

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree
City, Georgia

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost ☩ August 9, 2026 ☩ 9:45 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Wes Smith, Associate Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

Second Sunday Musicians, Barbara Anderson, Leader

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

⬆ **GATHERING SONG:** *Good Morning, Lord*

Tune: Eight Days a Week

**Hey, dear Lord, good morning. It's good to be with you.
We're here to sing your praises, give thanks for what you do.
In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, the Three in One.**

**Bless our time together, send your Spirit near
Help us with our questions, our wrestlings and our fears.
Creating Father, redeeming Son,
guiding Spirit, Almighty One.**

Blessed be your name, forever. Open now our hearts, that you may touch and lead our lives.

**Oh, we love you, Jesus, that's why we're in this place:
to grow within your presence, until it's face to face.
In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son,
In the name of the Spirit, the Three in One,
the Three in One, the Three in One.**

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

⬆ **CONFESSSIONAL LITANY**

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|---|-------|---|-----------------------------------|
| ☐ | Help! | ☑ | We need somebody. |
| ☐ | Help! | ☑ | Not just anybody |
| ☐ | Help! | ☑ | You know we need you, Lord. Help! |
- ☐ When we were younger, so much younger than today, (either in age or maturity or both),
We never thought we needed anybody's help.
We neglected or even turned a cold shoulder, O Lord, upon your promises and plans for us.
- ☑ **We're not trying to beat ourselves up, Lord, and we know that's not your desire.
But we realize—actually we're only able to admit this to a limited extent—
That we're plagued by a force some call "sin."
We find ourselves acting in ways of which we're ashamed.
In some cases we're so insensitive we don't even realize it.
And we know if we say otherwise, we're kidding ourselves.**
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|---|-------|---|--------------------------------|
| ☐ | Help! | ☑ | Renew us, Lord. |
| ☐ | Help! | ☑ | We need our lives restored. |
| ☐ | Help! | ☑ | We sing with one accord. Help! |
- ☐ You want help? Here's some great news! God so loved the world that God gave the very best,
His only Son, Jesus, who not only lived among us to help show us the way, but died on the cross
for us and for our salvation (or "back-stage pass" to God's kingdom, party, and banquet). ►

- ☞** Yes, through Jesus comes true help. Through his cross and resurrection, our sins are forgiven and the slate is wiped clean. We are made new creations, holy people, stewards of God's mysteries, freed to love and live with new futures.
Thanks be to God who gives us the victory!

↑ **KYRIE SONG:** *Shower Your Grace*

Tune: You've Got to Hide Your Love Away

- 1** Here we stand with hearts in hand, beseeching you in prayer:
Those lonely and meek, for troubled who seek, Father, show them care.
- 2** For peace in our time, meaning and rhyme in our daily lives,
That kindness be shown in our homes by children, husbands, and wives.

Refrain: Lord, shower your grace upon our way. Lord, we need your strength to live today.

- 3** From hostilities that we may be freed, let healing start to stir.
Melt cold hearts, provide fresh starts, that Good News will be heard.
- 4** Those lost in a maze, for those who give praise, may mercy be their gift.
That justice may reign, transforming the pain; our hearts to you we lift. *Refrain*

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

↑ **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.

↑ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- ☞** Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.
Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☞** Amen.

~Children are excused for Children's Chapel~

READING: Romans 10:5-15

see insert

↑ **GOSPEL SONG:** *Words of Life*

Tune: Ob-la-di, Ob-la-da

- 1** Jesus was with his disciples when they asked, "Lord, where shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life."
For happiness and joy these words we need to know.

Chorus: Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia! Blessed are those who hear God's Word. *Repeat*

Final time: If you want true life, then act upon God's Word.

- 2** When it seems you have all the answers, or when you feel you haven't got a clue,
turn to what will prove a steady dancer.
The Bible shows God's love and grace always come through. *Chorus*

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

↑ **GOSPEL:** Matthew 14:22-33

see insert

SERMON

Pastor Wes

↑ **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Walking in God's Love*

Tune: Can't Buy Me Love

- 1.** Some folks trust in riches, fame, or fancy cars.
Others let society determine who they are.
But I have heard one better answer that gives more joy by far.
Walking in God's love, Jesus died for me.
Walking in God's love, in baptism I'm free! ►

2. The Lord has blessed me richly with my family and my friends.
He walks beside me daily and when the story ends.
So when it comes to living boldly, just one thing depends:
Walking in God's love, they call it justified,
Walking in God's love, it gives me hope and pride.
3. Lord, your word is golden. It gives my heart delight.
Your grace supports my mission, gives meaning to my plight.
Now grant me strength to follow Jesus; how pleasing in your sight!
Walking in God's love, love . . .
Walking in God's love.

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

⬆ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** Let us confess our baptismal faith together.
- C** 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*When the petition concludes "Merciful God," please respond, "Receive our prayer."
When the prayers conclude, please respond, "Amen."*

OFFERING

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

*We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail.
Thank you.*



OFFERING SONG: *All My Living*

- 1 How can I measure the bounteous treasure, the gifts God's entrusted to me,
To use and enjoy, but to also employ that God's will around me is done?
All my living, let it be for you. That's why I'm giving these gifts now to you.
- 2 For the stars, woods, and streams, possibilities and dreams, I thank you for my daily bread.
Now through all of my friendships and words that come from my lips,
I'll act so that others are fed.
All my living, let it be for you. That's why I'm giving these gifts now to you.
These gifts now to you, these gifts now to you.

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

⬆ 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

- ☞ **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

Please approach the altar as directed by an usher. You will be offered a wafer, and you may dip it into the chalice containing wine or white grape juice. Or, you may choose a prepackaged kit. (including Gluten-free versions)

COMMUNION SONG: *Remember Me*

Tune: Let It Be

- On the night our Savior was betrayed, he took bread and then he prayed.
"This is now my body, take and eat."
After supper he took the cup, giving thanks he held up,
"This wine is now my blood, take and drink."**

*Chorus: "Remember me," Jesus said, "in the wine, through the bread.
This meal of love I give you. Remember me."*

- This meal is our new covenant, Christ's summary of what he meant.
United in his body, you and me.
Black or white, young or old, if your heart is open or still cold,
forgiveness now is given, for you and me. *Chorus***
- So as we celebrate Christ's meal we proclaim the cross that heals.
Our sins upon his shoulders at Calvary.
For the bonds of death God devastates, Christ's resurrection liberates.
To the banquet now he calls us, you and me. *Chorus***

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967 Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

⬆ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

- ☞ Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
- ☞ **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: *Go Now in Peace*

Tune: Yellow Submarine

**Now go in peace into the world. Share with others what we've heard:
that Jesus died, but now he lives. Life in his kingdom to you he gives. *Chorus***

Chorus: Go now in peace to serve the Lord as friends wherever your road bends, until the story ends.

**Thank you Lord for this time. Your light of grace we'll try to shine;
give away as we've received, serving others in their need. *Chorus***

Text: Fritz Wiese, b. 1967

Tune: John Lennon and Paul McCartney

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Serve in love. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

THE LESSONS

Sunday, August 9

READING: Romans 10:5-15

📖 Today's reading is from Romans, the 10th chapter.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter. 🙏 Glory to you, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🙏 Praise to you, O Christ.

Background on the “God Loves You--Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!” Liturgy

Why have a liturgy or worship format set to all “‘sixties” music? Why not?

In recent years, Christians have been exploring how the Church best reaches our changing world

with the fantastic news of God’s radical love for us through Jesus.

In the process, we try to discern between style and substance.

What is the basic, never-changing substance of the gospel that needs to shine in worship?

God’s Word & Meal. These elements focus the faith in worship.

Specifically, this author would suggest the forms of a specifically Christian gathering

(what we’re doing in worship is distinctive from work, potlucks, euchre, or studying);

God’s Word through lessons and exposition of some sort; offering ourselves through praise, prayers, possessions, and presence;

and celebrating the Eucharist (proclaiming the death and resurrection of Jesus through his meal not only is a tremendous faith activity, but the primary way early Christians distinguished themselves from their Jewish brothers and sisters).

Therefore, grounded in substance, we enjoy freedom in worship style.

Music and language, it makes sense, should be indigenous to the gathered people, so the gospel can be heard clearly. English or French, Bach or Beatles.

We need it all to celebrate and proclaim our God’s mighty deeds.

After all, Martin Luther himself paved the way for this kind of thinking when he translated the Bible into German and put Christian lyrics to tavern drinking songs.

Hopefully, the type of music used in this liturgy spans the interests of several generations of Christians.

Plus it’s fun music that’s fairly easy to remember or learn.

Will this liturgy-experiment be helpful to all Christians? By no means.

But I’m glad if you are somebody who felt it helped you participate in that great old story in a fresh yet authentically Christian way.

In Christ’s Peace,

Pastor Fritz Wiese

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran, Peachtree City, Georgia