

This Sunday

8:30am Isaiah Study (Fellowship Hall)

9am Family PALS (Downstairs Kids Room)

9am Sunday Discussion Group (Bethlehem Res. Center)

9:30am Fellowship Time

10:10am Worship

11:30am Voters' Meeting (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, November 16, 2025 23rd Sunday after Pentecost



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

VERSE OF THE DAY:

"Do not grow weary in doing good."
-2 Thess. 3:13

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

God's Plan of Redemption Trumps Earthly Destruction and Violence

There are signs of the Lord's coming all around: the cross that marks His Church, the violence and death of the sinful world, and the shaking of the natural order. "There will be great distress upon the earth" (Luke 21:23), but the faithful know that "the kingdom of God is near" (Luke 21:31). Therefore, "straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28). Be awake and alert, and heed the words of Christ, which "will not pass away" (Luke 21:33). For you, "the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings" (Mal. 4:2). He sends His preachers of repentance in the spirit and power of Elijah "before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes" (Mal. 4:5), in order to "direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ" (2 Thess. 3:5). Although you are often faithless, "the Lord is faithful," and by the preaching of His Word "He will establish you and guard you against the evil one" (2 Thess. 3:3). Therefore, "do not grow weary in doing good" (2 Thess. 3:13). In the midst of calamity, believe upon the Lord, Jesus Christ.

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.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 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,
- 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.
- 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 — The Church's One Foundation (LSB 644)



Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt., Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76, Text and tune: Public domain

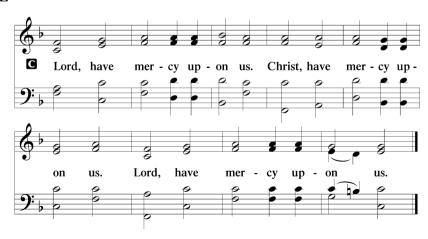
face

to

face.

May see You

KYRIE



us.

That we, like saints be - fore

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray . . .

 O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, 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

Malachi 4:1-6 (pg. 802)

The Old Testament Lesson is from the 4th Chapter of Malachi.

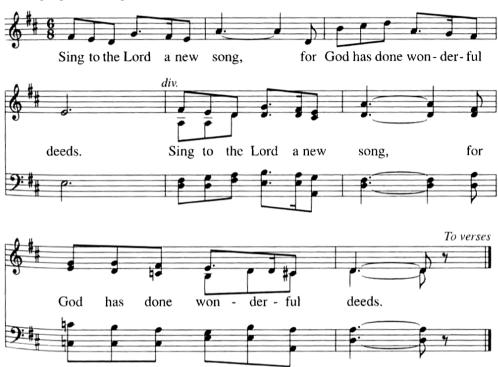
¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet,

on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts. ⁴"Remember the law of My servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

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

PSALM 98 - All the Ends of the Earth (Gather 95)

Congregation sings refrain:



- Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done wondrous deeds; whose right hand has won the vict'ry for us, God's holy arm.
 - Refrain
- 2 The Lord has made salvation known, and justice revealed to all, remembering kindness and faithfulness to Israel.

Refrain

3 All of the ends of the earth have seen salvation by our God. Joyfully singing out all you lands, break forth in song.

Refrain

4 Sing to the Lord with harp and song, with trumpet and with horn.
Sing in our joy before the king, the king, or Lord.

Refrain

Text: Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6. Music: David Haas, Marty Haugen. Reprinted / Streamed with Permission Under One License #A-701734. All Rights Reserved.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:1–13 (Pew Bible, pg. 990)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 3rd Chapter of 2 Thessalonians.

¹Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ²and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. ³But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. ⁴And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. ⁵May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. ⁶Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves

because we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. ⁹It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busy-

bodies. ¹²Now such persons we command

that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us,

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st Chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, 6"As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." ⁷And they asked Him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" 8And He said, "See that vou are not led astray. For many will come in My name, saving, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. ⁹And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once." ¹⁰Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. ¹²But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for My name's sake. ¹³This will be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴Settle it therefore in vour minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. 16 You will be delivered up

even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all for My name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your lives. ²⁰"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, ²²for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. ²³Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. ²⁴They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. ²⁵"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

HYMN OF THE DAY — By Gracious Powers

Lyrics: (Tune on next page. Tune changes at indented lines.)

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered, and confidently waiting come what may; we know that God is with us night and morning, and never fails to greet us each new day.

Chorus: Yet when this heart is by its foe tormented, and evil days bring burdens hard to bear;
Oh, give our frightened souls your sure salvation, For which, O Lord, you taught us to prepare.

And when this cup you give is filled to brimming With bitter suff'ring, hard to understand; We drink it thankfully and without trembling – For it comes from such a good and loving hand.

Yet when again in this poor world you give us The joy we had, the brightness of your sun, We shall remember all the days we lived through And give our lives in thanks to You alone.

And when the silence spreads deep all around us, Then let us hear those glorious tunes begin From the unseen world which all about us widens As all Your children raise their highest hymns.

> By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered, We boldly live in hope, so come what may; God's love is near each evening and each morning, So we live in faith with Him at each new day.

HYMN OF THE DAY — By Gracious Powers (continued)

First 4 lines:



Chorus (Indented lines):



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CARE OF BAPTIZED CHILDREN

Carey Kolba, Stanley Robinson, Caleb Stuhlmiller

APOSTLES' CREED (spoken in unison)

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.

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

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO THE LORD

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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:

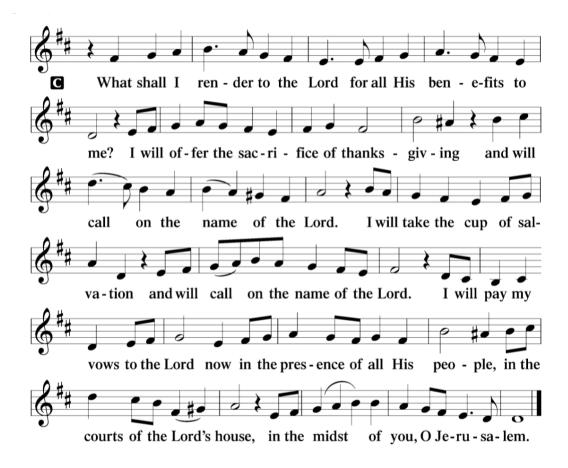
- P Lord in Your mercy,
- **G** Hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

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



OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

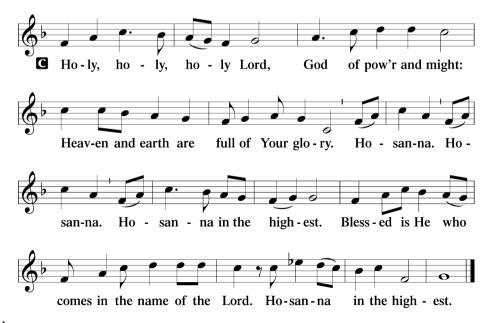
PREFACE



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

- 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.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

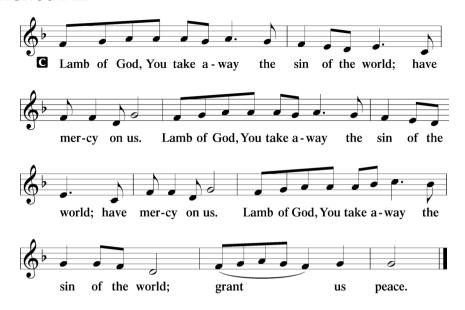
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

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 - Now the Silence (LSB 910)



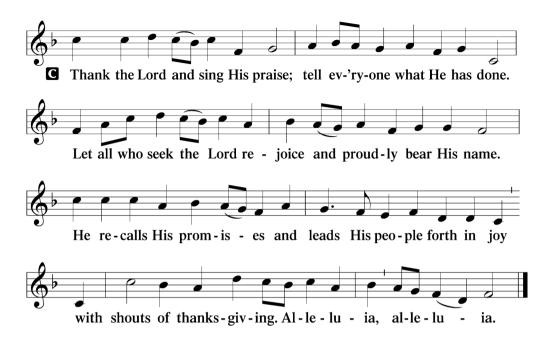
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008, Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021 Text and tune: © 1969 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

DISTRIBUTION HYMN — God Is Here! (WOV 719)



Text: Fred Pratt Green. TUNE: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril Taylor. OneLicense #A-701734.

THANK THE LORD



Post-Communion Collect

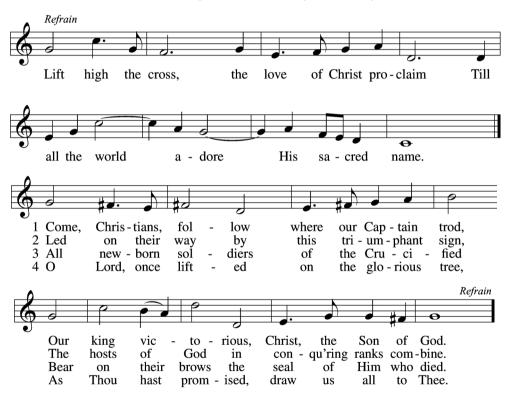
- P Let us pray.
 - Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the promised feast in the Holy Supper. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout the days of our pilgrimage that, on the day of the Lord's approach, we may, with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom that has no end; 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

- C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN — Lift High the Cross (LSB 837)



- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

DISMISSAL

- P Where do you go?
- 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.
- In the name of Christ! Amen.

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Mondays 11:30am - Pastor's Brown Bag Bible Study

Tuesdays
4pm - Growing Thru Grief (St. Paul's)
7pm - Young Adult PALS

Wednesdays

10am - Lutheran Women in Mission
Quilting Group

12pm - Noon Prayer Service
6:30pm - Choir Practice

Wednesday, November 19 - Wednesdays at One: Surviving the Holidays
(Lunch: 12:30pm, Session: 1pm)
Sunday, November 23 - Servant Appreciation Sunday
Wednesday, December 3 - Advent Midweek Service with Simple Supper
(Supper: 6pm, Service: 7pm)

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

SERVING YOU TODAY

<u>Ushers</u> Drew Young Tom McGill,

Acolyte

Communion
Assistants
Jenna Young
Gary Stuhlmiller

Altar Guild Sally Sump, setup & clean up

<u>Reader</u> Carol Walton <u>Greeter</u> Chris Wethman A/V Operator
Barb Tippin

GRACE STAFF

<u>Pastor</u> Rev. David Brooks Parish Administrator
Kim Romigh

Director of
Christian Outreach
Deaconess Anna Voelker

<u>Music Director/Organist</u> Erin Hodge



Grace Lutheran Church

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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: 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.