

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 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

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 *God Is Here*

ELW Hymn 526

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. God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

READING Philippians 2:1-13

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 21:23-32

see insert page 6

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Wes

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*

ELW Hymn 772

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 Great God of Love, Keesecker

*Sanctuary Choir
Carolyn Callison, flute*

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 *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd* *ACS Hymn 954*

- 1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.**
- 2 Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross,
shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss,
you, the everlasting instant; you, who are both gift and cost.**
- 3 You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.**
- 4 Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry; worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.**

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

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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, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

ELW Hymn 517

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) Jaycine Lester, Buddy Troy, Margaret Aldredge
(11:00) Jeff and Mary Jeffrey, Crystal Diffenbach*

Lector: (8:30) Sue Blackburn (11:00) Chip Zimmerman

Tech Team: (8:30) Dakota Atkins, Davida Kilgore (11:00) Carol Jensen-Linton, Joni Siepert, Dakota Atkins

Ushers: (8:30) John Musil, John Miller (11:00) Ethan Miller, Fred Gisler

*This week's altar flowers are given by Jim and Kim Mashburn in memory of their parents:
Walter and Lee Mashburn; James and Mildred Wren.*

THE LESSONS

Sunday, September 27

Lesson Philippians 2:1-13

L The lesson is from Philippians, the 2nd chapter.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,

 did not regard equality with God

 as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,

 taking the form of a slave,

 assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself

 and became obedient to the point of death—

 even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly

 and gave him the name

 that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus

 every knee should bend,

 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess

 that Jesus Christ is Lord,

 to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel on the back

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

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

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go.

³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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