

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia

April 19, 2026 8:30 & 11:00 AM

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

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation
ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion.

The prelude is the beginning of the worship service.

It is a time to focus our hearts and minds in preparation for worship.

Please refrain from loud conversations while the prelude music is playing.

PRELUDE

- ☐ ALLELUIA! Christ is risen!
☑ **Christ is risen indeed! ALLELUIA!**

WELCOME

11:00—CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand as you are able

EASTER LITANY

- ☐ Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.
☑ **Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!**
☐ Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys.
☑ **Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!**
☐ Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
☑ **Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!**
☐ We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.
☑ **Amen.**

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

- ☐ The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.
☑ **And also with you.**

GATHERING HYMN *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!* *ELW Hymn 835, sts.1-3*
Please use either the red hymnal in the pew rack or the LED projection screens for the music and words.

APOSTOLIC 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

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING *Psalm 104*

see insert page 5

Please stand as you are able.

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

Text and music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

GOSPEL *Luke 24:13-35*

see insert page 6

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Fritz

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *This Is My Father's World*

ELW Hymn 824

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

L Let us profess our baptismal faith together.

G **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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "Creator God," please respond, "Hear our prayer."

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-For the Beauty of the Earth, John Rutter*

Sanctuary Choir

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY *Now the Green Blade Rises*

ELW Hymn 379, st. 1

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Text from Oxford Book of Carols © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,
- 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.**

Please 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 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 *Open Our Eyes, Lord*

W&P Hymn 113

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus. (repeat as needed)

Text and music: Robert Cull, b. 1949

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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.
- C** Amen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *In Peace We Now Depart*

COS Setting

In peace we now depart, your Word has fed my soul. Joyfully we go into the world. Help us sing your praise. Help us do your work. Send us out, Lord, to spread your Love.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,
- C** Amen.

BLESSING

- ☞ God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✚ bless you now and forever.
- ☞ **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *Let All Things Now Living*

ELW Hymn 881

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

SENDING

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

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgements.

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Altar Guild: Carol Talbott

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Buddy Troy, Bill Grabill, Margaret Aldredge (11:00) Carolyn & Andy West, Vickie Dauenhauer

Lector: (8:30) Tom Rehak (11:00) Dave Byers

Tech Team: (8:30) Chris Gritti, Davida Kilgore (11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Joni Siepert, Brad Milburn

Ushers: (8:30) John Musil, Bob Spruck (11:00) Mike & Pat Oliver

This week's altar flowers are given by Davida Kilgore in memory of Judy Kilgore and to the glory of Jesus Christ.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, April 19

FIRST READING **Psalm 104** *Congregation reads the **Bold print.***

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul.

O LORD my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty,

² **wrapped in light as with a garment.**

You stretch out the heavens like a tent;

³ you set the beams of your chambers on the waters;

you make the clouds your chariot;

you ride on the wings of the wind;

⁴ **you make the winds your messengers,**

fire and flame your ministers.

¹⁰ You make springs gush forth in the valleys;

they flow between the hills,

¹¹ **giving drink to every wild animal;**

the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

¹² By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;

they sing among the branches.

¹³ **From your lofty abode you water the mountains;**

the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

¹⁴ You cause the grass to grow for the cattle

and plants for people to cultivate,

to bring forth food from the earth

¹⁵ **and wine to gladden the human heart,**

oil to make the face shine

and bread to strengthen the human heart.

¹⁶ The trees of the field are watered abundantly,

the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

¹⁷ **In them the birds build their nests;**

the stork has its home in the fir trees.

¹⁸ The high mountains are for the wild goats;

the rocks are a refuge for the coney.

¹⁹ **You have made the moon to mark the seasons;**

the sun knows its time for setting.

²⁰ You make darkness, and it is night,

when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

²¹ **The young lions roar for their prey,**

seeking their food from God.

²² When the sun rises, they withdraw

and lie down in their dens.

²³ **People go out to their work**

and to their labor until the evening.

²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all;

the earth is full of your creatures.

Gospel on back

GOSPEL Luke 24:13-35 *Congregation reads verses in Bold print.*

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” ²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “**Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.**” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “**Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?**” ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☒ **Praise to you, O Christ.**