

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ September 13, 2020 ☩ 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
Debra Myers and Jim Hagberg, Musician-Leaders

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (hymnal, if you have one at home)

PLEASE NOTE: We will not distribute paper copies of this Worship Guide. All will be projected on the screens. If you would like, you could print a copy at home and bring it with you,

PRELUDES

Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion, so please prepare ahead of time wine/grape juice and bread appropriate to the number in your family. Our liturgy declares we celebrate with "the church on earth and the hosts of heaven." So in these days of required distancing, longing to share the Lord's Supper again soon physically together at one table of the Lord, we acknowledge communion always connects us "remotely" and powerfully with the Church through time and space. This will be another form of that connection. We understand no precedents are being set in these unique times.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

HYMN OF PRAISE: *I Come with Joy*

ELW Hymn 482

- 1 **I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.**
- 2 **I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.**
- 3 **As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.**
- 5 **Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.**

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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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

- ☐ 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.
☑ **Amen.**

LESSON: Psalm 103:8, 10-13

- ☒ The Reading is from Psalm 119.
☒ God is sheer mercy and grace; not easily angered, he's rich in love.
☑ **He doesn't treat us as our sins deserve, nor pay us back in full for our wrongs.**
☒ As high as heaven is over the earth, so strong is his love to those who fear him.
☑ **And as far as sunrise is from sunset, he has separated us from our sins.** ►

- L** As parents feel for their children, God feels for those who fear him.
C **He knows us inside and out, keeps in mind that we're made of mud.**
L Men and women don't live very long; like wildflowers they spring up and blossom,
C **But a storm snuffs them out just as quickly, leaving nothing to show they were here.**
L God's love, though, is ever and always, eternally present to all who fear him,
C **Making everything right for them and their children as they follow his Covenant ways
and remember to do whatever he said.** —*The Message*

The Message Copyright © 1993, 2002, 2018 by Eugene H. Peterson

- L** The word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

ELW Hymn 172

**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

- P** The Holy Gospel according Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

- C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

- P** The Gospel of the Lord.

- C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Melissa Jacobson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive*

ELW Hymn 605

- 1 **"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.**
- 2 **How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?**
- 3 **In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others' debts to us; how great our debt to you!**
- 4 **Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.**

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 CHURCH

*When the petition concludes "Lord, in your mercy" please respond, "hear our prayer."
 The prayers are ended with these words, "All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord." Please respond, "Amen."*

INVITATION TO OFFERING: *Link to give:* <https://coslutheran.org/give/>

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name.

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

- 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.**

SHARING COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

*As you see the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church by communing each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:
 "The body of Christ for you" and "The blood of Christ for you."*

SONG DURING COMMUNION: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

- 1** Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
- 4** Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.
- 5** Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

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PASTORAL BLESSING**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- P** We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** May our Almighty and All-Loving God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

ELW Hymn 543

- 1** “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”
- 2** “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”
- 3** “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

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DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus’ pathway of joy and life.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Altar Guild: Carol Jensen-Linton

Sound: Joni Siepert, Will Friedrichs