:31-36*

📖 The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

🙏 Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🙏 Praise to you, O Christ.

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Acknowledgements

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Altar Guild: Susie Lucsko

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Delee Rehak (11:00) Patrick Bauer

*Communion Servers: (8:30) Jayne & Buddy Troy, Chip Beard
(11:00) Mary & Jeff Jeffrey, Patrick Bauer*

Lector: (8:30) Sue Blackburn (11:00) Richard King

Tech crew: (8:30) Davida Kilgore, Chris Gritti (11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Kendra Campbell-Milburn, Chris Gritti

Usher: (8:30) Bob Spruck, Buddy Troy (11:00) Ethan Miller, Paul Talbott

Altar flowers given by Kathie Manes in memory of John Manes.

Musicians:

Morgan Herbert, Richard King, trumpet

Desmond Smith, alto saxophone

Chelby Gambrel, French horn

Lauri Gambrel, alto horn

Morgan Herbert, trombone

Domenic Ravita, baritone saxophone