

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 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 Ben Brody, French horn

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 *Rise Up, O Saints of God!*

ELW Hymn 669

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. Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Jonah 3:10—4:11

see insert page 5

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-30

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 20:1-16

see insert page 6

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Wes

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW Hymn 588

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 11:00 O God, Beyond All Praising, Hopson

Sanctuary Choir

Morgan Hebert, Richard King-trumpet; Lauri Gambrel-alto horn; Ben Brody-French horn

David Byers-euphonium; Domenic Ravita-bari saxophone

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 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

ACS Hymn 1084

- 1** **God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;**
God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
2 **Bind to myself the name of Holy, great cloud of witnesses enfold;**
prophets, apostles, angels witness: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
3 **Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning, strength of wind,**
depth of the sea to soil of planet: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Continues next page.

- 4** Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above, and all ways: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
- 5** Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

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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. 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.
- C** Amen.

BLESSING

- P** The God of hope, love and grace ✠ grant you strength and joy now and forever.
- C** Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW Hymn 765

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

SENDING

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

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgements

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Altar Guild: Mike & Pat Oliver

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Debra Neu, Betty Schmidt, Shelly Jones

(11:00) Andy & Carolyn West, Patrick Bauer

Lector: (8:30) Jaycine Lester

(11:00) Evangeline Bauer

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

(11:00) Kendra Campbell-Milburn, Joni Siepert, Brad Milburn

Ushers: (8:30) Nick Dunn, Bob Spruck

(11:00) Jan Fratto, Paul Talbott

This week's altar flowers are given by Jaycine Lester in honor of marriage.

THE LESSONS

Sunday, September 20

First Lesson **Jonah 3:10—4:11**

L The first lesson is from Jonah, the 3rd & 4th chapters.

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴ And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson **Philippians 1:21-30**

L The second lesson is from Philippians, the 1st chapter.

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

G **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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