This Sunday

8:30am Isaiah Study
(Fellowship Hall)

9am Sunday
Discussion Group
(Bethlehem Res. Center)

9:30am Fellowship Time

10:10am Worship

11:30am Ignition:
Welcome to Grace
(Fellowship Hall)

Connect With Us

www.gracedurham.org

Copies of the week's announcements are located in the Narthex.

If you'd like to receive our eNews via email, please contact office@gracedurham.org

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 26, 2025

Sunday of the Reformation



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

SERMON SERIES:

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Hands.

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." -John 10:10

Worshiping with us for the first time?

If you are a first time visitor, welcome! We're glad you're here!
We encourage you to review our Statement of Communion on page 15.
If you have any questions, please take a moment to speak with Pastor Brooks or one of our ushers.

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.

INSIGHT INTO THE READINGS

The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace

"Wisdom is justified by her deeds" (Matt. 11:19), and the true Wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, that we might eat and drink with Him in His kingdom and "remain in the house forever" (John 8:35). For He is "a friend of tax collectors and sinners" (Matt. 11:19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel "to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people" (Rev. 14:6), "the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law" (Rom. 3:21), "that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus" (Rom. 3:26). And by hearing the Gospel of Christ Jesus, "Whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith" (Rom. 3:25), "you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32).

The congregation is asked to join in with the bold-faced text.

Prelude

CALL TO WORSHIP

Confession and Absolution

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

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8)*

Silence is provided for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. In this time, you may present to God any particular issue that is weighing on your heart or stealing your peace. If you are particularly troubled, you are welcome to seek private confession with the Pastor.

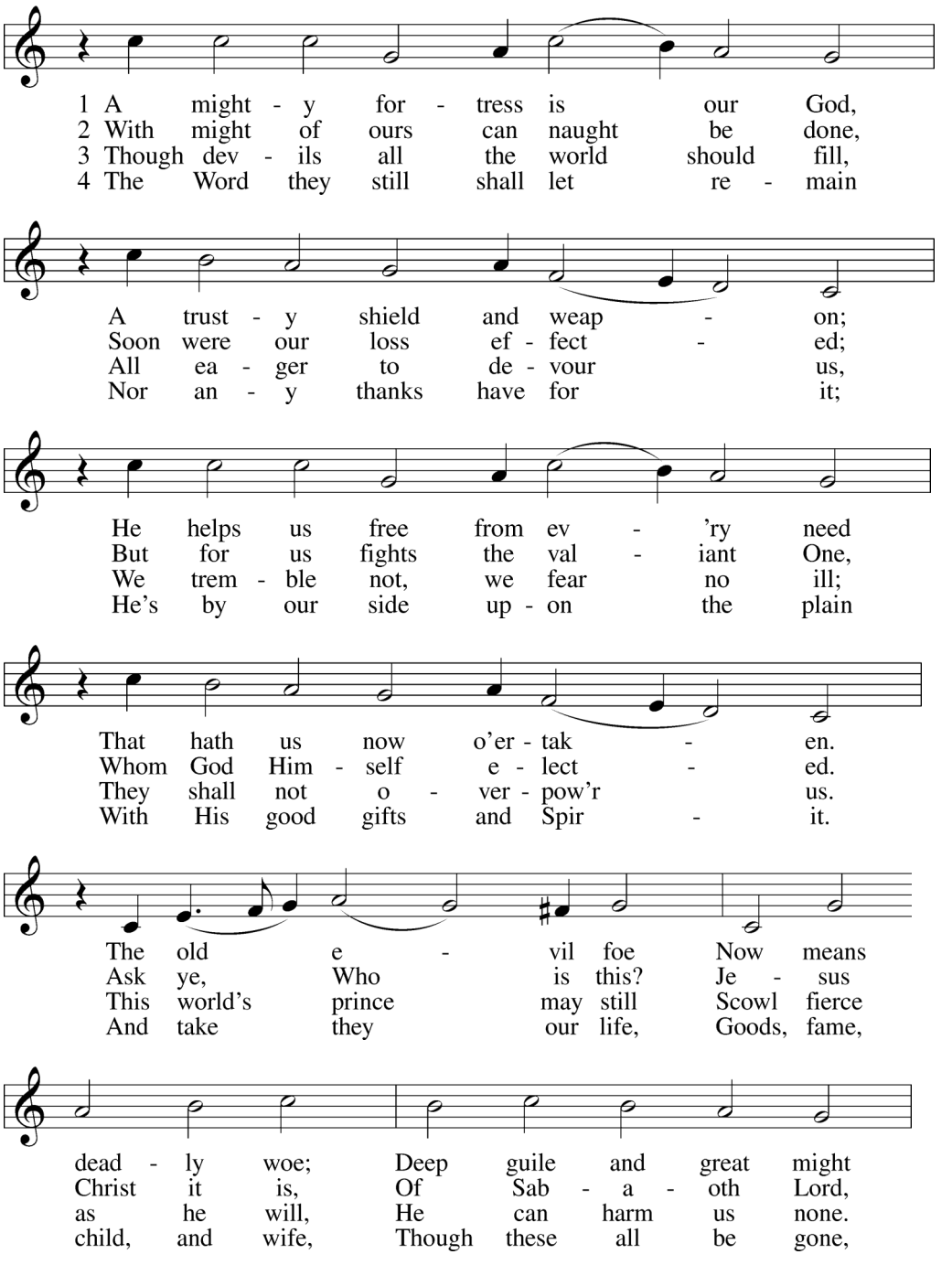
P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father,

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His Mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(John 20:19-23)*

C **Amen.**

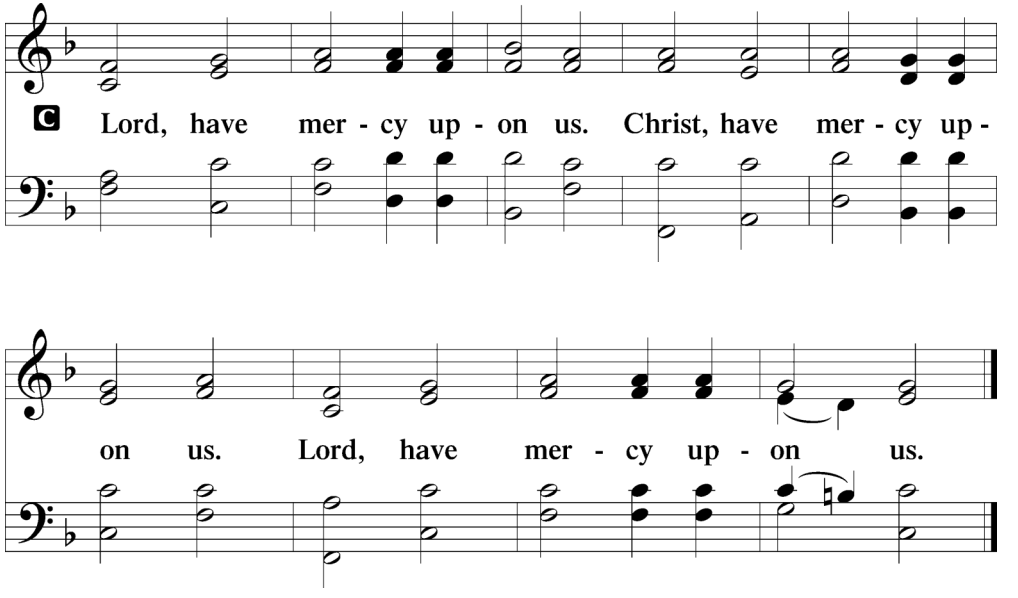
Opening Hymn — *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (LSB 656)



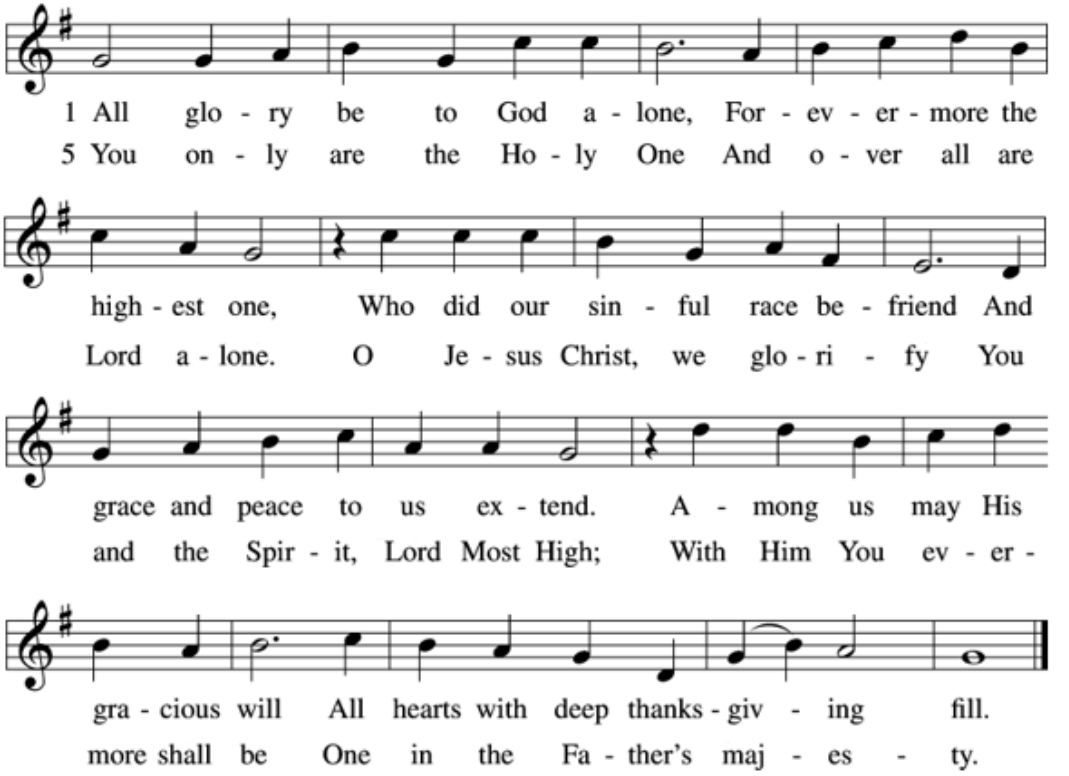


Text: tr. composite
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text and tune: Public domain

Kyrie



GLORIA — *All Glory Be to God Alone* (LSB 948)



Text: attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.
Tune: Gesangbuch . . . Psalmen, Geistliche Lieder, 1541, Strassburg, alt.
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227
Tune: Public domain

Salutation and Collect for the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray . . .
Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; 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 FIRST LESSON

Revelation 14:6–7 (pg. 1036)

The First Lesson is from the 14th Chapter of Revelation.

6 Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim
to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people.
7 And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His
judgment has come, and worship Him Who made heaven and earth, the sea and the
springs of water."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 46 ***(Sung by the choir and congregation)***



Text: Psalm 46, NKJV. Text and Music: Martin Luther, David R. Erb. Reprinted / Streamed with Permission Under One License #A-701734. All Rights Reserved.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 3:19–28 (Pew Bible, pg. 941)

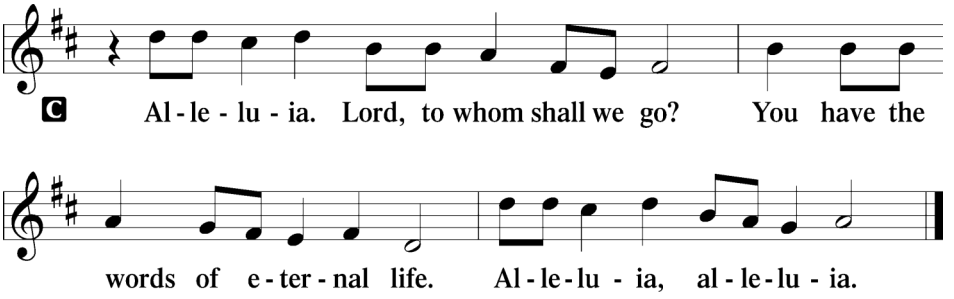
The Epistle Lesson is from the 3rd Chapter of Romans.

19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

[23]for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [24]and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, [25]Whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over former sins. [26]It was to show His righteousness at the present time, so that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. [27]Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. [28]For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse



HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31–36 (Pew Bible, pg. 894)

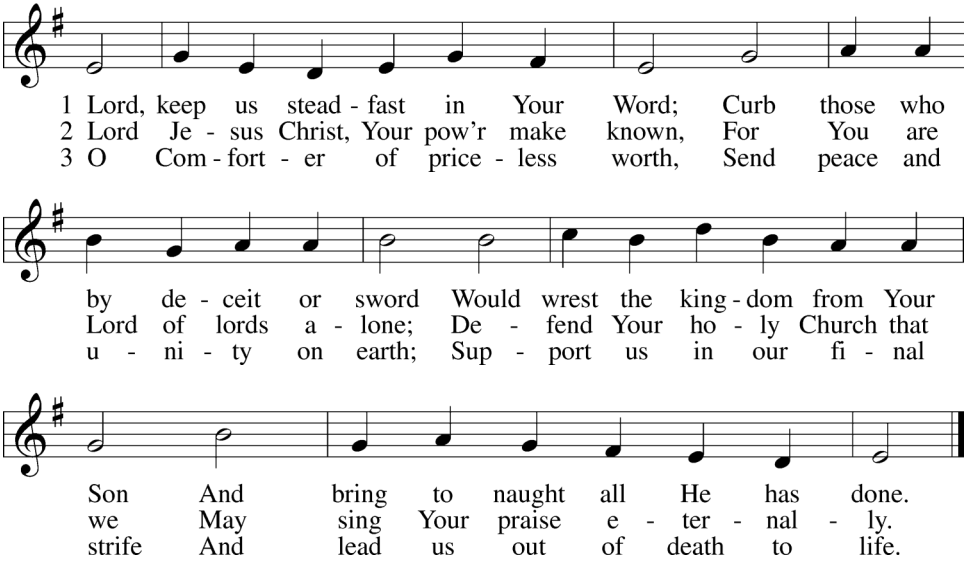
P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th Chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[31]So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, [32]and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." [33]They answered Him,
"We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"
[34]Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. [35]The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. [36]So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

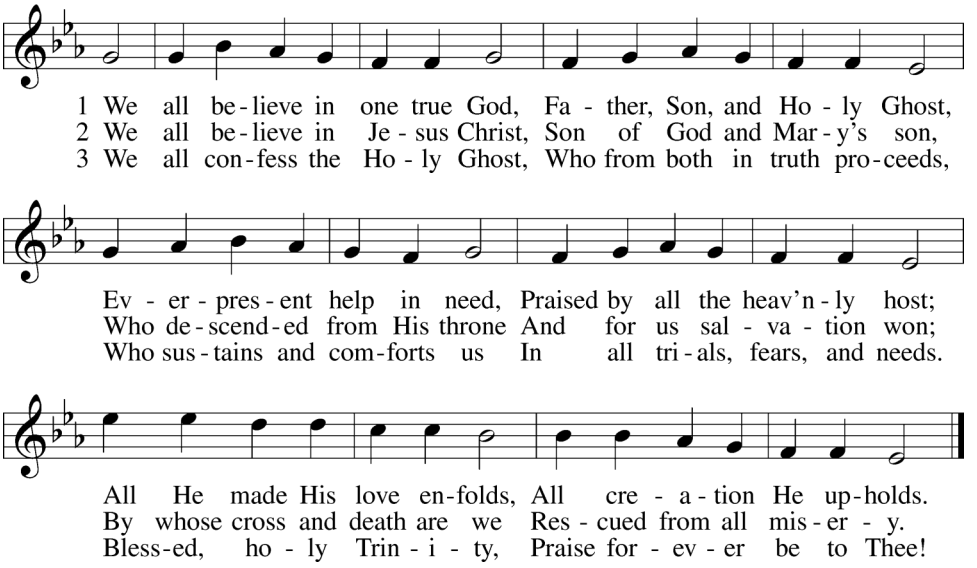
Sermon—*The Rev. Dr. David H. Brooks*

Hymn of the Day — *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* (LSB 655)



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt., Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Creed — *We All Believe in One True God* (LSB 953)



Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen
Text and tune: Public domain

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. . .

After each prayer, the congregation responds:

P Lord in Your mercy,
C **Hear our prayer.**

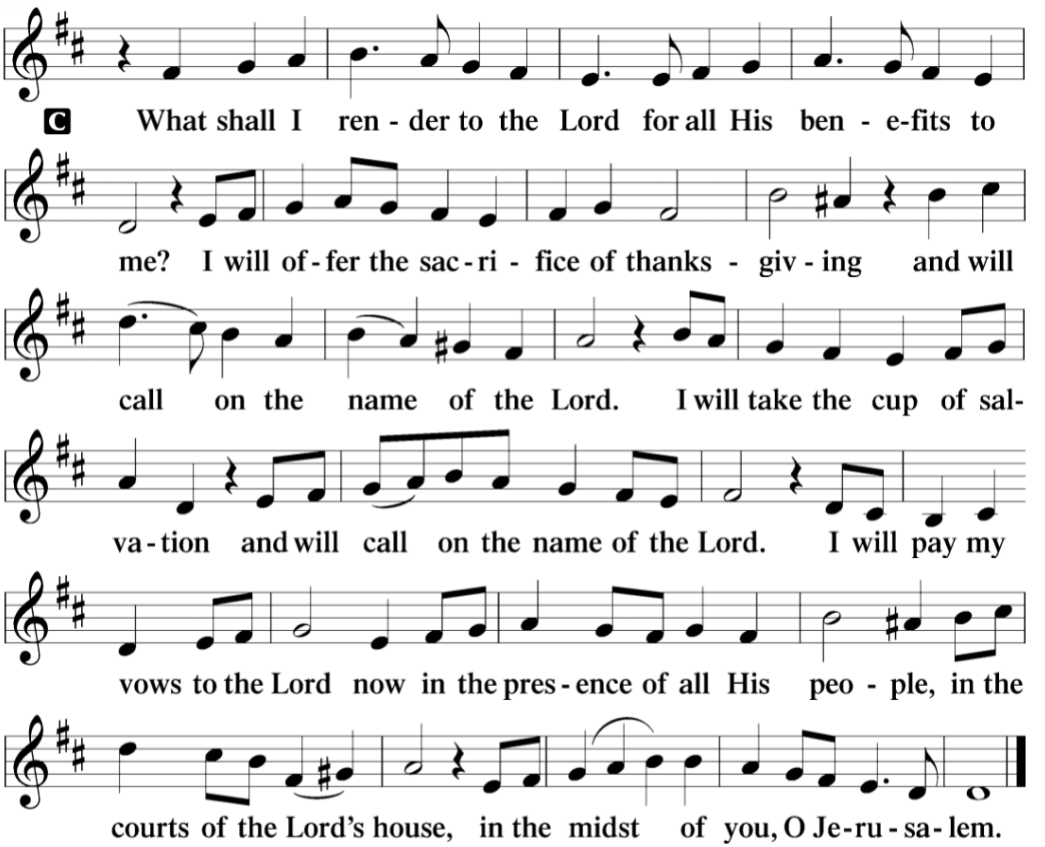
P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**

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 Music

Offertory



Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.



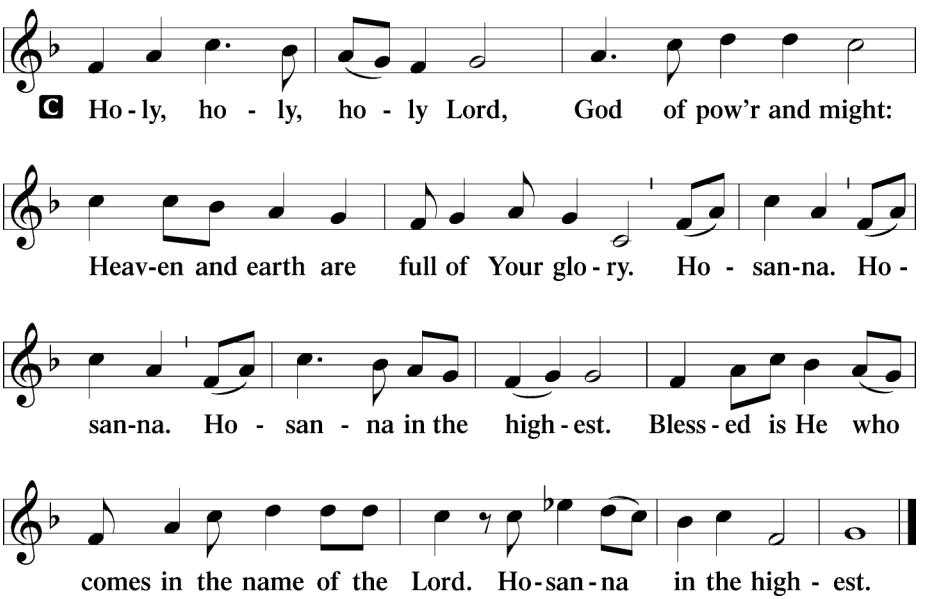
P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P It is truly good, right, and salutary … and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world You gave Your only Son, that all who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to You for the salvation You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

C **Amen**. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

The Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed…

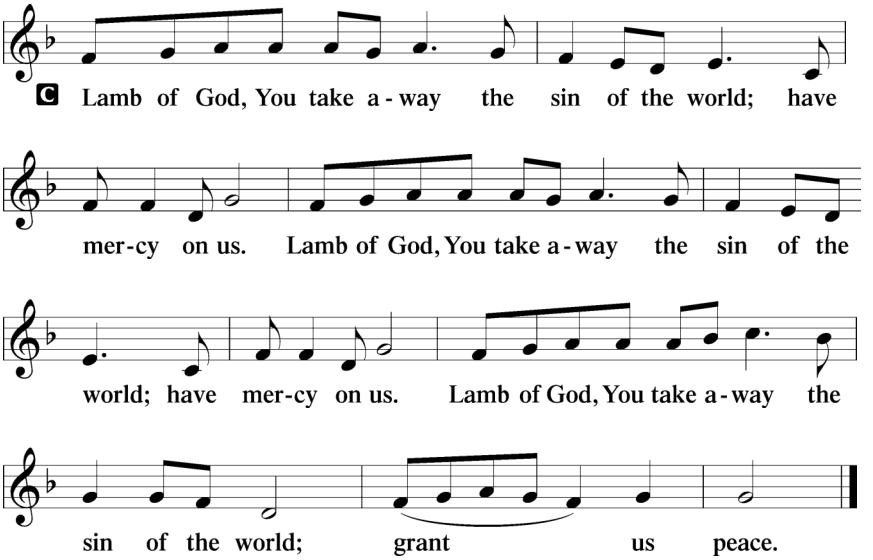
P Remembering, therefore, His death, resurrection, and ascension, we await His coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of Your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the true body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to Whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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.

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.

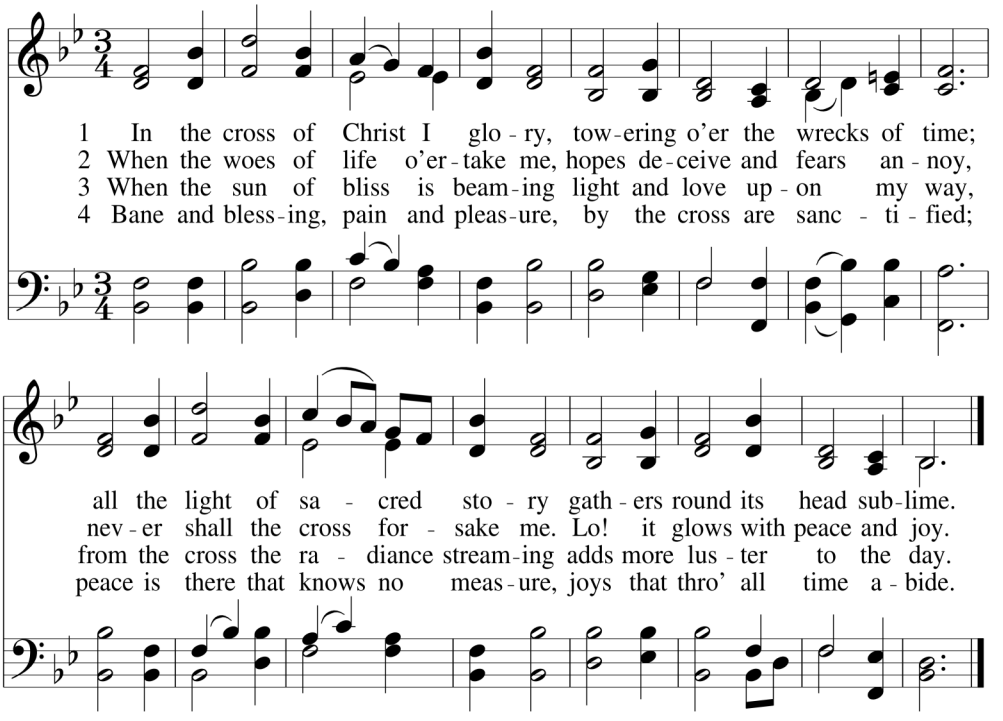
[For silent prayer after receiving the Sacrament]
Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having With my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy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

Distribution Hymn — *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus* (LBW 487)



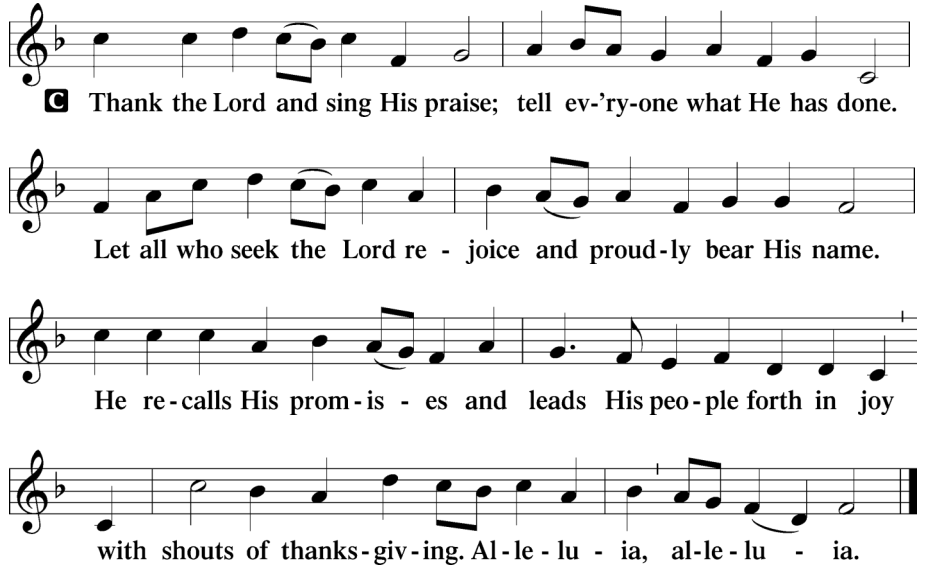
Text: Sigismund von Birken. Tune: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, Reprinted / Streamed with Permission Under One License #A-701734. All Rights Reserved.

Distribution Hymn — *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* (LBW 104)



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Thank the Lord



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.
Thanks and praise to You, O God, for this feast of victory that You have shared with us. We believe we have been redeemed by the breaking of Christ's body, and the pouring of His blood. Help us rely on this sacrament for strength, confident that what we now hold in hope, we will enjoy in true fulfillment in heaven; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

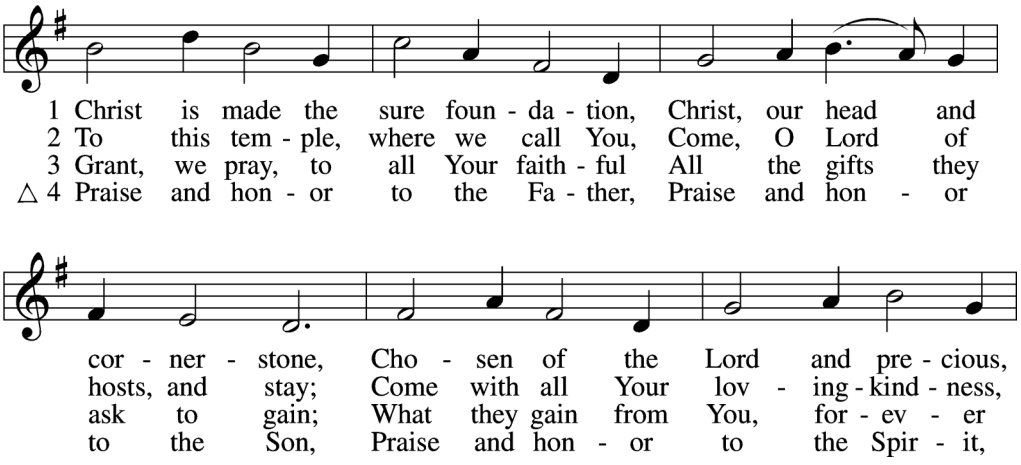
GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US OUT

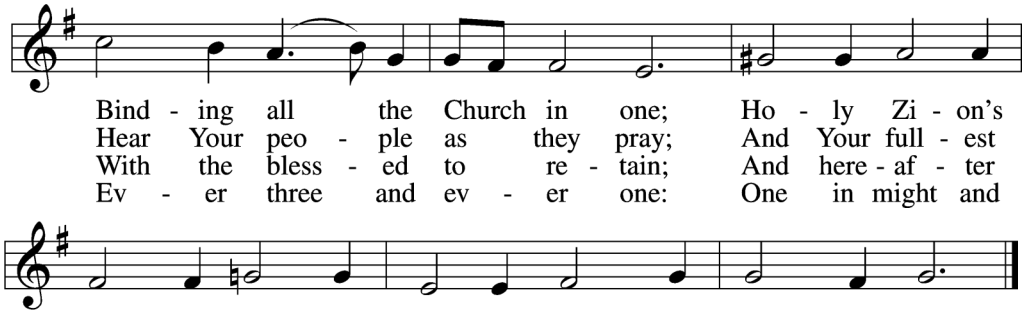
Benediction

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 — *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* (LSB 909)





Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt., Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt., Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

P Where do you go?

C **Into the world! Christ sends us that we may tell the Good News of the Kingdom of God.**

P Then go in peace; rejoice in God; love one another.

C **In the name of Christ! Amen.**

Postlude

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Wednesday, October 29 - Wednesdays at One:
Computer and Technology Q&A (12:30 lunch, 1pm Q&A)

Sunday, November 2 - All Saints' Sunday
Farewell Reception for Frank Oruwari (11:30am)

Saturday, November 15 - Chili Cookoff & Food Packing (5:30pm)
Sunday, November 16 - Voter's Meeting (11:30am)

Visit our website at gracedurham.org/news for the full calendar of events and small group (PALS) meetings.

SERVING YOU TODAY

Ushers
Dave Dickmander
Tom McGill,
Acolyte

Reader
Janet Dickmander

Communion Assistant
Beverly Hudgins

Greeter
Kathy Peterson

Altar Guild
Kae Huggins,
setup & clean up

A/V Operator
Barb Tippin

GRACE STAFF

Pastor
Rev. David Brooks

Director of Christian Outreach
Deaconess Anna Voelker

Parish Administrator
Kim Romigh

Musician
Erin Hodge, organist

Grace Lutheran Church

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Livestream

Scan the QR code above or visit www.gracedurham.org/livestream-channel

Call In - Audio Only:
309-205-3325, 312-626-6799, 305-224-1968

Meeting ID: 847 8043 7557

Passcode: 9196826030

Giving

Grace Generous Giving
Quick Response (QR) Code, provides a simple and secure method of giving.
Hover over the QR code with your phone camera and it will take you to our giving page to make a donation.