



This Sunday

8:30am Ignite Class
(Fellowship Hall)

9:30am Fellowship
(Fellowship Hall)

10:10am Worship
(Sanctuary)

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 25, 2026

Sunday of the Reformation



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

Today's Verse:

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who
commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the
house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you
free, you will be free indeed."

~ John 8:34-36

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!

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

Worshipping 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 13. If you have any questions, please take a moment to speak with the Pastor 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 TODAY'S 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, in order that we may eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and "remain in the house forever" (John 8:35). He is "a friend of tax collectors and sinners" (Matt. 11:18–19), 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 the hearing of that 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 8:31–32).

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

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confession my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence is provided for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, Who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN – *Thy Strong Word (LSB 578)*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

Trisagion (WOV 603)

The image shows a musical score for the Trisagion (WOV 603). It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho - ly Im-mor - tal One, have mer-cy up -'. The second staff continues with 'on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho - ly Im-mor - tal'. The third staff continues with 'One, have mer-cy up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y,'. The fourth staff concludes with 'Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One, have mer-cy up - on us, have mer-cy up-on us.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho - ly Im-mor - tal One, have mer-cy up -
on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho - ly Im-mor - tal
One, have mer-cy up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y,
Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One, have mer-cy up - on us, have mer-cy up-on us.

Text: Greek, tr. *Book of Common Prayer*
Music: *Music for the Eucharist*, David Hurd, b. 1950
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

P The Lord be with you
C And also with you.

P Let us pray.
O God, from Whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants,
Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right
and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; 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

Revelation 14:6-7 (Pew Bible pg. 1036)

The First lesson is from the 14th chapter of Revelation.

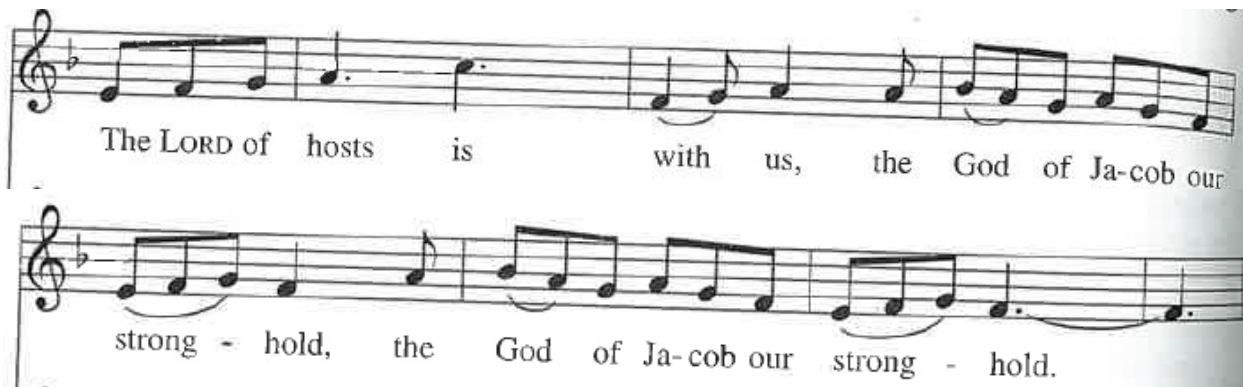
⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said

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 – The Lord of Hosts Is with Us (TFBF 6)



1. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. *Refrain.*
2. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be moved and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea; *Refrain.*
3. Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. *Refrain.*
4. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Refrain.*
5. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. *Refrain.*
6. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day. *Refrain.*
7. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away. *Refrain.*
8. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Refrain.*
9. Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, what awesome things he has done on earth. *Refrain.*
10. It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. *Refrain.*
11. Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth. *Refrain.*
12. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Refrain.*

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 3:19-28 (Pew Bible pg. 941)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 3^d chapter of Romans.

¹⁹Now 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. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ

Jesus, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom 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. ²⁶It 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. ²⁷Then 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. ²⁸For 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

C 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. John, the 8th Chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Lord.

SERMON – *Pastor Brooks*

HYMN OF THE DAY – *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (LSB 657)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'-ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who

to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons

va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,

work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They

arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227
Tune: Public domain

APOSTLES' CREED *(spoken in unison)*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, 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.**

**meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of the Christian doctrine.*

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



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
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80
Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010
Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you. **P** Lift up Your hearts.
C And al - so with you. **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 ... and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk tune; adapt. Marcia Pruner
Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- 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 may not perish, but have eternal life.
We give thanks to You for the salvation You have provided to 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...

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



Text: Traditional; tr. International Consultation on English Texts, alt.

Tune: Jeffrey N. Biersch, 1967

Text: © 1975 International Consultation on English Texts. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

Tune: © 2001 Jeffrey N. Biersch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

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.*

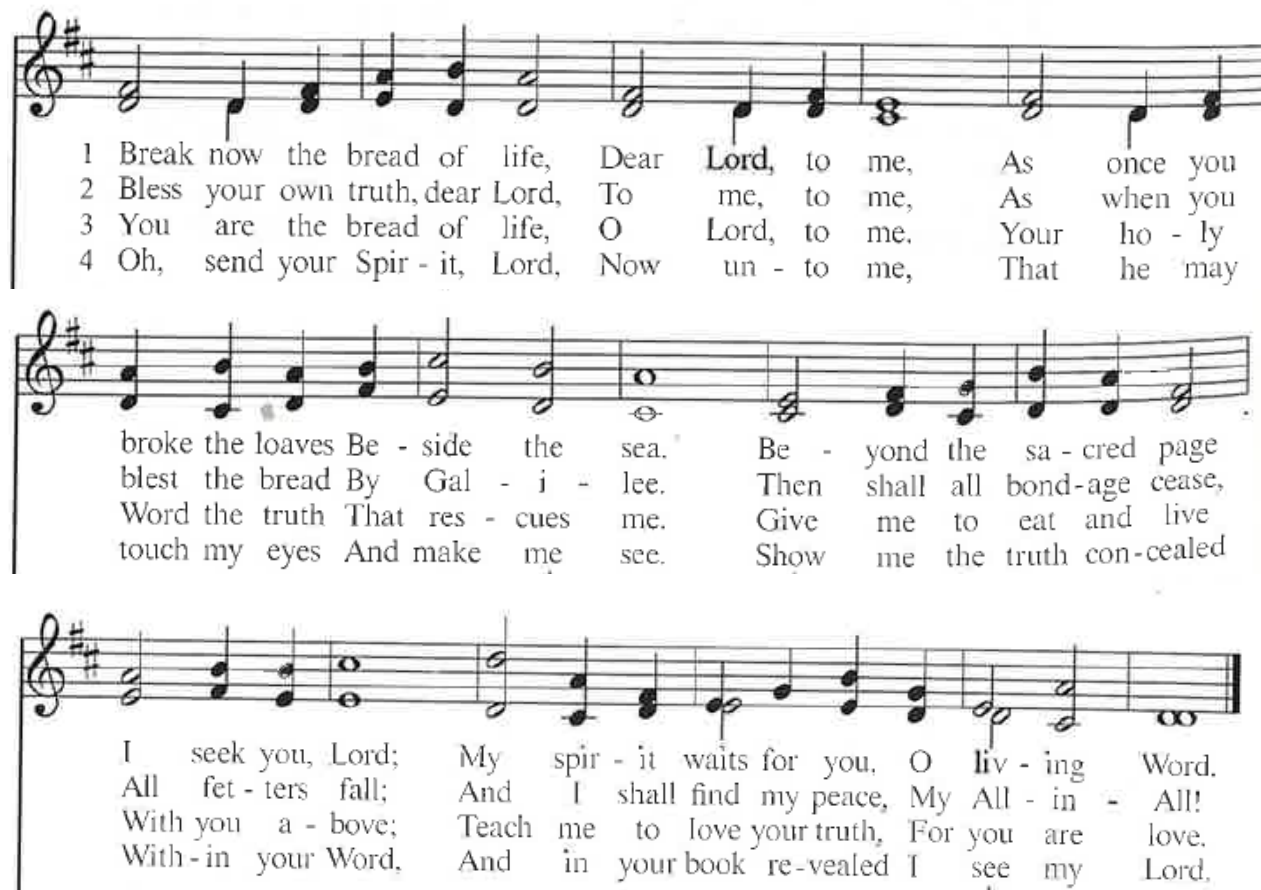
[For silent prayer before communing]

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 – *Break Now the Bread of Life* (LBW 235)



1 Break now the bread of life, Dear Lord, to me, As once you
 2 Bless your own truth, dear Lord, To me, to me, As when you
 3 You are the bread of life, O Lord, to me, Your ho - ly
 4 Oh, send your Spir - it, Lord, Now un - to me, That he may

broke the loaves Be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blest the bread By Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
 Word the truth That res - cues me. Give me to eat and live
 touch my eyes And make me see. Show me the truth con-cealed

I seek you, Lord; My spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
 All fet - ters fall; And I shall find my peace, My All - in - All!
 With you a - bove; Teach me to love your truth, For you are love.
 With - in your Word, And in your book re-vealed I see my Lord.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1919, alt.

Tune: William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888

Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – *Glory Be to God the Father* (LSB 506)

1 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, Glo - ry be to
 2 Glo - ry be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each
 3 Glo - ry to the King of an - gels, Glo - ry to the
 4 Glo - ry, bless - ing, praise e - ter - nal! Thus the choir of

God the Son, Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it:
 spot and stain; Glo - ry be to Him who bought us,
 Church's King, Glo - ry to the King of na - tions;
 an - gels sings; Hon - or, rich - es, pow'r, do - min - ion!

Great Je - ho - vah, Three in One! Glo - ry,
 Made us kings with Him to reign! Glo - ry,
 Heav'n and earth, your prais - es bring! Glo - ry,
 Thus its praise cre - a - tion brings. Glo - ry,

glo - ry While e - ter - nal a - ges run!
 glo - ry To the Lamb that once was slain!
 glo - ry To the King of glo - ry sing!
 glo - ry, Glo - ry to the King of kings!

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89
 Tune: Walter G. Whinfield, 1865–1919
 Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – *Father, We Thank You* (WOV 704)

1. Fa - ther, we thank you, who have plant - ed
2. Watch o'er your Church, O Lord, in mer - cy,

Your ho - ly name with - in our hearts.
Save it from e - vil, guard it still;

Knowl - edge and faith and life im - mor - tal
Per - fect it in your love, u - nite it,

Je - sus and your Son to us im - parts.
Cleansed and con - formed un - to your will.

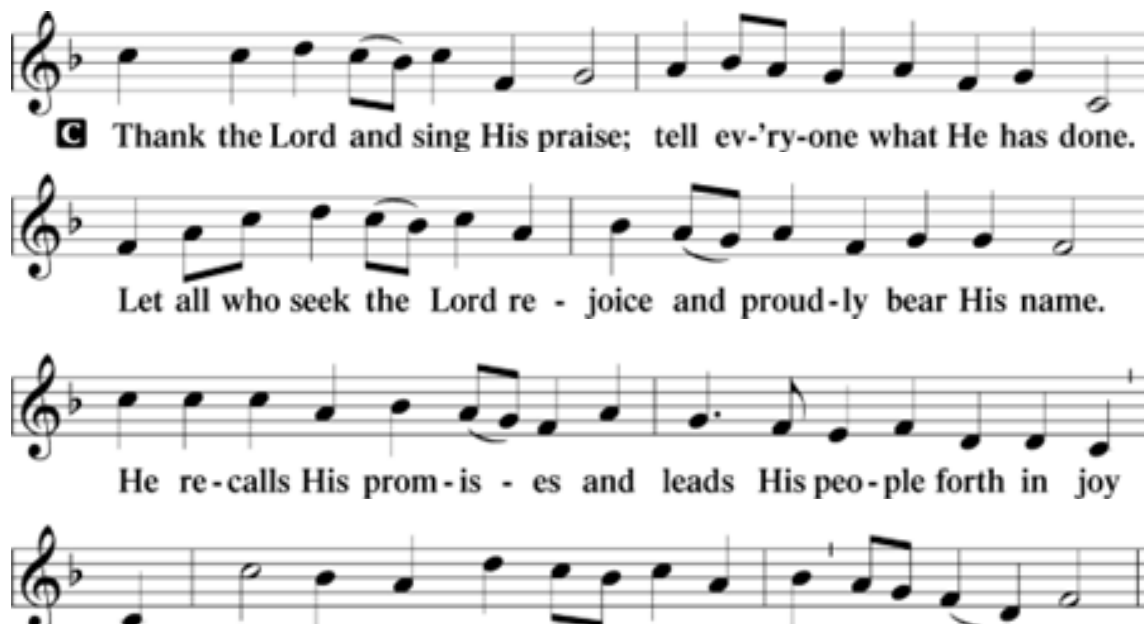
Lord, you have made all for your pleas - ure,
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

And giv'n us food for all our days,
Was in this bro - ken bread made one,

Yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.
In - to your king - dom by your Son.

Text: from the Didache, c. 110; tr. by F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt., 1940, The Church Pension Fund
Tune: RENDEZ A DIEU, 9 8 9 8 D; Genevan Psalter, 1551; attr. To Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561
Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

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 - jice 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 upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage* (LSB 582)

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.
Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924
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.**

SERVING YOU TODAY

Ushers

Dave Pittman,
Tom McGill

Reader

Joe Milko

A/V

Communion

Assistants

Noah Voelker,
Jenna Young

Greeter

Kathy Pittman

Altar Guild

John Kolba

Organist

Erin Hodge

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Sunday, October 25
GAB Meeting (11:30am)

Friday, October 30
LIFE Skills Tour (10am)

Wednesday, November 4
Hymn Committee (5:30pm)

Saturday, November 14
Chili Cookoff (5:30pm)

Wednesday, November 18
Wednesdays at One (12:30pm)



Grace Lutheran Church

824 N Buchanan Blvd, Durham, NC 27701

www.gracedurham.org

office@gracedurham.org

919.682.6030

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: 859 9393 2922

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.