



This Sunday

8:30am Pastor's Study
(Fellowship Hall)

9am Sunday
Discussion Group
(Campus Ministry Center)

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, May 25, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Easter



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

TODAY'S VERSE:

*We have been healed, and we live and walk and pray
in newness of life (John 5:8-9)*

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church!

Worshiping with us for the first time?

*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

We Pray to the Father in Jesus' Name

"In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Jesus has opened the way to the Father so that "whatever you ask of the Father" in Jesus' name, "He will give it to you" (John 16:23). We pray, therefore, in the confidence that we will be heard and answered, that our "joy may be full" (John 16:24). We pray because the Gospel has been preached to us and the Lord has opened our hearts to believe the Gospel (Acts 16:10, 14). We pray in the name of Jesus because we have been baptized into Him, as Lydia and her household were baptized (Acts 16:15). We have been healed, and we live and walk and pray in newness of life (John 5:8–9). For we stand upon the firm foundation "of the twelve apostles of the Lamb" (Rev. 21:14), and our temple is "the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb" (Rev. 21:22)

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

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ENTRANCE HYMN — *Thy Holy Wings* (WOV 741)



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down-y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com-fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

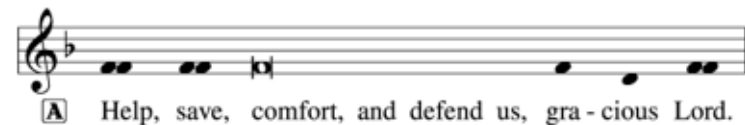
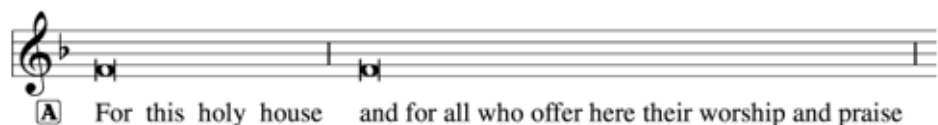
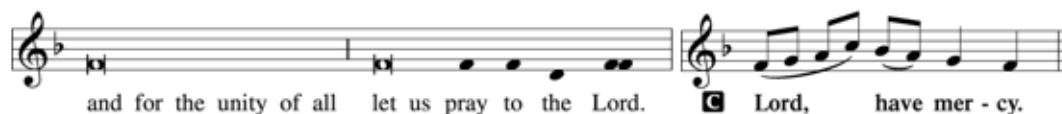
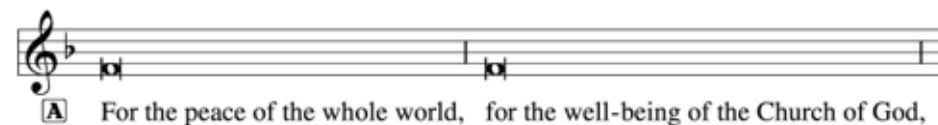
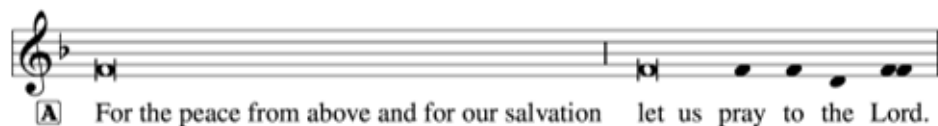


Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep-ing thy chil-dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten-der care.
and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

KYRIE



THIS IS THE FEAST



- 1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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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 . . .

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those 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 FIRST LESSON

Acts 16:9–15 (*Pew Bible*, pg. 925)

The First Lesson is from the 16th Chapter of Acts.

⁹A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.”

¹⁰And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis,

¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.

We remained in this city some days.

¹³And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.

¹⁴One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.

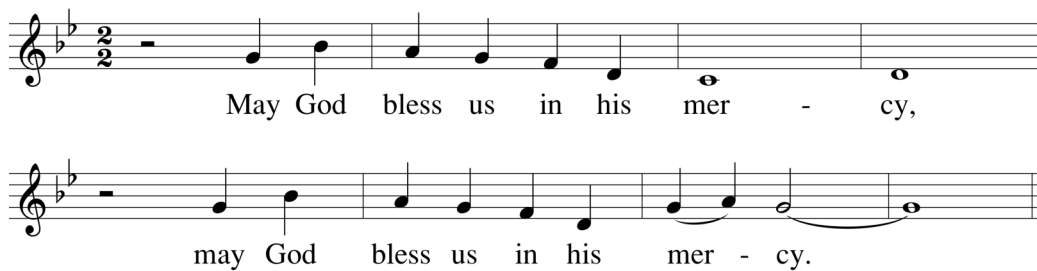
¹⁵And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67 - *May God Bless Us in His Mercy* (Gather Comp. 66)

Congregation sings refrain



- 1 O God, be gracious and bless us
and let Your face shed light upon us.
So will Your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn Your saving help.

Refrain

- 2 Let the nations be glad and exult
for You rule the world with justice.
With fairness You rule the peoples,
You guide the nations on earth.

Refrain

- 3 Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You.
May God still give us blessing
till the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Refrain

Text: Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 6-8 © GIA Publications. Music: Michal Guimont. Used with permission OneLicense #A-701734

The Second Lesson is from the 21st Chapter of Revelation.

⁹Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

¹²It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— ¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates.

¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve

names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

²¹And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass.

²²And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

²⁴By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

²⁶They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

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

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 5th Chapter.

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

¹After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed.

⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

⁶When Jesus saw him lying there

and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him,

“Do you want to be healed?”

⁷The sick man answered him,

“Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸Jesus said to him,

“Get up, take up your bed, and

walk.” ⁹And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

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 — *Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen* (LSB 474)



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
 3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
 sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
 Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
 sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
 ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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 Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87
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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

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

What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



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 saying:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P You are indeed Holy, O God, the Fountain of all holiness; You bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence . . .

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of Your Son . . . with us the great and promised feast.

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

P Send now, we pray, Your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the Kingdom of Heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all Your saints in light.

C **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Join our prayers with those of Your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our Great High Priest until He comes as victorious Lord of all. Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are Yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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 — Healer of Our Every Ill (WOV 738)

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



Refrain

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN — *I Surrender All* (TFF 235)



- 1 All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, all to him I free - ly give;
2 All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, hum - bly at his feet I bow;
3 All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to thee;



I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres - ence dai - ly live.
world - ly plea - sures all for - sak - en, take me, Jes - sus, take me now.
fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless - ings fall on me.

Refrain



I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all,



all to thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

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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 - joice 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 Almighty God, Who does all things well;
we praise You for this foretaste of the feast of victory
that You provide for Your people.
Let the gifts we have received from You this day--
the precious body and blood of Your Son--
be for us strength and hope
until You call us forth from the tomb to life with You.

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 – *Count Your Blessings* (TFF 173)



1 When up - on life's bil - lows you are tem - pest - toss'd,
 2 Are you ev - er bur - dened with a load of care?
 3 When you look at oth - ers with their lands and gold,
 4 So, a - mid the con - flict, wheth - er great or small,



when you are dis - cour - aged, think - ing all is lost,
 Does the cross seem heav - y you are called to bear?
 think that Christ has prom - ised you his wealth un - told;
 do not be dis - heart - ened, God is o - ver all;



count your man - y bless - ings, name them one by one,
 Count your man - y bless - ings, ev - 'ry doubt will fly,
 count your man - y bless - ings, wealth can nev - er buy
 count your man - y bless - ings, an - gels will at - tend,



and it will sur - prise you what the Lord has done.
 and you will keep sing - ing as the days go by.
 your re - ward in heav - en, nor your home on high.
 help and com - fort give you to your jour - ney's end.

Refrain



Count your bless - ings, name them one by one; count your



bless - ings, see what God has done! Count your bless - ings,



name them one by one; and it will sur - prise you what the Lord has done.

DISMISSAL

- P** On the evening of that [Easter] day,...Jesus said to them again,
“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”
(John 20:19-21)
- C** **We go in the power of the Resurrection,
to be ready to be witnesses to our Lord’s work and to bless our neighbors
in daily life, for we seek to be Church wherever we are.**
- P** Go with Good News! Teach what you have learned!
Serve as you have been served! Share what you have been given!
- C** **To the glory of God! Amen.**

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Musician

Erin Hodge, organist

Ushers

Gary Stuhlmiller
Tom McGill, Acolyte

Reader

Elmo Walston

Communion Assistant

Dean Kolba

Greeter

Jan Kolba

Altar Guild

John Kolba, setup
Frank Oruwari, clean up

A/V Operator

John Kolba

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Monday, May 26th

Church Office Closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 27th

Growing Thru Grief (4pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church)

Wednesday, May 28th

LWML Quilting Group (10am)

Noon Prayer Service (12pm)

Choir Practice (6:30pm)

Thursday, May 29th

Discipleship Workshop (10am)

Sunday, June 1st

Meet and Greet with our Director of Christian Outreach

Candidate (During the Fellowship Hour)

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



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Livestream



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visit

[www.gracedurham.org/
livestream-channel](http://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.