



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 Ignition:
Welcome to Grace*

*11:30am GAB Meeting
(Downstairs Kitchen)*

Connect With Us

www.gracedurham.org

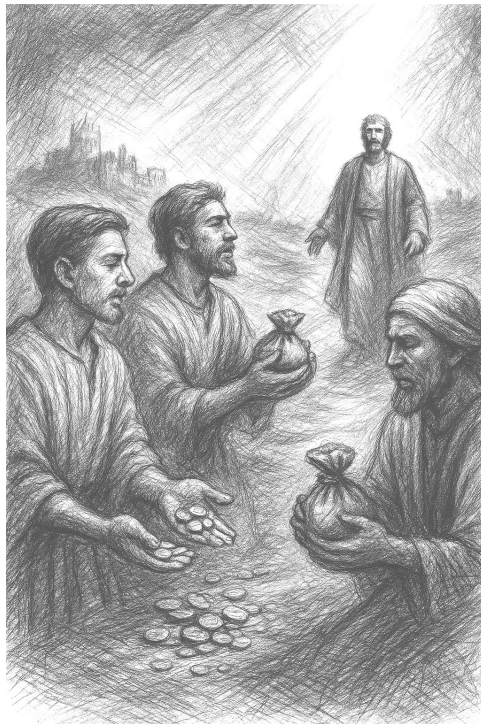
Copies of the week's
announcements are
located in the Narthex.

If you'd like to receive our
eNews via email,
please contact
office@gracedurham.org

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 19, 2025

19th Sunday after Pentecost



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

SERMON SERIES:

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Hands.

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

Faith Clings to the Word and Promises of God and Perseveres in Prayer

"Left alone," Jacob wrestled through the night with the Lord, "until the breaking of the day" (Gen. 32:24). Though "Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with Him" (Gen. 32:25), he would not let go until the Lord blessed him. At times, we, too, strive with God; He strives with us and blesses us by grace. So Jesus teaches us "always to pray and not lose heart" (Luke 18:1). Jesus speaks of "a judge who neither feared God nor respected man" and of a widow "who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary'" (Luke 18:2-3). Because of her persistence, the judge agreed to "give her justice" (Luke 18:5). Our Lord dispenses justice generously and swiftly, giving "justice to His elect, who cry to Him day and night" (Luke 18:7). He does so according to the Gospel. Therefore, His ministers are to persevere faithfully in their vocation, in what they "have learned and have firmly believed" (2 Tim. 3:14). On the basis of "the sacred writings" (2 Tim. 3:15), they are to "preach the word" at all times and not lose heart (2 Tim. 4:2).

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.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C 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,

C 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.

P 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 — *Jesus Shall Reign* (LSB 832)



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -
 2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
 prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es
 leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -
 cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793
 Text and tune: Public domain

KYRIE — (WOV 602)



1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray . . .

O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; 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

Genesis 32:22–30 (pg. 27)

The Old Testament Lesson is from the 32nd Chapters of Genesis.

²²The same night [Jacob] arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day.

²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day

has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

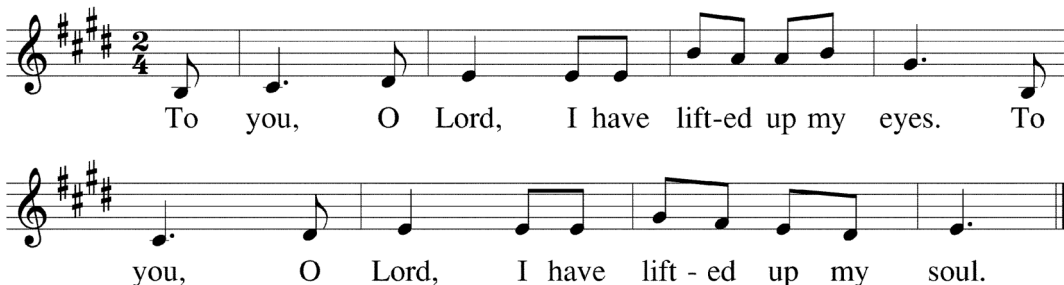
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 – *I Lift Up My Eyes* (Gather Comp. 118)

Congregation sings refrain:

Refrain



Verses

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord who made the heavens and the earth. **Refrain**
2. The Lord is your guard and your shade, for ever by your side.
By day the sun shall not smite you nor the moon in the night. **Refrain**
3. The Lord ever watches over you, the guardian of your soul.
The Lord will guard your coming and your going now and for ever. **Refrain**

Text: Psalm 121:1-2, 5-6, 7-8; Michel Guimont
Music: Michel Guimont
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THE EPISTLE LESSON

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5 (Pew Bible, pg. 996)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 3rd and 4th Chapters of 2 Timothy.

¹⁴As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it

¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

¹I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who is to judge the living

and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ²preach the word;

be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th Chapter.

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

¹¹ Jesus went on to tell them a parable, because He was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once.

¹² He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return.

¹³ So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'

¹⁵ "He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.

¹⁶ "The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'

¹⁷ "'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'

¹⁸ "The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.'

¹⁹ "His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'

²⁰ "Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹ I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.'

²² "His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³ Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'

²⁴ "Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.'

²⁵ "'Sir,' they said, 'he already has ten!'

²⁶ "He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away.'

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 — *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* (LSB 770)



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor-rows share?
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol-ace there.

Text: Joseph M. Scriven, 1819–86
Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918
Text and 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, 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

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.

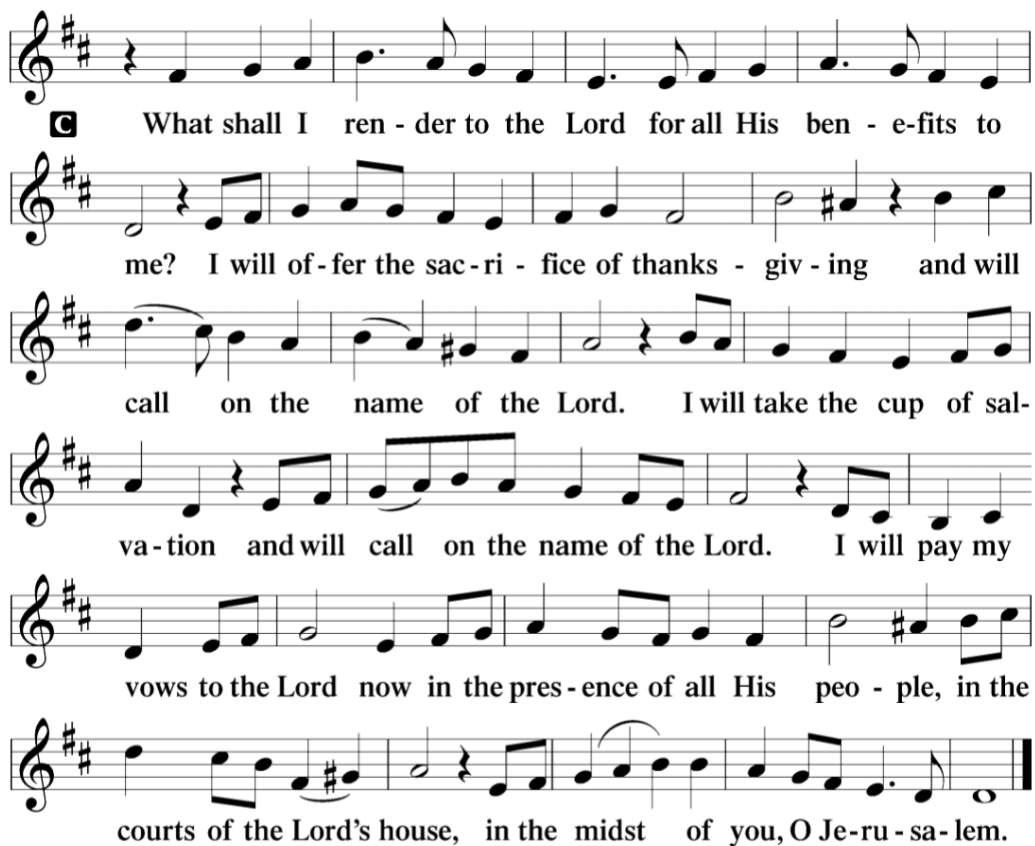
C Amen.

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



C 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 singing:



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

- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is Your mercy and eternal Your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Through Abraham You promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, Your chosen people. Through the prophets You renewed Your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, You sent Your Son, Who in words and deeds proclaimed Your kingdom and was obedient to Your will, even to giving His life.
- C** Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

- 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 — *Blest Are They* (LSB 982)



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; Theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; They shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; Mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; They are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, All be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they, full of
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who hun - ger and
 shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who suf - fer in
 cause of Me. Re - joice and be glad, yours is the



sor - row; They shall be con - soled.
 thirst; They shall have their fill.
 heart; They shall see God!
 faith; The glo - ry of God is theirs.
 king - dom; Shine for all to see.



Re - joice and be glad! Bless-ed are you,



ho-ly are you. Re - joice and be glad! Yours is the



king - dom of God.

Text and tune: David Haas, 1957

Text and tune: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

DISTRIBUTION HYMN — *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* (LSB 610)



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me A - mid the bat - tle's strife;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;
 5 Lord Je - sus, think on me That, when this life is past,



From world - ly pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.
 Let me Your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste Your prom - ised rest.
 In all my pain and mis - er - y, O be my health and life!
 Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out Your cho - sen way.
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share Your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 365–c. 414; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–96, alt.
 Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591
 Text and tune: Public domain

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 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

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 — *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* (LSB 643)

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con - fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,

The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.

The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,



The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing

To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.; Tune: Welsh; Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227; Tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Cover: Millais, John Everett, 1829-1896. *Unjust Judge and the Importunate Widow*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. Original source: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/382280>.

SERVING YOU TODAY

Musician

Erin Hodge,
organist

Reader

Joyce Rea

Altar Guild

Carol Walton,
setup & clean up

Communion

Assistant

Gary Stuhlmiller

A/V Operator

Donna Gesell

Ushers

Walt Crosmer
Tom McGill,
Acolyte

Greeter

Chris Wethman

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Sunday, October 26 - Ignition: Welcome to Grace (11:30am)

Sunday, October 26 - Reformation Sunday

Wednesday, October 29 - Wednesdays at One:

Computer and Technology Q&A (12:30 lunch, 1pm Q&A)

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



Grace Lutheran Church

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919.682.6030

Livestream



Scan the QR code above or
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: 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.