Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday November 8th, 2026

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

Today's Verse:

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you
have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light,19 as if a man
fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and
leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him.20 Is not
the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no
brightness in it?
~ Amos 5:18-20

This Sunday

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!

"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 14. 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 Gospel Prepares Us for Our Heavenly Bridegroom's Coming

The Day of the Lord is "darkness, and not light" (Amos 5:18, 20) for all who trust in their own righteousness and piety. The Lord will not accept their "burnt offerings and grain offerings," nor will He look upon their "peace offerings" (Amos 5:22). Instead, He desires a heart of faith that trusts in Him, which lets "justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24) in love for the neighbor. In order for the "lamps" of our lives to burn brightly with such love, we must be filled with the "oil" of forgiveness through faith in our Bridegroom, Jesus Christ (Matt. 25:1–4). Therefore, as we await His coming, wisdom directs us "to the dealers" (Matt. 25:9), that is, to the ministers of His Gospel. Thus we wait upon the Lord, and we "encourage one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:18). Waking or sleeping, we are prepared to meet Him when He comes "with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God," and "we will always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

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.

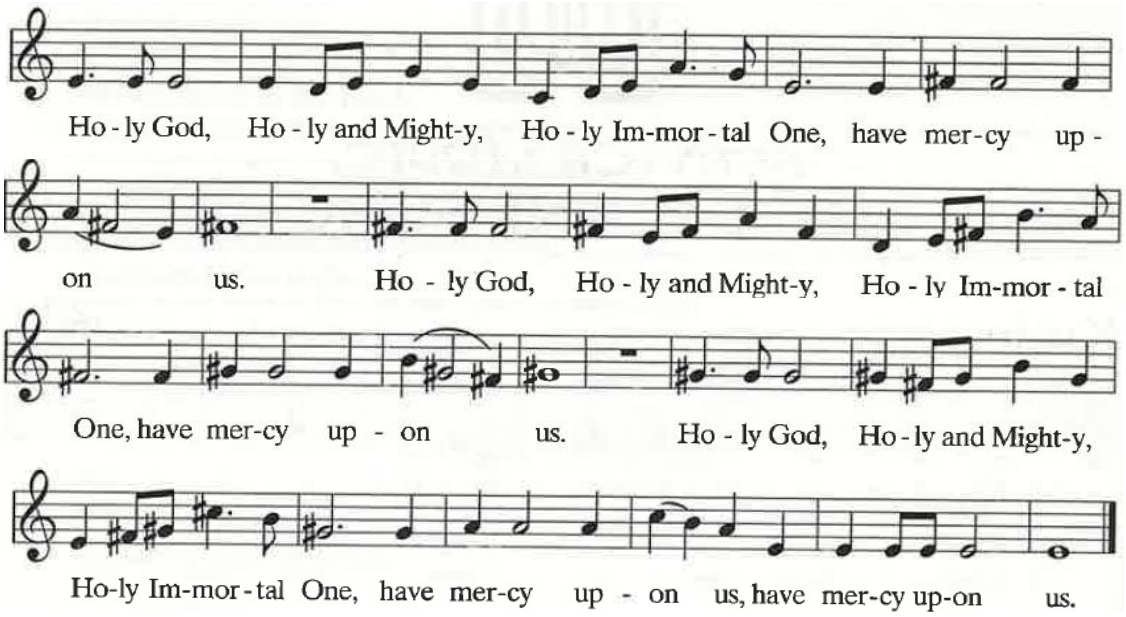
C **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN – *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (LSB 394)*



Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–9

Trisagion (WOV 603)



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.
Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; 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 OLD TESTAMENT LESSON **Amos 5:18-24** (Pew Bible pg. 768)

The Old Testament lesson is from the 5th chapter of Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the
LORD! Why would you have the day of the
Lord? It is darkness, and not light,19 as if a
man fled from a lion, and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his
hand against the wall, and a serpent bit
him.20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness,
and not light, and gloom with no
brightness in it?21 I hate, I despise your
feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn
assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt
offerings and grain offerings, I will not
accept them; and the peace offerings of
your fattened animals, I will not look
upon them.23 Take away from me the
noise of your songs; to the melody of
your harps I will not listen.24 But let justice
roll down like waters, and righteousness
like an ever-flowing stream."

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

PSALM 70- O Lord, Do Not Delay



3. May all those who seek Thee, and make Thee their choice, Great gladness and blessedness see; May all those who love Thy salvation rejoice And constantly magnify Thee.

4. I cry in deep need and Thy help I implore; Make haste the rescue, I pray; My Savior Thou art, and my strength evermore, No longer Thy coming delay.

Hart P. Denks
Public Domain

THE EPISTLE LESSON **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** (Pew Bible, pg. 987)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 4th chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

13 But we do not want you to be
uninformed, brothers, about those who
are asleep, that you may not grieve as
others do who have no hope. 14 For since
we believe that Jesus died and rose again,
even so, through Jesus, God will bring with
him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For
this we declare to you by a word from the
Lord, that we who are alive, who are left
until the coming of the Lord, will not
precede those who have fallen

16 For the Lord himself will descend from
heaven with a cry of command, with the
voice of an archangel, and with the
sound of the trumpet of God. And the
dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we
who are alive, who are left, will be caught
up together with them in the clouds to
meet the Lord in the air, and so we will
always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore
encourage one another with these words

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13 (Pew Bible, pg. 830)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th Chapter.

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

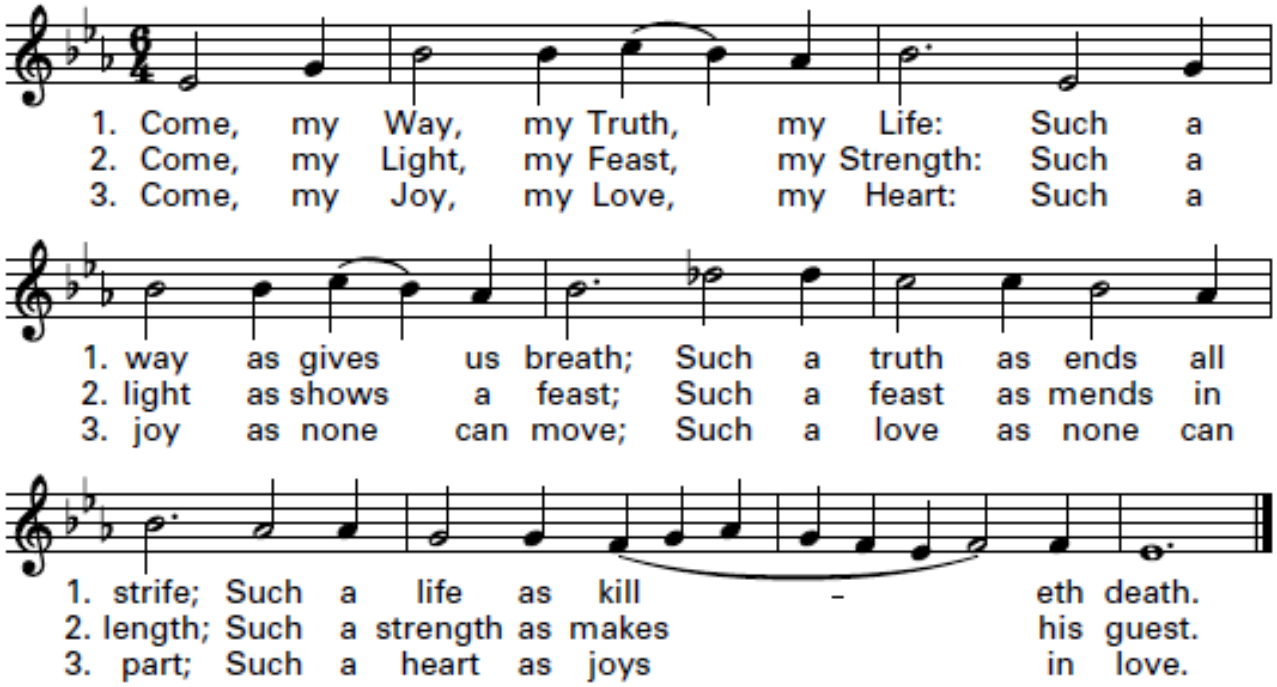
1 Jesus said: "The kingdom of heaven will
be like ten virgins who took their lamps
and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of
them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 For
when the foolish took their lamps, they
took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took
flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the
bridegroom was delayed, they all became
drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there
was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come
out to meet him.' 7 Then all those virgins
rose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the
foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of
your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
9 But the wise answered, saying, 'Since
there will not be enough for us and for
you, go rather to the dealers and buy
for yourselves.' 10 And while they were
going to buy, the bridegroom came,
and those who were ready went in
with him to the marriage feast, and the
door was shut. 11 Afterward the other
virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord,
open to us.' 12 But he answered, 'Truly, I
say to you, I do not know you.' 13 Watch
therefore, for you know neither the
day nor the hour."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Lord.

SERMON – *Pastor Brooks*

HYMN OF THE DAY – *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life (LBW 513)*



Text: 77 77; George Herbert, 1593–1632. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958.

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.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

OFFERTORY



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80
Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010
Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.
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OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US

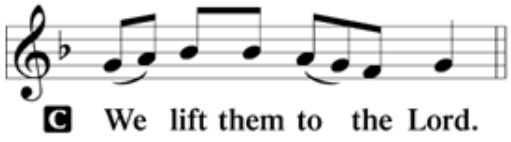
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



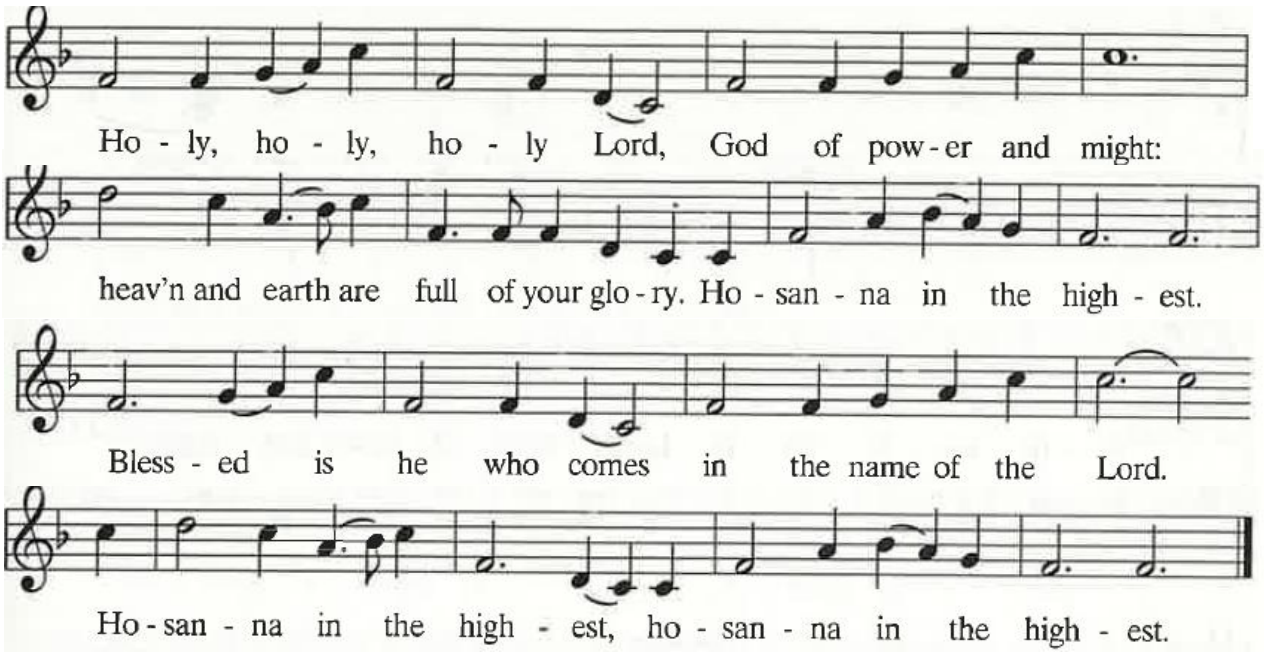
P Lift up Your hearts.



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:



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

EUCHARISTIC 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 Your 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. Blersch, 1967
Text: © 1975 International Consultation on English Texts. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227
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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 – *O Christ, Our True and Holy Light* (LSB 839)



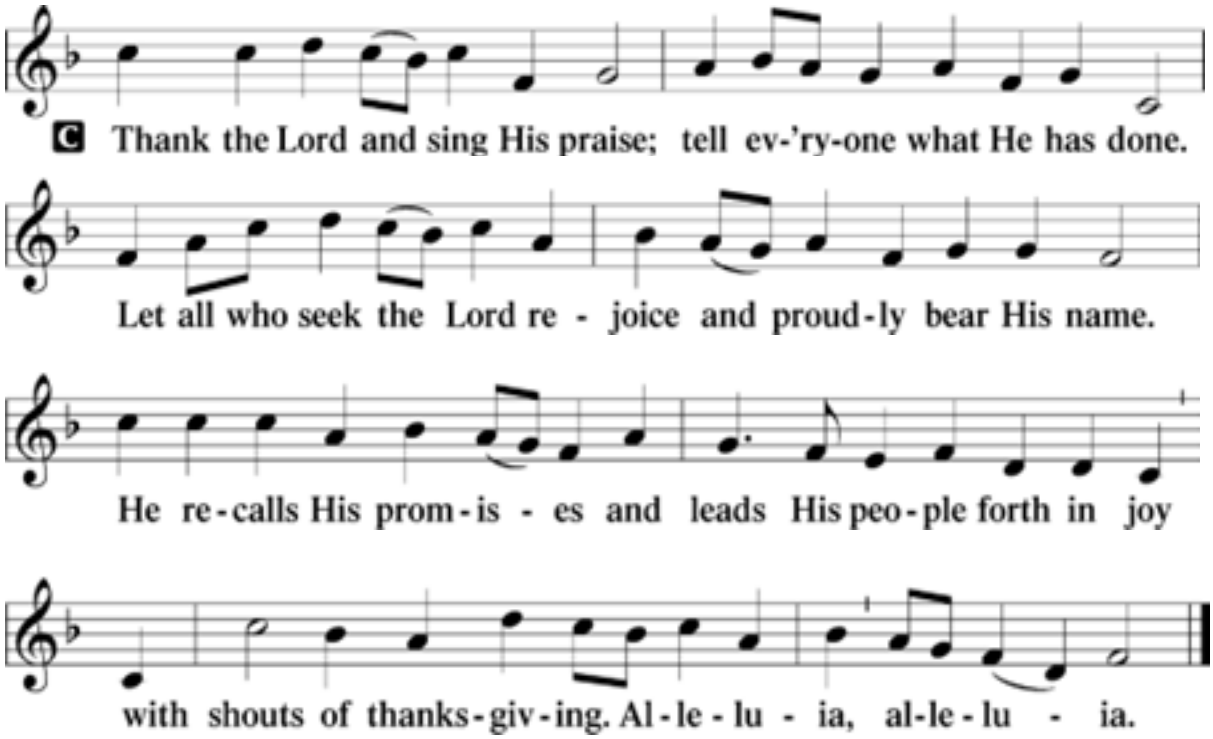
Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg
Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN – *In His Temple Now Behold Him (LSB 519)*



Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825–1903, alt.
Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

THANK THE LORD



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

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which 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

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 – *Lord, Speak to Us, that We May Speak (LBW 403)*



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879
Tune: Robert Schuman, 1810-1856

DISMISSAL

P We go in the strength and joy of God! Let us not forget the things that our eyes have seen or let them fade from our hearts as long as we live (Deut 4:9). So let us recall what the Lord has set before us.

P What is Confession?

C **Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

P What sins should we confess and which are these?

C **Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.**

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

P So go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING YOU TODAY

Ushers
Dave Pittman,
Tom McGill

Reader
Walt Crosmer

A/V
John Kolba

Communion Assistants
Noah Voelker,
Bev Hudgins

Greeter
Kathy Pittman

Altar Guild
Carol Walton

Organist
Erin Hodge

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UPCOMING AT GRACE

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

Sunday, November 15
Voters Meeting (11:30am)

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

Grace Lutheran Church

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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.