



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 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

TODAY'S VERSE:

*"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow
Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and
no one will snatch them out of My hand." -John 10:27-28*

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

The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came from the Father and became flesh among us in order to rescue us, His sheep. He laid down His life for us and took it up again in order to give us eternal life. By the preaching of His Gospel, He calls His sheep to Himself and keeps them with Him forever. As they hear His voice and follow Him, “they will never perish” (John 10:28), for “no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand” (John 10:29). In the same way, faithful pastors (literally, “shepherds”) “care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood” (Acts 20:28), “testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 20:21). Therefore, with all the company of heaven, the Good Shepherd gathers His flock in worship, as they cry: “Salvation belongs to our God Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” (Rev. 7:10).

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

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ENTRANCE HYMN — *Come You Faithful Raise the Strain* (LSB 487)



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,
4 For to - day a-mong His own Christ ap-peared, be - stow - ing
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry To our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;
With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;
His deep peace, which ev - er-more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.
Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark por - tal.

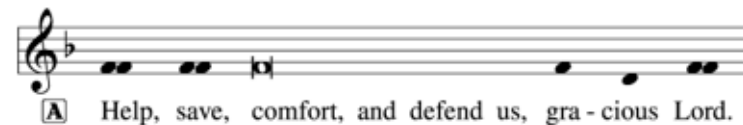
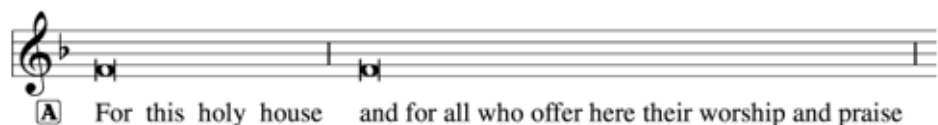
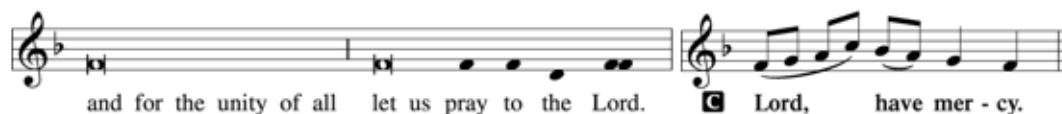
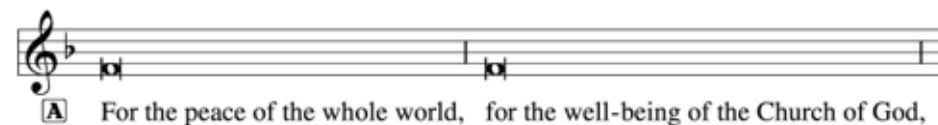
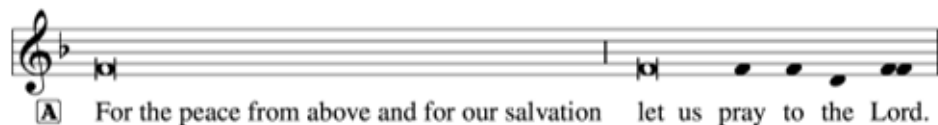


Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing
Comes to glad - den faith-ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion
Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
Nor the watch - ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.
God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness!

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.

Text: 66 66 D; Christian H. Bateman, 1813–1889, alt. Music: anon. melody, Philadelphia, 1826. Contributors:
 MADRID, Christian Bateman; Reprinted / Streamed with Permission under One License #A-701734. All Rights Reserved.

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 20:17–35 (*Pew Bible, pg. 929*)

The First Lesson is from the 20th Chapter of Acts.

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there,

²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with His own blood. (*continues on next page*)

²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the

inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 - *Shepherd Me, O God* (Gather Comp. 31)

Refrain

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in-to life.

1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Refrain

2 Gently You raise me and heal my weary soul, You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of Your name. **Refrain**

3 Though I should wander into the valley of death, I fear no evil, for You are at my side, Your rod and Your staff, my comfort and my hope. **Refrain**

Text: Psalm 23, Marty Haugen; Music: Marty Haugen
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The Second Lesson is from the 7th Chapter of Revelation.

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”
¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”
¹³Then one of the elders addressed me,

saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?”
¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
¹⁵“Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will shelter them with His presence.
¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and He will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

- 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.

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter,
²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon.

²⁴So the Jews gathered around Him and said to Him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father’s name bear witness about Me,

²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of My flock. ²⁷My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

²⁹My Father, Who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.

³⁰I and the Father are one.”

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.

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



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 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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C 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.

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 — O Blessed Spring (LSB 595)



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us
2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain
3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to
faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will
last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take
this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.
vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953–2021
Tune: English
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Tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN — *Come, Let Us Eat* (LSB 626)



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
 3 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest,
 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,



Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest.
 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

Text (sts. 1-3): tr. Margaret D. Miller, 1927, alt.; (st. 4): Gilbert E. Doan, 1930-2024, alt.

Text (sts. 1-3) and tune: Billema Kwilla, 1925

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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 — *I Love Your Kingdom, Lord* (LSB 651)



1 I love Your king - dom, Lord, The place of Your a - bode,
2 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,
3 I love Your Church, O God, Your saints in ev - 'ry land,
4 For them my tears shall fall; For them my prayers as - cend;
5 Sure as Your truth shall last, To Zi - on shall be giv'n



The Church our blest Re - deem - er saved With His own pre - cious blood.
Its sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.
Dear as the ap - ple of Your eye And grav - en on Your hand.
For them my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.
The bright - est glo - ries earth can yield And bright - er bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt.; Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76' Text and tune: Public domain

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.**

SERVING YOU TODAY

Musician

Erin Hodge, organist

Reader

Judy Ferren

Altar Guild

John Kolba, setup
Frank Oruwari, clean up

Ushers

Drew Young
Tom McGill, Acolyte

Communion Assistant

Jenna Young

Greeter

Chris Wethman

A/V Operator

Barb Tippin

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Monday, May 12th

Pastor's Brown Bag Bible Study (11:30am)

Tuesday, May 13th

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

Grace Advisory Board Meeting (6:30pm via Zoom)

Wednesday, May 14th

LWML Quilting Group (10am)

Noon Prayer Service (12pm)

Wednesdays at One New Series (1pm)

Choir Practice (6:30pm)

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

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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.