

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

February 22, 2026 9:45 a.m.

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Wes Smith, Assoc. Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship & Music

Youth, Lectors

P = Pastor **C** = All **L** = Leader

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ **CALL TO WORSHIP: *GOODNESS OF GOD/
BRIGHTER DAYS***

↑ **OPENING DIALOGUE**

L As darkness gives way to light
and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,

C **We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.**

L Like the green shoots of renewed life,
stirring beneath the soil,

C **We welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.**

L In this time of reflection and repentance,

C **We affirm our identity, we claim our security,
as children of God.**

~written by Gill Le Fevre

↑ **SONG OF PRAISE: *RUNNING HOME***

~Please be seated for the Lessons~

READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7*see insert*

↑ **GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11***see insert*

SERMON Pastor Fritz

↑ **SONG OF THE DAY: *GET BEHIND ME***

↑ **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS***see insert*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "Hear us, O God"
please respond, "**Your mercy is great.**"

When the prayers conclude, please respond, "Amen."

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

OFFERING

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

We acknowledge that you may have given
Online or through the mail. Thank you.



↑ **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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave
thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the
forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your
name; your kingdom come, your will be
done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today
our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we
forgive those who sin against us; Save us
from the time of trial and deliver us from
evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the
glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

SHARING COMMUNION AT CHURCH or at home with your household

COMMUNION SONG: *BE STILL*

↑ **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

P May the Father,
who meets you in the wilderness,
the Son, who walks with you by grace,
and the Spirit, who sustains you

✠ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

↑ **SENDING SONG: *NO FEAR***

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Invite all to join
in connecting to Jesus' pathway
of joy and life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

THE LESSONS

Sunday, February 22

FIRST READING: *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7*

L Today's reading is from Genesis, the 2nd & 3rd chapters.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God

GOSPEL: *Matthew 4:1-11*

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Sunday, February 22

Ⓐ Creative, passionate God,
you delight to shape the world in beauty and harmony.
You invite us to participate in the balance of creation.
We grow in wisdom as our experience unfolds;
we take good learning out of difficult situations yet also
find our well-meant endeavors leading to unintended consequences.
Too often we give in to temptation
that disrupts the joyous, chaotic order of the universe.
We cannot undo all our mistakes,
but we can turn once more to the living presence of Jesus
and find new ways to live and love each other and the earth.

Ⓒ **Do not let our hearts be fearful,
but let us in silence acknowledge our sin
and seek the forgiveness that restores your peace.**

Silence

Ⓐ God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed
in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ
from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.

Ⓒ **Thanks be to God!**

~ from Tempting! Service Prayers for the First Sunday of Lent, written by the Rev. Elizabeth Dilley.