

# EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Peachtree City, Georgia

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 Holy Communion.  
The prelude is the beginning of the worship service.*

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

## PRELUDE

*Pax Benoit, piano*

## WELCOME

*Please stand as you are able*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

☐ **Amen.**

☐ Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

☐ Compassionate God,

☐ **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

☐ Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

☐ **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      *Praise and Thanksgiving*

*ELW Hymn 689*

***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      *Praise the Lord! O Heavens*

*ELW Hymn 823, st. 1*

**Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, adore him; praise him, angels, in the height;  
sun and moon, rejoice before him; praise him, gleaming stars and light.  
Praise the Lord, for he has spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed;  
laws which never shall be broken for their guidance he has made.**

Text: Foundling Hospital Collection, London, 1796      Text in the public domain.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

☐ The Lord be with you.

☐ **And also with you.**

☐ Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**PSALMODY Psalm 86:11-17** *read responsively*

*see insert page 5*

**READING Romans 8:12-25**

*see insert page 5*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage*

*ELW Hymn 509*

**God's word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;  
to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.  
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.  
Lord, grant while time shall last your church may hold it fast  
throughout all generations.**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925, alt.

Text in public domain.

**GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

*see insert page 6*

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Wes

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field*

*ACS Hymn 952*

- 1 The reign of God, like farmer's field, bears weeds along with wheat;  
the good and bad are intertwined till harvest is complete.**
- 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on barren land concealed.  
If once you find that precious pearl, go out and buy that field.**
- 3 Though hidden now, the reign of God may, yet unnoticed, grow;  
from deep within it rises up, like yeast in swelling dough.**
- 4 Like mustard tree, the reign of God from tiny seed will spread,  
till birds of ev'ry feather come to nest, and there be fed.**
- 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the reign of God is near.  
Ablaze among us, kindling hearts, the reign of God is here!**

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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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.**

*Please be seated.*

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*When the petition concludes "God of grace," please respond, "Hear our prayer." The prayers are ended with these words, "Grateful for your abundant.... grace of Christ Jesus." Please respond, "Amen."*

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

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.

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



## MUSICAL OFFERING

*Carolyn Callison, flute*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**OFFERTORY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*ELW Hymn 885*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

Text in the public domain.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

**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 are you, God of power and might; heaven and earth are filled with your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.**

*—ELW Hymn 191*

## 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*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** *Lamb of God*

*ELW Hymn 195*

**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** *Neither Death nor Life*

*ELW Hymn 622*

**Ref.- Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor trials in the present, nor any trial to come,  
neither height, nor depth, nor all of creation can ever separate us from the love of God  
poured out in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

*Continues next page.*

**1 Dwell in the one who raised Christ from the dead;  
though your body shall die, in Christ you shall rise  
through the Spirit who brings you to life.**

**Ref.- Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor trials in the present, nor any trial to come,  
neither height, nor depth, nor all of creation can ever separate us from the love of God  
poured out in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

**2 All who are led by the Spirit shall live  
as children of God, and heirs with Christ Jesus,  
God's adopted and chosen and loved. Refrain**

**3 All of the suff'ring we now must endure  
is nothing to the glory so soon to be revealed  
when creation itself is set free. Refrain**

**4 All of creation awaits the new birth,  
the fullness of redemption, through labor pains of love,  
and so we wait in patience and hope. Refrain**

**5 Who can separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine,  
or nakedness or peril or sword? Refrain**

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Romans 8

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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 PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

**P** Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

**C** Amen.

#### **SENDING HYMN** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

*ELW Hymn 679*

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

#### **SENDING**

**P** Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news  
and invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

*Acknowledgements on page 6.*

# THE LESSONS

Sunday, July 19

## PSALMODY Psalm 86:11-17

📖 We read the psalm responsively.

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

<sup>12</sup> **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,  
and glorify your name forevermore.**

<sup>13</sup> For great is your love toward me;  
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

<sup>14</sup> **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;  
they have not set you before their eyes.**

<sup>15</sup> But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

<sup>16</sup> **Turn to me and have mercy on me;  
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

<sup>17</sup> Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;  
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

## READING Romans 8:12-25

📖 The reading is from Romans, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, <sup>23</sup> and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

📖 Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

*Gospel on back*

## **GOSPEL     Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

**P**     The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

**G**     **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,<sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ <sup>28</sup> He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

**P**     The Gospel of the Lord.

**G**     **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Acknowledgements**

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*Altar Guild: Carol Jensen-Linton*

*Communion Assistants: (8:30) Buddy Troy, Betty Schmidt, Shelly Jones                      (11:00) Carolyn and Andy West, David Beecher*

*Lector: (8:30) Sue Blackburn                      (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)                      (11:00)*

*This week's altar flowers are given by Carol Jensen-Linton in honor of Rowan Linton's 7th birthday.*