



Grace Lutheran Church | 824 N. Buchanan Blvd. | Durham, NC 27701

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



David H. Brooks, Pastor— February 16, 2025

WELCOME TO GRACE

Worshipping with us for the first time?

Please fill out a guest card in the pew racks and tell us about yourself. If you have any questions, please ask an usher or any friendly face you see!

We welcome children in worship services. Age-appropriate activity bags are located in the Narthex. Copies of the week's eNews announcements are located in the Narthex.

Website: www.gracedurham.org

Contact Us: office@gracedurham.org
919.682.6030

Mission Statement: We go with Good News, teaching, serving, and sharing Christ with our neighbors.

Livestream:
www.gracedurham.org/livestream-channel

Call In - Audio Only: 309-205-3325, 312-626-6799, 305-224-1968
Meeting ID: 859 9393 2922 **Passcode:**
9196826030

TODAY'S VERSE:

"In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to boast of my work for God."

- Romans 15:17

PRELUDE

..... **WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD**

The Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C Who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN: *LSB 982 "Blest are They"*



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; Theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; They shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; Mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; They are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, All be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they, full of
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who hun - ger and
 shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who suf - fer in
 cause of Me. Re-joyce and be glad, yours is the



sor - row; They shall be con - soled.
 thirst; They shall have their fill.
 heart; They shall see God!
 faith; The glo - ry of God is theirs.
 king - dom; Shine for all to see.

Refrain



Re - joice and be glad! Bless-ed are you,



ho-ly are you. Re - joice and be glad! Yours is the



king - dom of God.

Text and tune: David Haas, 1957; Text and tune: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

..... WE WELCOME OUR LORD

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE (*Sung Through Three Times*):



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (*Sung to the Tune of LSB 515 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"*):

*1 To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.*

*2 To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—*

*3 For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever..

C Amen.

..... OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (*Pew Bible, pg. 645*)

The Old Testament Lesson is from the 17th Chapter of Jeremiah.

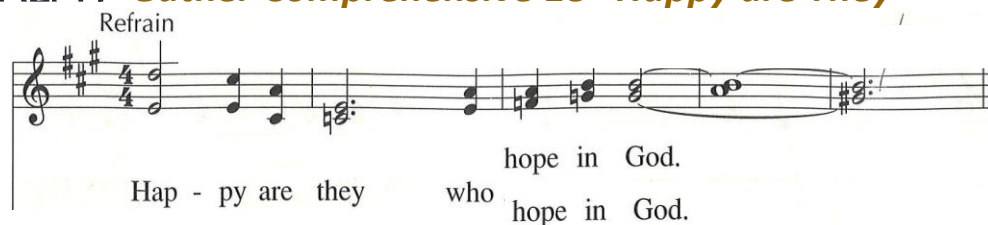
⁵Thus says the Lord: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. ⁶He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷“Blessed is the man who trusts in

the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. ⁸He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1- *Gather Comprehensive 18 “Happy are They”*



- 1 Happy are they who do not seek to walk the way of those who sin, but delight in the law of the Lord. Happy, happy are they. **Refrain.**
- 2 Like a tree planted near water, there it blooms, like our God, Whose leaves will not fade, but remain. Happy, happy are they. **Refrain.**
- 3 The wicked, the lawless, who, like the chaff, our God, like wind, will drive away. God will keep watch for the just. Happy, happy are they. **Refrain.**

Contributor: David Haas; Text: Refrain from Lectionary for Mass; verses psalm 1:1-2,3-4,6; para. By Haas; Refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL; verses © 1989 GIA Publications, Inc.; Reprinted / Streamed with Permission Under One License #A-701734. All Rights Reserved.

EPISTLE LESSON:

1 Corinthians 15:1-20 (*Pew Bible, pg. 961*)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 15th Chapter of 1 Corinthians.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by

which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain. ³For I

(continues)

delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,⁴ that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.⁶ Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.⁷ Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles.⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me.⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you

believed.¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.¹⁹ If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE:

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth Chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch Him, for power came out from Him and healed them all. ²⁰And He lifted up his eyes on His disciples, and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. "Blessed are you who

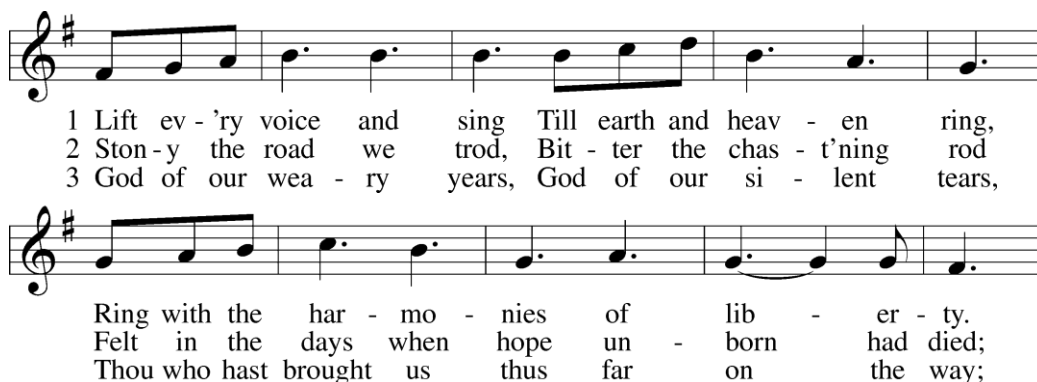
weep now, for you shall laugh. ²²"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. ²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. ²⁶"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON: **The Rev. Dr. David H. Brooks**

HYMN OF THE DAY: **LSB 964 "Lift Every Voice"**



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing Till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, Bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

Ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 Felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

(Continued)

Let our re - joic - ing rise High as the lis - t'ning skies,
 Yet with a stead - y beat, Have not our wea - ry feet
 Thou who hast by Thy might Led us in - to the light,

Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 Come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 Keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met Thee;

Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get Thee;

Fac - ing the ris - ing sun Of our new day be - gun,
 Out from the gloom - y past, Till now we stand at last
 Shad - owed be - neath Thy hand, May we for - ev - er stand,

Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James Weldon Johnson, 1871–1938; Tune: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954; Text and tune: Public domain

APOSTLES' CREED:

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

..... WE OFFER OURSELVES TO THE LORD

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. . .
Lord in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, with the 'hand wave of peace', as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matthew 5:22–24; Ephesians 4:1–3).

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY: (*Ushers bring offering plate forward during the Offertory*)



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the

(Continues)

[†] meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of the Christian doctrine



OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE:

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so 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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that . . .

SANCTUS:



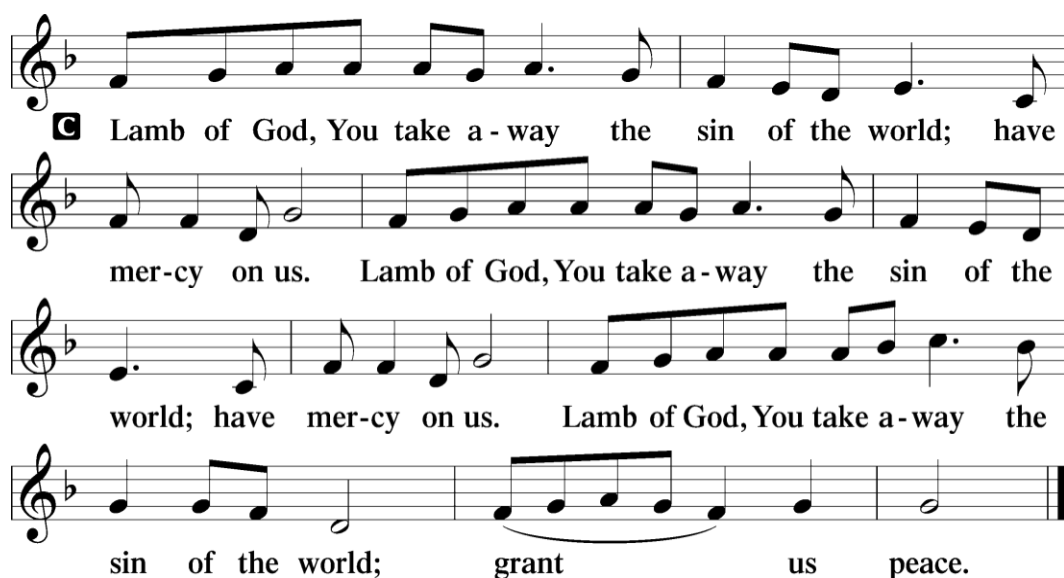


GREAT THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER:

- P** As we prepare for this great gift, let us pray as our Lord has taught us:
- 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.**

AGNUS DEI:



HOLY COMMUNION:

Receiving Holy Communion

As Lutheran Christians, we believe, teach, and confess that Jesus Christ gives us His own true Body and Blood via the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 10:16). We trust His promise that this Supper is for the forgiveness of our sins, the increase of our faith, and the strengthening of our life as the Church. Baptized Christians who share our confession, repent of their sins, and seek the Lord's blessing are welcome to receive. *First time guests are kindly asked to speak to our pastor or an usher before receiving communion.* Those not communing are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

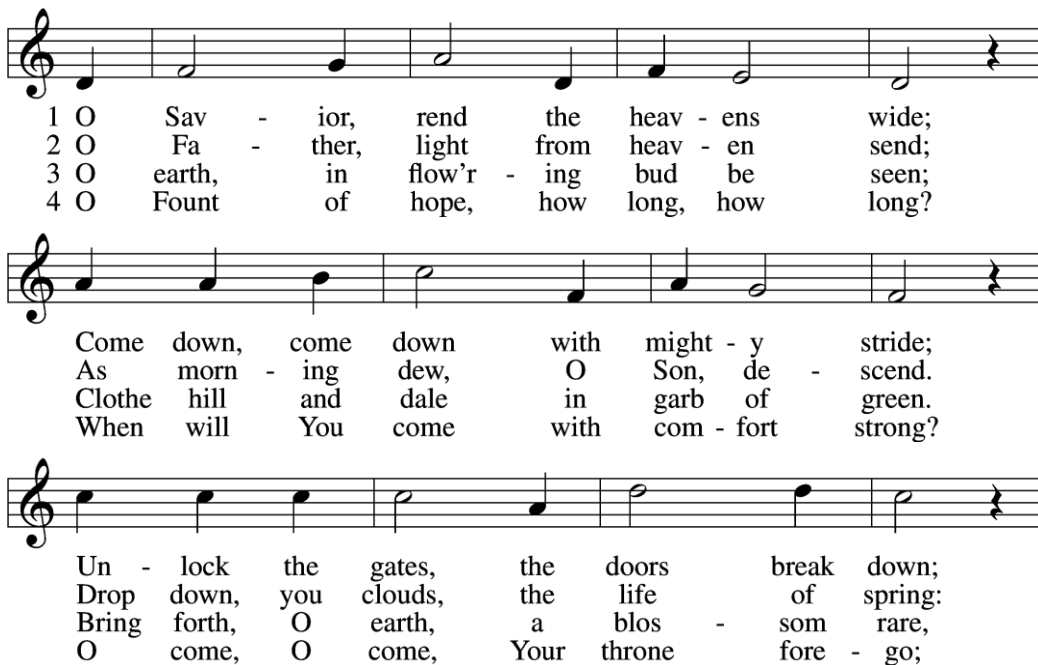
[For silent prayer before communing]

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this Holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

[For silent prayer after receiving the Sacrament]

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: ***LSB 355 "O Savior Rend the Heavens Wide"***



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;
2 O Fa - ther, light from heav - en send;
3 O earth, in flow'r - ing bud be seen;
4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?

Come down, come down with might - y stride;
As morn - ing dew, O Son, de - scend.
Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.
When will You come with com - fort strong?

Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;
Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring;
Bring forth, O earth, a blos - som rare,
O come, O come, Your throne fore - go;

(Continues)



Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
 To Ja - cob's line rain down the King.
 Our Sav - ior, sprung from mead - ow fair.
 Con - sole us in our vale of woe.

5 O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,
 When will our hearts behold Your dawn?
 O Sun, arise; without Your light
 We grope in gloom and dark of night.

6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
 O come, lead us with mighty hand
 From exile to our promised land.

7 There shall we all our praises bring
 And sing to You, our Savior King;
 There shall we laud You and adore
 Forever and forevermore.

Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1591–1635; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909–67, alt.; Tune: Rheinfelssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg; Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.
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LSB 607 “From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee”



1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and
 2 Thy love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out
 3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in
 4 And though it tar - ry through the night And till the
 5 Though great our sins, yet great - er still Is God's a -



trib - u - la - tion; Bend down Thy gra - cious
 my trans - gres - sion; The best and ho - liest
 mine own mer - it; It rests up - on His
 morn - ing wak - en, My heart shall nev - er
 bun - dant fa - vor; His hand of mer - cy



ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion.
 deeds must fail To break sin's dread op - pres - sion.
 faith - ful Word To them of con - trite spir - it
 doubt His might Nor count it - self for - sak - en.
 nev - er will A - ban - don us, nor wa - ver.



If Thou re - mem - b'rest ev - 'ry sin, Who then could heav - en
Be - fore Thee none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear Thy
That He is mer - ci - ful and just; This is my com - fort
O Is - rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir - it
Our shep - herd good and true is He, Who will at last His



ev - er win Or stand be - fore Thy pres - ence?
strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.
and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.
and the Word, Now wait for His ap - pear - ing.
Is - rael free From all their sin and sor - row.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; Text and tune: Public domain

WE THANK OUR LORD

THANK THE LORD:



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

..... GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US OUT

BENEDICTION:

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *LSB 924 "Lord, Dismiss Us"*

1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling
joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,
Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text (sts. 1–2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.; Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79; Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL:

P: Go forth! Walk in the light of Christ to the glory of God and for the care of the neighbor.

C: We go in the peace of God. Amen.

POSTLUDE



Grace Generous Giving QR Code

Quick response codes (QR codes) - provide a simple and secure method of giving. Hover over the QR code with your smartphone camera and tap the notification that pops up. You will be taken to the giving page on our website (Vanco) to make your donation.

SERVING YOU TODAY:

Organist: Erin Hodge

10:10 AM **Ushers**
Scott Gesell
Tom McGill*

Reader
Judy Ferren

Communion Assistant
Beverly Hudgins

Greeter: Christine Wethman

Altar Guild: John Kolba
Setup; Frank Oruwari, Cleanup

A/V Operator: Donna Gesell

*Acolyte

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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