

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost ☩ September 20, 2020 ☩ 11:00 A.M.
Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
David and Sue Byers, 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 and 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: *Golden Breaks the Dawn*

ELW Hymn 852

*Qing zao qilai kan, hong ri chu tongfang, xiongzhuang xiang yongshi, meihao xiang xinlang;
tian gao feiniao guo, di kuo yehua xiang, zhao wo qin gongzuo, Tianfu you enguang.*

- 1 **Golden breaks the dawn, comes the eastern sun; like a rider strong, set the course to run.
Birds above me fly, flowers bloom below; through the earth and sky God's great mercies flow.**
- 2 **Holy, living God, keep me safe today; though I weary plod, make me kind, I pray.
Let me guide our youth, honor weak and old; let me serve with truth, and God's love unfold.**
- 3 **Give me daily bread, while I do my part; bright skies overhead, gladness in my heart.
Simple wants provide, evil let me shun; Jesus at my side, till the day is done.**

Text: Tzu-chen Chao; para. Frank W. Price, 1885-1974

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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

- ☩ 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.
☩ **Amen.**

LESSON: **Philippians 1:21-28**

The Message

- ☩ The Reading is from Paul's letter to the Philippian Christians, the first chapter.
☩ Alive, I'm Christ's messenger; dead, I'm his bounty. Life versus even more life! I can't lose.
☩ **As long as I'm alive in this body, there is good work for me to do.**
☩ If I had to choose right now, I hardly know which I'd choose. Hard choice!
☩ **The desire to break camp here and be with Christ is powerful.
Some days I can think of nothing better.**



L But most days, because of what you are going through,
I am sure that it's better for me to stick it out here.

G **So I plan to be around awhile, companion to you as your growth and joy
in this life of trusting God continues.**

L You can start looking forward to a great reunion when I come visit you again.
We'll be praising Christ, enjoying each other.

G **Meanwhile, live in such a way that you are a credit to the Message of Christ ...**

L Stand united, singular in vision, contending for people's trust in the Message, the good news,
not flinching or dodging in the slightest before the opposition.

G **Your courage and unity will show them what they're up against:
defeat for them, victory for you—and both because of God.**

L The word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

ELW Hymn 172

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

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

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

[**J**esus 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. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And 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?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When 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.’ ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘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.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Fritz

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Lord of All Hopefulness*

ELW Hymn 765

- 1** Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2** Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord,
at the noon of the day.
- 3** Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
- 4** Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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.**

PRAVERS 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.

© We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

© 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

**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: *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?**ELW Hymn 659*

- 1** Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.
- 2** We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953 Text © 1977 Scripture In Song (c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music) /ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695. CCLI License #1160091

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: *On Our Way Rejoicing**ELW Hymn 537*

- 1** On our way rejoicing gladly let us go.
Christ our Lord has conquered; vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety; Christ within, our joy;
who, if we be faithful, can our hope destroy?

Refrain: On our way rejoicing; as we forward move,
hearken to our praises, O blest God of love!

- 2** Unto God the Father joyful songs we sing;
unto God the Savior thankful hearts we bring;
unto God the Spirit bow we and adore,
on our way rejoicing now and evermore. *Refrain*

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt. Public Domain

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