

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia

February 8, 2026 8:30 & 11:00 am

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

☐ = Pastor ☐ = Assisting Minister ☐ = Lector [reader] ☐ = 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

11:00-CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

☐ **Amen.**

☐ Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word
you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

☐ **We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life
in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

☐ To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☐ **Amen.**

EXCHANGING THE PEACE *We share a sign of God's peace.*

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☐ **And also with you.**

GATHERING HYMN

Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW Hymn 665

Please use either the red hymnal in the pew rack or the LED projection screens for the music and words.

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 *Glory to God in the highest*

ELW page 148

- ℣ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
☩ **Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ℣ Let us pray. Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
☩ **Amen.**

You may be seated

READING *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

see insert page 6

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia.*

ELW page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL *Matthew 5:13-20*

see insert page 6

You may be seated

SERMON

Pastor Fritz

Please stand as you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY *We Are Called*

ELW Hymn 720

Please use either the red hymnal in the pew rack or the LED projection screens for the music and words.

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 "Merciful God," please respond, "Receive our prayer."

The prayers are ended with these words, "Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers ... made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior." 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.



Please stand as you are able

OFFERTORY *Come and See*

ACS Hymn 976

What are you looking for? Come, see, come and see.

What are you looking for? Come and see. (Come and see.)

Text: Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962, from John 1:38-39

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OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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, Lord God of pow'r 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.	

—ELW page 153

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 154

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

ELW Hymn 712

- 1** Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.
- 2** Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

Hymn continues next page.

**3 As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.**

**4 Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.**

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984

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Please stand as you are able

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

G Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

G Amen.

BLESSING

P May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise
✠ bless you now and forever.

G Amen.

SENDING HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light

ELW Hymn 866

Please use either the red hymnal in the pew rack or the LED projection screens for the music and words.

Additional stanzas: We are dancing..., We are singing..., We are marching...

SENDING

A Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

G Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgements

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Altar Guild: Carol Jesnen-Linton

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Sue & Bob Blackburn, Brenda Nuscher (11:00) Don & Miki Stork, Ethan Miller

Lector: (8:30) Linda Barkoot (11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton

Tech Team: (8:30) Chris Gritti, Davida Kilgore (11:00) Kendra Campbell-Milburn, Joni Siepert, Brad Milburn

Ushers: (8:30) Jim Basinger, Buddy Troy (11:00) Jim Christopher, Tom Conrad

This week's altar flowers are given by Carol Jensen-Linton in honor of Carol Jensen-Linton and Adam Linton's birthdays.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, February 8

READING *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

L The reading is from 1st Corinthians, the 2nd chapter.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL *Matthew 5:13-20*

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches

them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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