

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 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 *You Servants of God*

ELW Hymn 825

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

☞ The Lord be with you.

☞ **And also with you.**

☞ Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 45:1-7

see insert page 5

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

see insert page 6

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 22:1-15-22

see insert page 6

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Wes

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY Commonwealth is God's Commandment

ACS Hymn 1036

- 1 **Commonwealth is God's commandment; common goods are meant to share.
Tables set and doors wide open welcome angels unaware.**

Ref. **Plead for the peace of all creation. Pray for a place where grace is found.
Peace and unity with our neighbors: common good is holy ground.**

- 2 **Sharing lavish gifts and blessings, love that not one mite withholds,
stretch out arms to friends and strangers: God has sheep of many folds. *Refrain***

- 3 **Genders, races, tribes, and nations, hear the Holy One who calls,
bidding all to work together, bridging lives and breaching walls. *Refrain***

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

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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 "Hear us, O God," please respond, "Your mercy is great." The prayers are ended with these words, "Trusting in your boundless grace, ...through Jesus Christ our Lord." 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 Praise God with Song, Schuetz/Cherwien

Sanctuary Choir

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 O God, You Search Me

ACS Hymn 1082

1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.

When I walk or lie down you are before me: ever the maker and keeper of my days.

2 You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar,

and with love everlasting you besiege me: in ev'ry moment of life or death, you are. *Continues next page.*

- 3 Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me beyond my understanding: God of my present, my past, and future, too.**
- 4 Although your Spirit is upon me, still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you: even the darkness is radiant in your sight.**
- 5 For you created me and shaped me, gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you: safe in your hands, all creation is made new.**

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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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

God of Grace and God of Glory

ELW Hymn 705

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: Susi Lucsko

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Buddy Troy, Bill Grabill, Margaret Aldredge

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

Lector: (8:30) Linda Brkoot

(11:00) Evangeline Bauer

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

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

Ushers: (8:30) Nick Dunn, John Musil

(11:00) Jan Fratto, Fred Gisler

This week's altar flowers are given by Judy Owen and family in memory of Robert "Bob" Owen

THE LESSONS

Sunday, October 18

First Lesson Isaiah 45:1-7

Ⓐ The first lesson is from Isaiah, the 45th chapter.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Ⓐ Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

☛ Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly
³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead— Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

G Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.