



This Sunday

8:30am *Practicing
Lutheranism*
(Fellowship Hall)

9:30am *Fellowship Time*

10:10am *Worship*

3pm *Young Adults Group*

Connect With Us

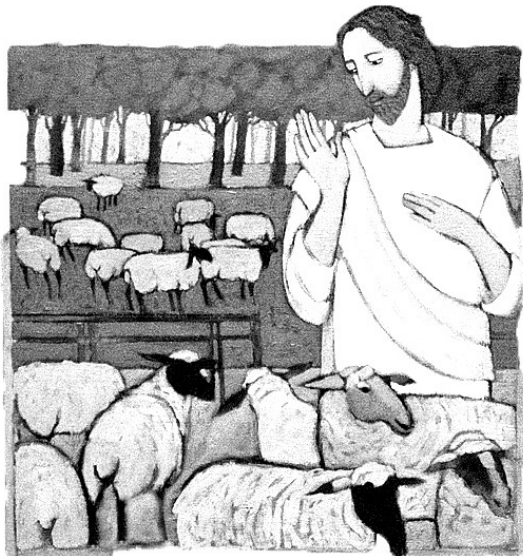
www.gracedurham.org

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, April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

TODAY'S VERSE:

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I came that they may have life
and have it abundantly."

-John 10:10

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 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, you are invited 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

The Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus Christ Is Our Good Shepherd

Although we "were straying like sheep," the Lord Jesus Christ has willingly suffered and died for us, bearing our sins "in His body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24–25). We are healed by His wounds (1 Peter 2:24), and in His resurrection He gathers us to Himself as our Good Shepherd, by whose righteousness we "have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Now through other shepherds whom He calls and sends in His name, He guards and keeps us in the green pastures of His Church, leading us beside the quiet waters of our Baptism and spreading the feast of His table before us. Since He has called us by the Gospel to be His own dear sheep, we also "hear His voice" and "know His voice" (John 10:3–4) in the faithful preaching of His Gospel, and we follow Him by faith. When we receive His Gospel, we have the abundant life and common unity of the entire flock under one Good Shepherd, in "the apostles' teaching and the fellowship" and in "the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42).

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

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ENTRANCE HYMN – *Praise to You and Adoration* (LSB 692)



1 Praise to You and ad - o - ra - tion, Bless - ed Je - sus,
2 Hold me ev - er in Your keep - ing; Com - fort me in



Son of God, Who, to serve Your own cre - a - tion, Came to
pain and strife. In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing Be with



share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I nev - er may
me through - out my life. Give me great - er love for You,



From Your fold or pas - tures stray, But with zeal and
And my faith and hope re - new In Your birth, Your



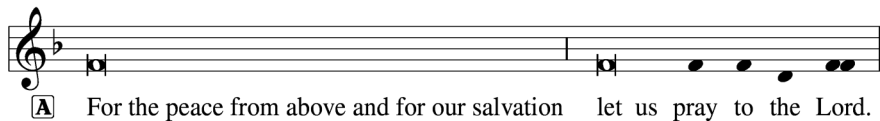
joy ex - ceed - ing Fol - low where Your steps are lead - ing.
life, and pas - sion, In Your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; (st. 1): tr. Kristen Kvamme, 1866–1938, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Christian Worship, 1993
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

KYRIE



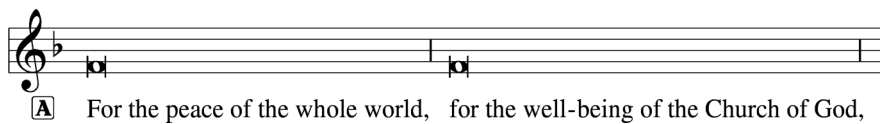
A In peace let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



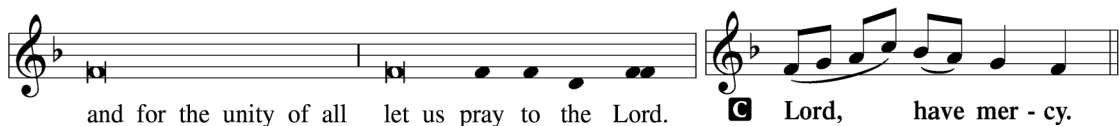
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



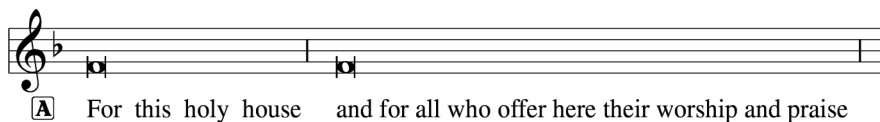
C Lord, have mer - cy.



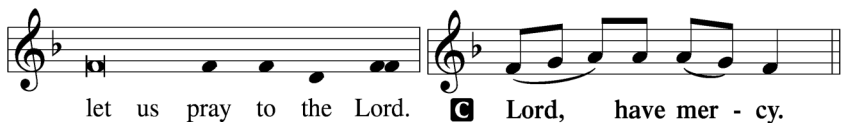
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



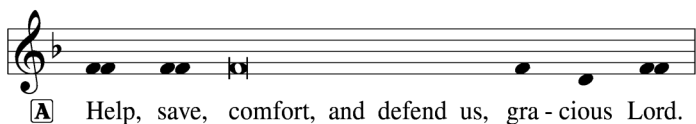
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

THIS IS THE FEAST


Refrain




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



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



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*

Final Refrain



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

SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray . . .

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him Who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same 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 2:42–47 (*Pew Bible, pg. 911*)

The First Lesson is from the 2nd Chapter of Acts.

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.

⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common.

⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and

distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23 – *The Lord is My Shepherd* (Gather 32)

Refrain (Congregation sings refrain after each verse)



The Lord is my shep-herd, I shall not want. The



Lord is my shep-herd, I shall not want.

Text: Psalm 23; Randall Sensmeier
Music: Randall Sensmeier
© 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

Verses

1. The pastures are fresh where you give me rest; Calm waters lift up my soul.
You lead me on paths that are righteous and good; Your name is hallowed by all.
2. Though I am brought down to the valley deep, No evil great will I fear;
The strength of your rod and the pow'r of your staff
Will give me comfort and cheer.
3. A feast you have held in the sight of foes; Oil has anointed my head;
My cup overflows with your mercy and love: With blessings great am I fed.
4. Today and for all of my days to come Goodness and love follow me,
And now I will dwell in the house of the Lord As long as life there shall be.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 2:19–25 (*Pew Bible, pg. 1015*)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 2nd Chapter of 1 Peter.

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. ²³When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to Him Who judges justly. ²⁴He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1–10 (*Pew Bible, pg. 896*)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th Chapter.

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

¹[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.

²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of

strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what He was saying to them. ⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, He will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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 – *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (LSB 709)



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!**
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!**

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77
Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.
Text and tune: 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

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.

(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

Please take a moment to fill out the attendance card located in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate as it comes by. Whether you're visiting or a longtime member, this helps us care for one another and stay connected as a church family.

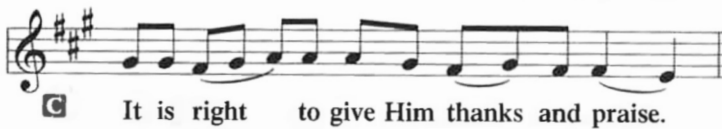
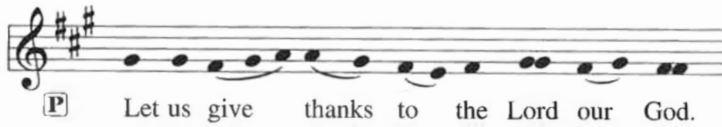
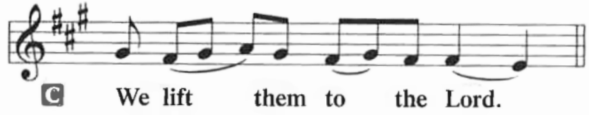
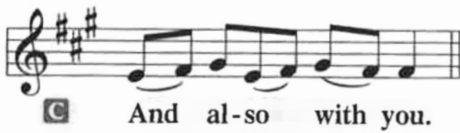
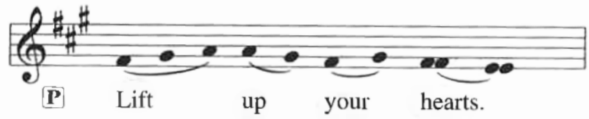
Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (LSB 955)

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE



P It is truly good, right, and salutary ... we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



(continues)

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** We give You thanks, gracious Father, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, Whom You sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim Your will. He is Your Word, inseparable from You. Through Him You created all things, and in Him You take delight. He is Your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He took on our nature and our lot, and was shown forth as Your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary.

It is He, our Lord Jesus, Who fulfilled all Your will and won for You a holy people; He stretched out His hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust You.

It is He, our Lord Jesus, Who was handed over to a death He freely accepted in order to destroy death; Who went down into the land of bondage to break the bonds of the evil one and crush hell underfoot; and Who confounded the darkness of sin with His glorious light, Who brought You glory and praise forevermore.

Send to us Your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of our Lord and His resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood this day may receive the forgiveness of sins and live to Your praise and glory both now and forevermore.

- C** **Amen. Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. Alleluia!**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P** You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...
...All honor and glory are Yours, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
in Your holy Church, 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



C 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, 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN — *Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free* (LSB 473)



1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep
2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.
3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free - dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap:
Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.
Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a - loud: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

Tune: Walter L. Pelz, 1926

Text and tune: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

DISTRIBUTION HYMN — *Lamb of God* (LSB 550)



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
bright me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958

Text and tune: © 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

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 - jice 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 – *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us* (LSB 711)



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

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 the Ninth Commandment?
- C** **You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- P** What does this mean?
- C** **We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.**
- P** So go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING AT GRACE

- *Mondays at 11:30am* — Pastor's Brown Bag Bible Study
- *Wednesdays at 12pm* — Noon Prayer Service
- *Wednesday, April 29* — Wednesdays at One (12:30pm Potluck, 1pm Session)
Ingrid Daubechies - "Reunited: The Ghissi Altarpiece"
- *Saturday, May 2* — Picnic in the Park (11am, Morreene Park, Durham)

Visit our website at gracedurham.org/news for the full calendar of events and a list of small groups and opportunities to get involved!

SERVING YOU TODAY

Ushers

Drew Young
Tom McGill,
Acolyte

Communion

Assistants
Jenna Young
Gary Stuhlmiller

Altar Guild

Donna Gesell
Carol Walton

Reader

Joe Milko

A/V Operator

John Kolba

Greeter

Kathy Peterson
Joyce Eckart

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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www.gracedurham.org
office@gracedurham.org

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.