



This Sunday

9:30am Fellowship
(Fellowship Hall)

10:10am Worship
(Sanctuary)

Connect With Us

www.gracedurham.org

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

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

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 19, 2026
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



David H. Brooks, Pastor

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

TODAY'S VERSE:

"Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom
of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

-Matthew 13:43

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 17.

If you have any questions, please take a moment to speak with the Pastor or one of our ushers.

Please fill out a guest card in the pew racks and tell us about yourself.

If you have any questions, please ask an usher or any friendly face you see.

We welcome children in worship services.

Age-appropriate activity bags are located in the Narthex.

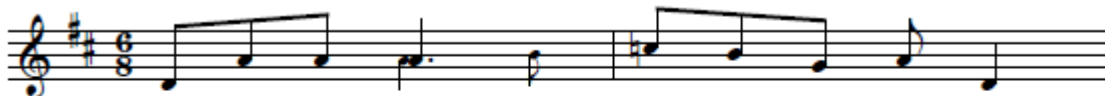
INSIGHT INTO TODAY'S READINGS

The Word of the Gospel Bestows the Righteousness of Christ and Brings Forth Faith

The good Seed, which is "the Son of Man," Jesus Himself (Matt. 13:37), brings forth a harvest of faith and bears good fruits in "the sons of the kingdom" (Matt. 13:38).

Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of unbelief and sin, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and He does not uproot the weeds, lest the plants also be destroyed. He lets "both grow together until the harvest" (Matt. 13:30), while He continues to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus, He preserves His Church in righteousness, because He alone is "the King of Israel and his Redeemer" (Is. 44:6). Since all things are in His gracious care and keeping, "fear not, nor be afraid" (Is. 44:8). For "the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God" (Rom. 8:19), and in this hope we also wait with patience. Though we do not yet see it, "the Spirit helps us in our weakness" (Rom. 8:26) and, in truth, "the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us" (Rom. 8:18).

HYMN — *Gather Us In* (WOV 718)



1. Here in this place new light is stream - ing,
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry,
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,



Now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
 We are the old— who yearn for your face,
 Here we will take the bread of new birth,
 Not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, But



See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
 We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



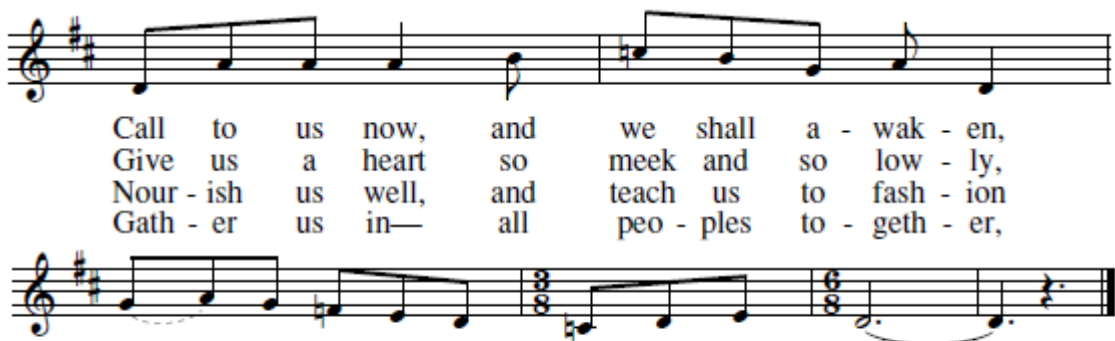
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
 Called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 Call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 Now is the King - dom, now is the day.



Gath - er us in— the lost and for - sak - en,
 Gath - er us in— the rich and the haugh - ty,
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion,
 Gath - er us in and hold us for ev - er,



Gath - er us in— the blind and the lame;
 Gath - er us in— the proud and the strong;
 Give us to eat the bread that is you;
 Gath - er us in and make us your own;



Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 Gath - er us in— all peo - ples to - geth - er,

We shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 Give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 Lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b.1950, © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc; Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

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

Opening Versicles

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** Teach me Your paths.
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** Your Word is truth.

- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN — *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (LSB 790)

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear-ful-ly, won-drous-ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-
 a reign-ing And, as on wings of an ea-gle, up-
 made you, Health has be-stowed and, when heed-less-ly
 fend you; Sure-ly His good-ness and mer-cy shall
 health and sal-va-tion! Let all who hear Now to His
 lift-ing, sus-tain-ing. Have you not seen All that is
 fall-ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev-er has
 dai-ly at-tend you. Pon-der a-new What the Al-
 tem-ple draw near, Join-ing in glad ad-o-ra-tion!
 need-ful has been Sent by His gra-cious or-dain-ing?
 failed of re-lief? Wings of His mer-cy did shade you.
 might-y can do As with His love He be-friends you.

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen

Sound from His people again;

Gladly forever adore Him!

Text: Joachim Neander 1650-80. Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuernten Gesange-Buchs, 1665. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 44:6-8 (*Pew Bible*, pg. 604)

The Old Testament Lesson is from the 44th Chapter of Isaiah.

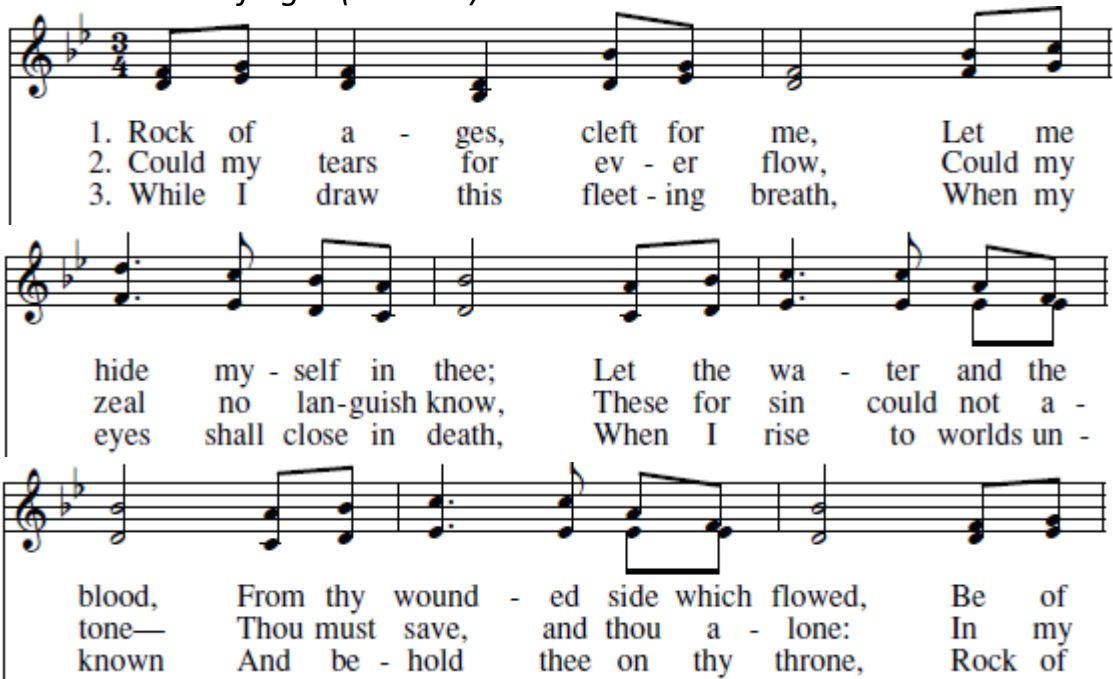
⁶Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient

people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. ⁸Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

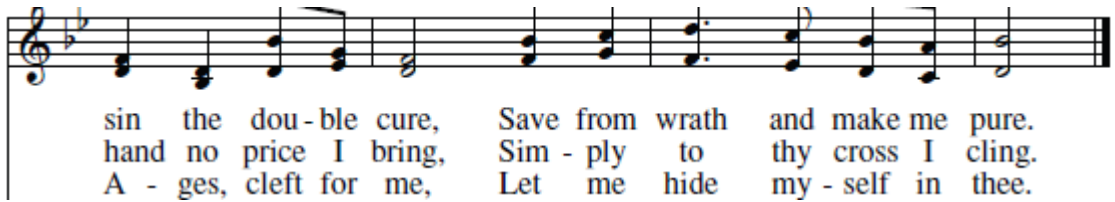
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN— *Rock of Ages* (LSB 761)



1. Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, Let me
2. Could my tears for ev - er flow, Could my
3. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When my
hide my - self in thee; Let the wa - ter and the
zeal no lan-guish know, These for sin could not a -
eyes shall close in death, When I rise to worlds un -
blood, From thy wound - ed side which flowed, Be of
tone— Thou must save, and thou a - lone: In my
known And be - hold thee on thy throne, Rock of



Text: Augustus M. Toplady, b. 1740. Tune: Thomas Hastings, b. 1784. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8:18-27 (*Pew Bible, pg. 944*)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 8th Chapter of Romans.

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the

firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN — *When Peace Like a River* (LSB 763)



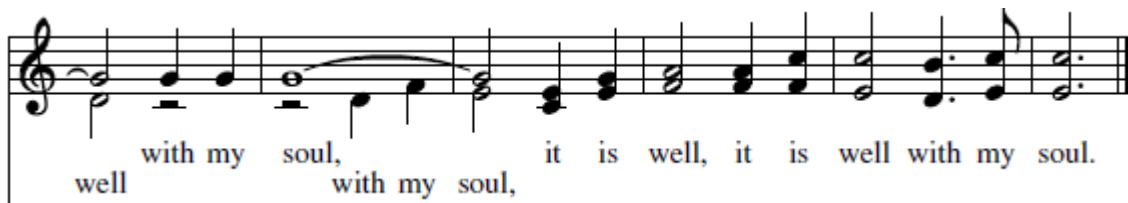
1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -
 3 My sin—O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought, my sin—not in
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled



sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 sur - ance con - trol: that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
 part but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 back as a scroll, the trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -



say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
 tate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well
 more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is
 scend: "E - ven so"—it is well with my soul.



well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford. Tune: Stephen R Johnson, b. 1966. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th Chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . .

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN — *On Eagle's Wings* (WOV 779)



1 You who . . . dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a -
 2 Snares of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and
 3 For to the an - gels God's giv - en a com - mand to

bide in this shad-ow for life, say to the Lord "My . . .
 fam - ine will bring you no fear, un - der God's wings your . . .
 guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

ref - uge, . . . my . . . rock . . . in whom I . . . trust!"
 ref - uge . . . with . . . faith - ful - ness . . . your . . . shield.
 bear you up, lest you dash . . . your foot a - gainst a stone.

Repeat
 "And I will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,
 bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the
 sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

Text and tune: Micheal Joncas, b. 1951. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

Responsory

I Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

I Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

I Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

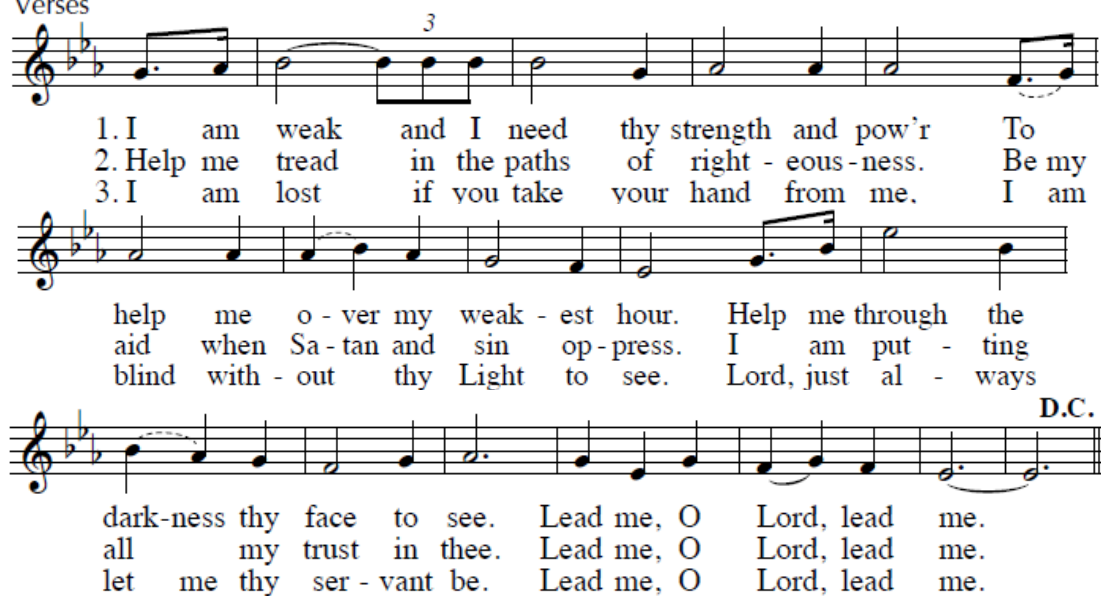
HYMN — *Lead Me, Guide Me (Gather Comprehensive 656)*

Refrain



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For if you
lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each
day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verses



1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r To
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness. Be my
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me. I am
help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the
aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting
blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways
dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text and tune: Doris M. Akers, b 1922. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

Ten Commandments

- C** You shall have no other gods.
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or
maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your
neighbor's.

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*

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.

HYMN– *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* (LSB 575)

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'

2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on

3 His oath. His cov - e - nant and blood, Sup - port me

4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I

blood and right - teous - ness; No mer - it of my

His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and

in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly

then in Him be found. Clothed in His righ - teous -

own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.

storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.

prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne

Refrain

On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, b. 1797. Tune: John Stainer b. 1840. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

Devotional

HYMN– *Be Thou My Vision* (WOV 776)

**offering collection while singing

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought . . . by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tower,
thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r,
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish 8th-10th Cen. Tr. Mary Evans b. 1880; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, b. 1860. Tune: Irish tune. Streamed / reprinted with permission. One License #A-701734. All rights reserved.

Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Collect of the Day

L O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.
Amen.

HYMN — *My Life Flows on In Endless Song* (WOV 781)



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

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Blessing

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book
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SERVING YOU TODAY

Musician

Erin Hodge,
Organist

Reader

Sue Bloch

A/V Operator

Barb Tippin

Ushers

Leonard Hango
Tom McGil

Greeter

Jan Kolba

UPCOMING AT GRACE

Tuesday, July 21

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

Wednesday, July 22

LWML Quilting Group (10am)

Saturday, July 25

Choir Camp (10am-12pm)

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



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919.682.6030

Livestream



Scan the QR code above or
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309-205-3325, 312-626-
6799, 305-224-1968

Meeting ID: 859 9393 2922

Passcode: 9196826030

Giving



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