

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 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 11:00-Peal con brio, Karen Thompson

Peace Ringers

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☐ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☐ Compassionate God,

☑ **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

☐ Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

☑ **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 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

ELW Hymn 873

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 *Glory to You, God*

ACS setting 12

1 **Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours is the promise, the blessing, the birth.
Ours the rejoicing for Word given frame; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

2 **Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours the hosannas, the dying, rebirth.
Ours the rejoicing for nature reclaimed; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

Continues next page.

- 3 **Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours the anointing, the radiant worth.
Ours the rejoicing for spirits aflame; ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done; yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.
 Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

READING Revelation 21:1-5, 22-25 & 22:15, 17

see insert page 5

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia

ACS setting 12

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Our hearts burn within us as you open to us the scriptures.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL Matthew 5:27-30

see insert page 5

Please be seated.

SERMON Better Ways to Read the Bible Series: Apocalypse Lens

Pastor Fritz

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY Soon and Very Soon

ELW Hymn 439

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

- P** Let us profess 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.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

When the petition concludes "Hear us, O God," please respond, "Your mercy is great." The prayers are ended with these words, "Grant the prayers we have offered, ... We ask this in Jesus' name." 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.



MUSICAL OFFERING Alleluia Round, Boyce/Proulx

Sanctuary Choir

Rita DeNell, flute Ben Brody, French horn Lauri Gambrel, alto horn

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY Thank You, Lord

ACS Hymn 1092

- 1 **Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.**
 2 **Been so good, been so good, been so good, I just want to thank you, Lord.**
 4 **Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you, Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.**

Text: Traditional. Text in the public domain.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

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 God of might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

ACS setting 12

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 Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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 *Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus*

ACS setting 12

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

COMMUNION HYMN *Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty*

ELW Hymn 777

1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live."

Ref. Jesus, ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.

2 "Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest." *Refrain*

3 "Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." *Refrain*

4 "Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name." *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- ☞ Let us pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
☞ Amen.

BLESSING

- ☞ The God of hope, love and grace ☩ grant you strength and joy now and forever.
☞ Amen.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS INSTRUCTIONS

SENDING HYMN

God's Work, Our Hands

ACS Hymn 1000

- 1 **God's work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.**
- 2 **God's work, our feet: trav'ling together, following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom, running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way, sharing the good news of your gospel.**
- 3 **God's work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming God's love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.**
- 4 **God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored, gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call, sharing the good news of your gospel.**

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

SENDING

- ☞ Go out in peace and love to serve our neighbors.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
☞ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgements

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000345.

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

All rights reserved worldwide.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Altar Guild: Pat Oliver

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Bill Grabill, Brenda Nuscher, Chip Beard

(11:00) Sue & David Byers, April Peterson

Lector: (8:30) Chip Beard

(11:00) Richard King

Tech Team: (8:30) Dakota Atkins, Davida Kilgore

(11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Joni Siepert, Brad Milburn

Ushers: (8:30) Buddy Troy, Steve Gundersen

(11:00) Mike & Pat Oliver

This week's altar flowers are given by Nancy Broadwell in memory of Ernest Broadwell.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, September 13

First Lesson Revelation 21:1-5, 22-25 & 22:15, 17

L The first lesson is from Revelation, the 21st & 22nd chapters.

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

22 ¹⁵ Outside (the gates) are the dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. ¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let everyone who hears say, “Come.” And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 5:27-30

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

G Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.