Sundays at Grace

8:30am
Lutheranism 101
(Duke Lutheran Center)

9am Family PALS
(Downstairs Grace Kids Room)

9:30am Fellowship Time

10:10am Worship

5:30pm Duke Lutherans Prayer Service & Dinner
(Duke Lutheran Center)

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, January 18, 2026

Confession of St. Peter



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

VERSE OF THE DAY:

"For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."
-Mark 8:35

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 16.
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, or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, feel free to visit our Welcome Center in the Narthex.

We welcome children in worship services.
Age-appropriate activity bags are located in the Narthex.

INSIGHT INTO THE READINGS

Losing Ourselves in the Confession of the One Name of Salvation

St. Peter speaks for all disciples when he confesses, "You are the Christ" (Mark 8:29). This confession is the bedrock of the Church, which Christ Himself builds (Matt. 16:18), for "this Jesus," the stone rejected by earthly builders, "has become the cornerstone" (Acts 4:11). This was a scandal even to Peter. The Christ must suffer, be rejected, be killed, "and after three days rise again" (Mark 8:31), for through this work of salvation received by faith, God's "precious and very great promises" are granted, "so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). Wherever Jesus is the Christ, His disciples deny themselves, take up their crosses and follow Him (Mark 8:34). They have been cleansed from their former sins and increase in faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection and love, effective and fruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:5–9). All who trust in Jesus, the Christ of Peter's confession, will save their life, though for His sake they lose it (Mark 8:35). "For there is no other name … by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

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 the ✢ Son and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In His light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

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

C **Mighty God, we confess to You and one another that we have sinned.**
We have chosen the crooked path; we preferred darkness to light;
we uttered curses instead of blessings;
we have broken the promises we made;
our hands and hearts are full of violence.
Let Your light and life be upon us,
and forgive us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

P For this, Christ has come: it is not the will of the Lord that any should die,
but that all may turn to receive from Him both pardon and peace.
As a called and ordained servant of the Word,
I announce God's grace and favor to you,
and by His authority I forgive you all your sins,
in the name of the Father and the ✢ Son and the Holy Spirit.

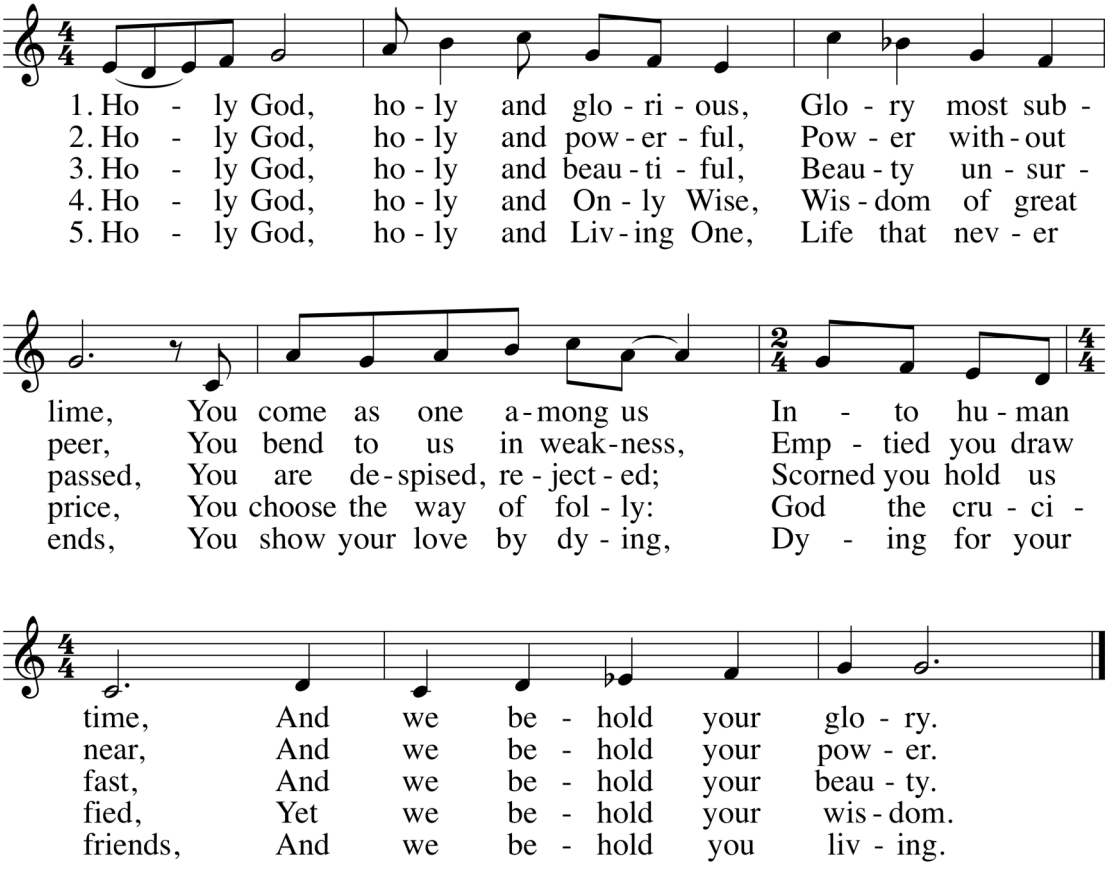
C **Amen.**

Opening 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

Hymn of Praise — *Holy God* (Gather 2nd Ed. 534)



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b.1952
Tune: MAGDALENA, 9 5 7 5 7; Marty Haugen, b.1950
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Salutation and Collect for the Day

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

P Let us pray . . .
Heavenly Father, You revealed to the apostle Peter the blessed truth that Your Son Jesus is the Christ. Strengthen us by the proclamation of this truth, that we too may joyfully confess that there is salvation in no one else; through the same Jesus Christ, 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

Acts 4:8–13 (pg. 912)

The First Lesson is from the 4th Chapter of Acts.

[8]Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, [9]if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, [10]let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing before you well.

[11]This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. [12]And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
[13]Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

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

PSALM 118 — *Let Us Rejoice* (Gather Comprehensive 114)



1. Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's mercy endures for ever.
   Let the house of Israel say: "God's mercy endures for ever."

2. The hand of the Lord has struck with power, God's right hand is exalted.
   I shall not die, but live anew, declaring the works of the Lord.

3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
   The Lord of love and mercy has brought wonder to our eyes!

Text: Psalm 118. Text & Music: Marty Haugen.
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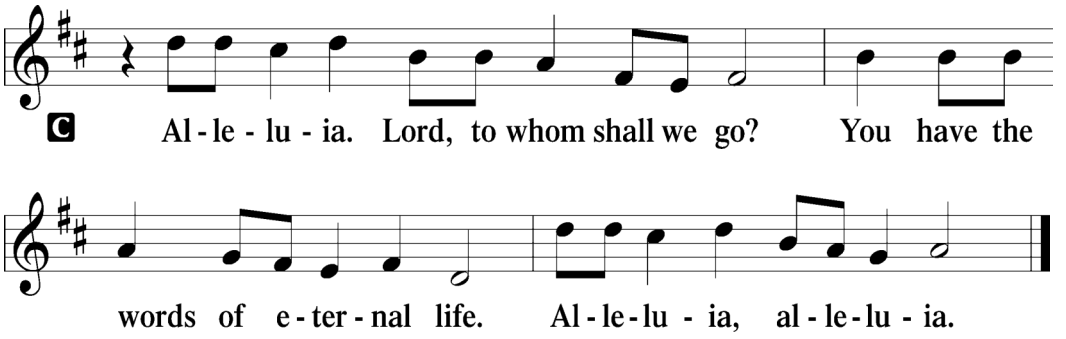
THE SECOND LESSON 2 Peter 1:1–15 (Pew Bible, pg. 1018)

The Second Lesson is from the 1st Chapter of 2 Peter.

[1]Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: [2]May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
[3]His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him Who called us to His own glory and excellence, [4]by which He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.
[5]For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge,
[6]and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness,
[7]and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.
[8]For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
[9]For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.
[10]Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. [11]For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
[12]Therefore I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. [13]I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, [14]since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me.
[15]And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

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

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Mark 8:27–35 (Pew Bible, pg. 844)

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

[27]And Jesus went on with his disciples
to the villages of Caesarea Philippi.
And on the way He asked his disciples,
"Who do people say that I am?"
[28]And they told Him, "John the Baptist;
and others say, Elijah; and others, one of
the prophets." [29]And He asked them,
"But who do you say that I am?"
Peter answered Him, "You are the Christ."
[30]And He strictly charged them to tell no
one about Him. [31]And He began to teach
them that the Son of Man must suffer
many things and be rejected by the elders
and the chief priests and the scribes and
be killed, and after three days rise again.
[32]And He said this plainly. And Peter took
Him aside and began to rebuke Him.
[33]But turning and seeing His disciples, He
rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me,
Satan! For you are not setting your mind
on the things of God, but on the things of
man." [34]And He called to Him the crowd
with His disciples and said to them,
"If anyone would come after Me, let him
deny himself and take up his cross and
follow Me. [35]For whoever would save his
life will lose it, but whoever loses his life
for my sake and the gospel's will save it."

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 — *At the Name of Jesus* (LSB 512)



5 In your hearts enthrone Him; there let Him subdue all that is not holy,
All that is not true: Crown Him as your Captain in temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you in its light and pow'r.

6 Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again in His Father's glory,
With His angel train; for all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

7 Glory then to Jesus, Who, the Prince of light, to a world in darkness
Brought the gift of sight; Praise to God the Father; In the Spirit's love
Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–77, alt.
Text: Public domain

NICENE CREED *(spoken in unison)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation,
He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit,
He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic † and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

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.**

(The prayers conclude)

P Into Your hands…
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 *(next page)*

OFFERTORY — *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* (LSB 955)



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80, Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010
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Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.



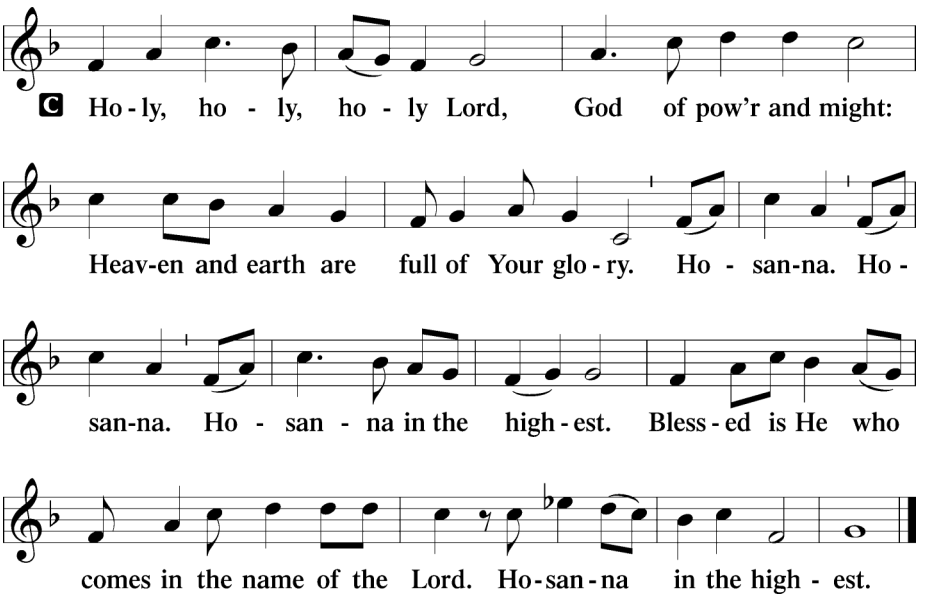
P Lift up your hearts.



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, O Lord our God, for You are the King of glory. You, Who are Light inaccessible, sent Your only Son, Jesus Christ, into the darkness of our lives to be a light among us, the light of Your grace and truth. In obedience, He took on our flesh to live and grow as a son of Adam. Obedient in all things, He taught the truths of Your kingdom, stretching out His hands in suffering that He might free from suffering all those who call on Your name. Obedient even unto death, You freed Him from death and won for Yourself a holy people. For all this, we give You our thanks, O God, as we live in the promise that He will come again to share with us the great feast of Your heavenly kingdom.

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

The Words of Institution

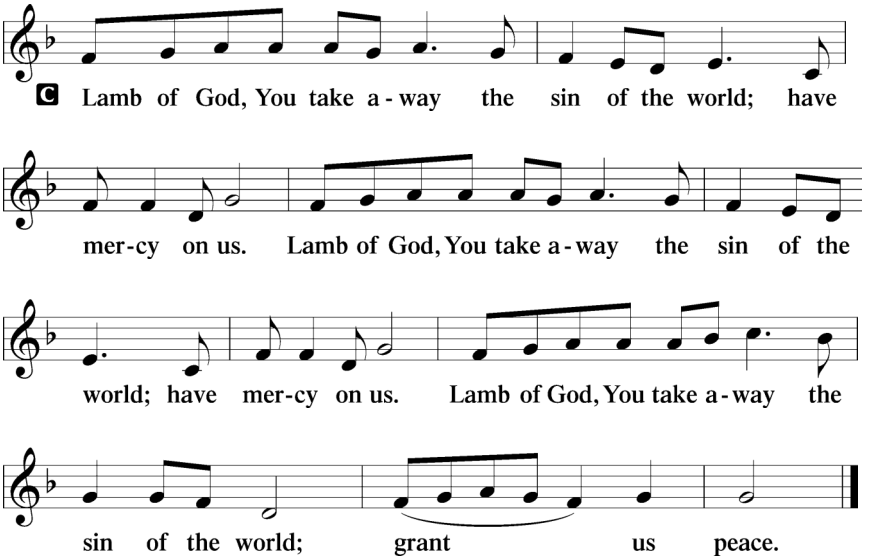
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed…

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

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 — *Glories of Your Name Are Spoken* (LBW 358)



WORDS: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.
MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

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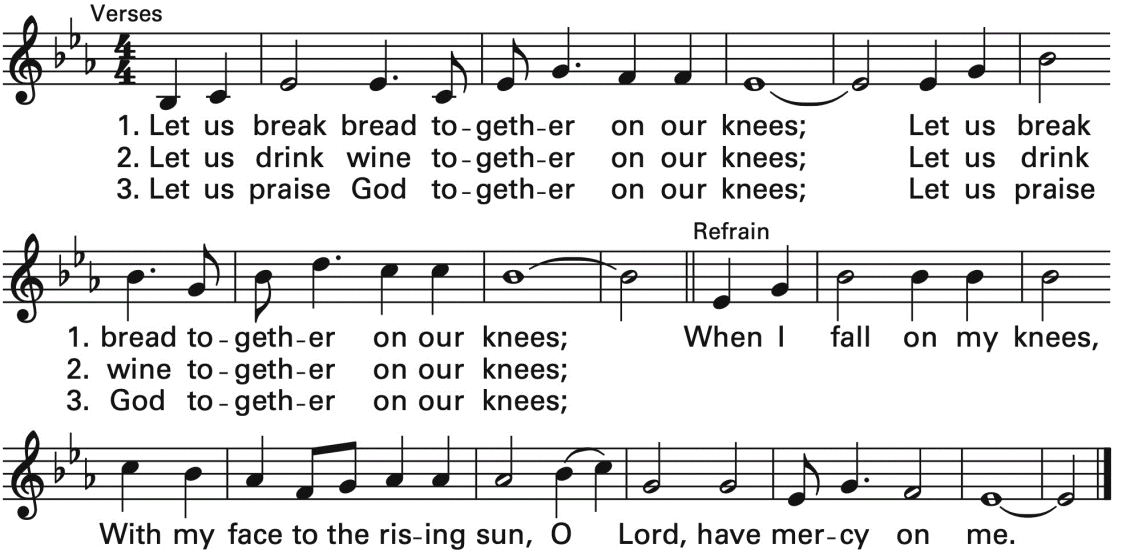
Distribution Hymn — *All Praise to You, O Lord* (LBW 78)



Text: Hyde W. Beadon, 1812–1891
© Tune: Kenneth G. Finlay, b. 1882

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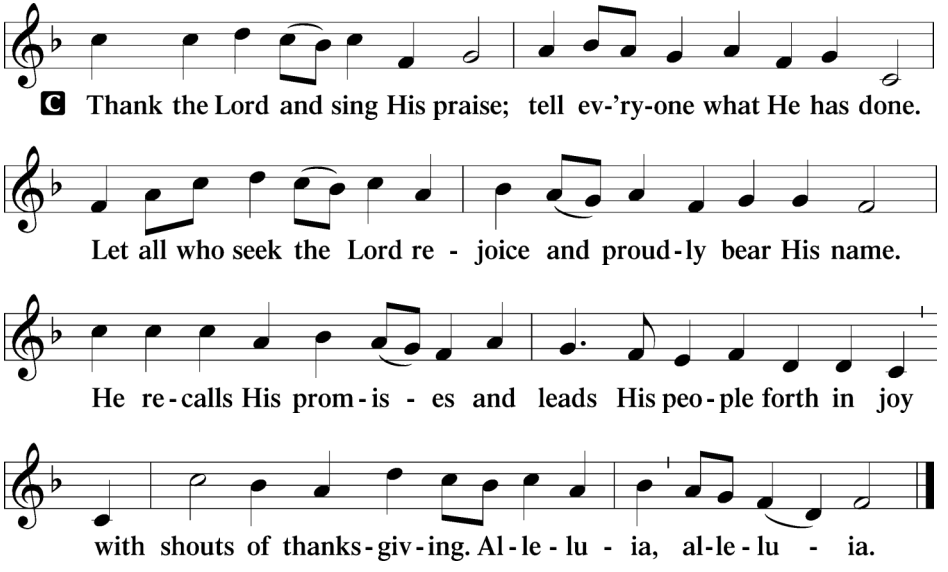
Distribution Hymn — *Let Us Break Bread Together* (LBW 212)



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Text: 10 10 with refrain; Spiritual. Music: LET US BREAK BREAD.

Thank the Lord



Post-Communion Collect

P Holy God, by Your grace we have beheld the Lord:
we have touched the bread of life; we have drank from the cup of salvation;
we have tasted Your goodness.
May what we have received this day strengthen us in faith that we may walk
in love for You and for each other, through Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

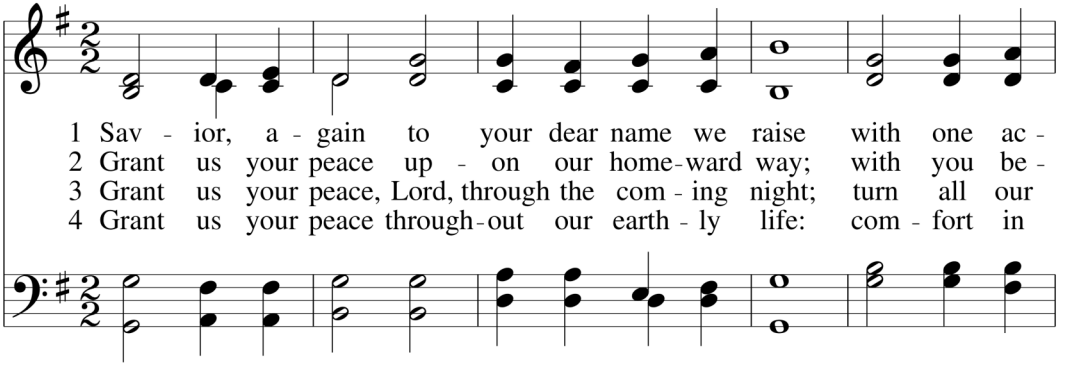
GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US OUT

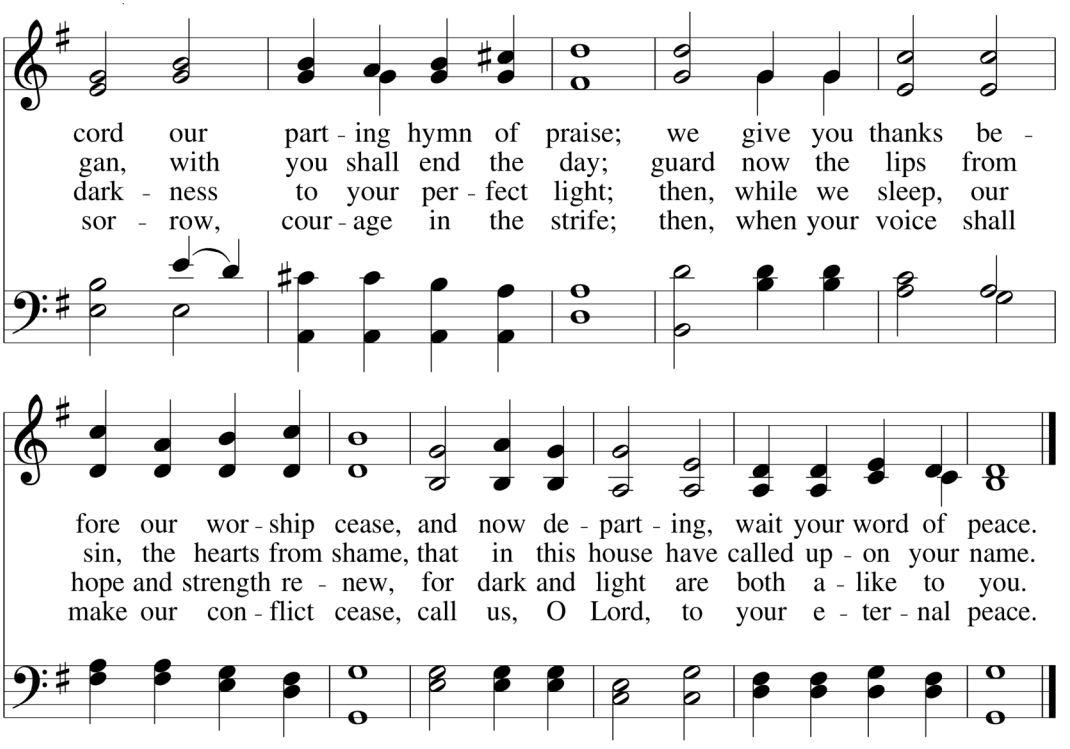
Benediction

P May God make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side,
and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the ✢ Son and the Holy Spirit be among you
and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn — *Savior, Again to Your Dear Name* (LBW 262)





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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

SERVING YOU TODAY

Ushers	***Communion Assistants***	***Altar Guild***
Dave Dickmander	Bev Hudgins	Kae Huggins
Tom McGill, Acolyte	Gary Stuhlmiller	Carol Walton

Reader	***Greeter***	***A/V Operator***
Janet Dickmander	Chris Wethman	Joe Wethman

GRACE STAFF

Pastor
Rev. David Brooks

Parish Administrator
Kim Romigh

Director of Christian Outreach
Deaconess Anna Voelker

Music Director/Organist
Erin Hodge

Grace Lutheran Church

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Livestream

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Meeting ID: 847 8043 7557

Passcode: 9196826030

Giving

Grace Generous Giving
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Hover over the QR code with your phone camera and it will take you to our giving page to make a donation.