

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting with us today. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us at Sovereign Grace. **Please fill in the Guest Card located in the pew rack in front of you and place it in the offering plate, so that we have a record of your visit.**

Join us this evening at 6pm for our Service of Prayer and Hymn Sing!

End of Year Giving: The Session wishes to express its gratitude for your faithfulness in giving to the General Fund, Deacon Fund, Building Program and Faith Promise this year. We encourage your continued generosity as an act of worship. Despite whatever trials of affliction may befall us, may we all abound in the riches of liberality like the churches in Macedonia (2 Corinthians 8:1-3)! Also, please be apprised that all contributions must be **postmarked no later than December 31st** to be included in this tax and budget year. Faith Promise pledges end on that date as well. All given in 2025 will count towards the 2025 budget. Please email Emma (emma.parker@sovereigngrace.org) if you need an update on your pledge or contributions for the year.

Marriage Conference registration is now open! Join us January 30-February 1 as Dr. Chad Van Dixhoorn and his wife Emily speak on ‘Gospel-Shaped Marriage’. There is no cost to attend, and childcare is available. Visit the church website to learn more and register.

Please save the date for Dr. Carlton Wynne’s installation and reception on January 11. Details to come.

Nursery Volunteers

Sunday, December 28th: (Astrid Noucti, Captain)
Sunday School 2’s & 3’s: Mary Nash, Libby Applegate
Sunday School Toddlers: Hope Keyton, Catriona Anderson
Toddlers: Adam Bostian, Mary Stewart Burnett
2/3’s: Lynne Meena, Marion Rennard
Floater: Victor Song
Youth: Isabella Juarez
Infant Worship Service: Volunteers Needed
Evening: Kylie Day, Faith Klazinga

Wednesday, December 31st: No prayer meeting

Sunday, January 4th: (Astrid Noucti, Captain)
Sunday School 2’s & 3’s: Judy Woodward, Tommy Simpson
Sunday School Toddlers:
Toddlers: Josh Juarez
2/3’s: Lynne Meena, Margaret Smoak
Floater:
Youth: Isabella Juarez
Infant Worship Service: Hope Keyton, Claudia Waters
Evening: Homer Nash

Wednesday, January 7th: Kristin Bostian, Staff

Greeters

December 28th: Diane Turner & Donna Butler
January 4th: Eric & Kelly Mangol

Deacons on Duty:

December 28th: Shon McCarley & John Filburn
January 4th: Henry DeBoer & John Filburn

Brighton Gardens:

December 28th: Karl Stump (lead), Catriona Anderson (piano)
January 4th: Brian Brown (lead), Steve Larsen (piano)



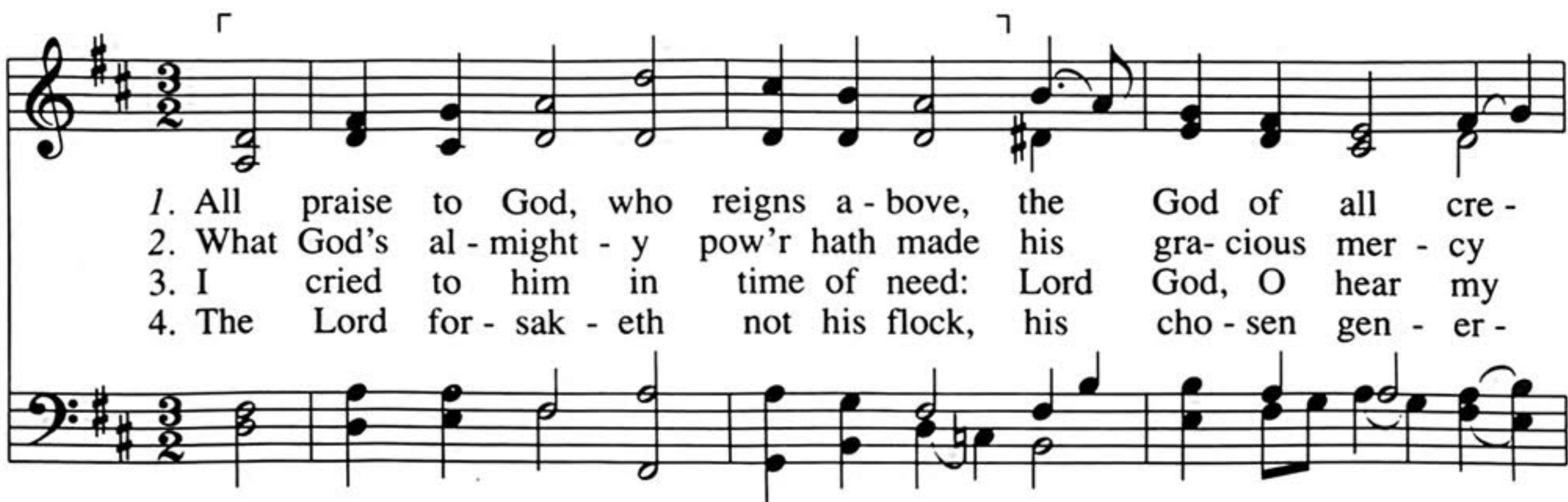
Glorifying God
Growing Together
Going to the Nations



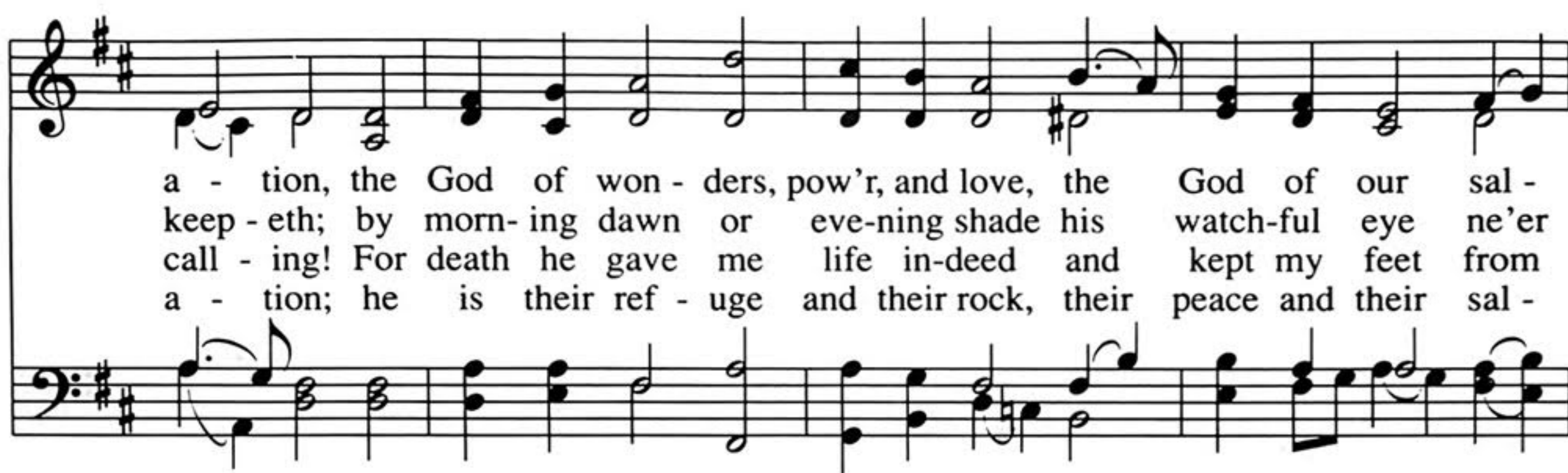
<h1>Morning Worship</h1> <p>December 28th, 2025 10:55 am</p>		<h1>Sermon Notes</h1>	
<h2>The Preparation for Worship</h2>			
<h3>Welcome and Announcements</h3>			
<h3>Prelude</h3>			
<h2>The Adoration of God</h2>			
<h3>The Call to Worship</h3>			
*Hymn #4	“All Praise to God Who Reigns Above”		
*Prayer of Adoration			
*Confession of Faith <p>We believe that God is holy, and that every sin deserves His anger and curse, both in this life and in the life to come.</p> <p>We believe that since the fall no ordinary man or woman perfectly keeps the commandments of God in this life but breaks them every day in thought, word and action.</p> <p>We believe that to escape God’s anger and curse, which we deserve for our sin, God requires from us faith in Jesus Christ and repentance unto life.</p> <p>We believe that faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, by which we receive and rest on Him alone for salvation, as He is offered to us in the gospel.</p> <p>We believe that repentance unto life is a saving grace, by which we, being truly aware of our sinfulness, understand the mercy of God in Christ, grieve for and hate our sin, and turn from it to God, fully intending and striving for a new obedience.</p> <p><i>adapted from The Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English</i></p>			
<h2>The Means of Grace</h2>			
Scripture Reading <p>1 Kings 15:33– 16:14</p>		p. 855	
Confession of Sin <p>Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your loving kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. For we acknowledge our transgressions, and our sin is always before us. Against You, You only, have we sinned, and done this evil in Your sight –that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge. Forgive us, we pray, in Jesus’ name. Amen. <i>(from Psalm 51)</i></p>			
		Words of Pardon and Assurance <p>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person--though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die--but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6-8)</p>	
		The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
Psalm 104, 24-35		p. 88	
*Doxology <p>Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav’nly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.</p>			
Prayer of Intercession		Rev. Will Keyton Assistant Pastor	
*Hymn #338		“Spirit of Ged Descend upon My Heart”	
The Reading of God’s Word <p>John 3:1-8</p>		p. 887	
Sermon <p>“Regeneration”</p>		Rev. Will Keyton Assistant Pastor	
<h2>The Response and Benediction</h2>			
*Hymn #339		“For Your Gift of God the Spirit”	
*Benediction			
*Congregational Response		MENDELSSOHN 7.7.7.7.D.ref.	
		<p><i>Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness</i></p> <p><i>Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in this wings.</i></p> <p><i>Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,</i></p> <p><i>Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.</i></p> <p><i>Hark the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.”</i></p>	
		<p>*Indicates Congregation Standing</p>	
		3326 Archdale Drive Charlotte, NC 28210 704-553-9600 sovereigngrace.org	
		Dr. William B. Barclay	Senior Pastor
		Rev. Ben Thomas	Associate Pastor
		Rev. Will Keyton	Assistant Pastor
		Rev. Ricky Johnson	Assistant Pastor of Youth & Families

All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above


Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. Ps. 107:15



1. All praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2. What God's al - might - y pow'r hath made his gra - cious mer - cy
 3. I cried to him in time of need: Lord God, O hear my
 4. The Lord for - sak - eth not his flock, his cho - sen gen - er -



a - tion, the God of won - ders, pow'r, and love, the God of our sal -
 keep - eth; by morn - ing dawn or eve - ning shade his watch - ful eye ne'er
 call - ing! For death he gave me life in - deed and kept my feet from
 a - tion; he is their ref - uge and their rock, their peace and their sal -



va - tion! With heal - ing balm my soul he fills, the God who
 sleep - eth; with - in the king - dom of his might, lo, all is
 fall - ing. For this my thanks shall end - less be; O thank him,
 va - tion. As with a moth - er's ten - der hand he leads his



ev - ery sor - row stills. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 just and all is right. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 thank our God with me. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 own, his cho - sen band. To God all praise and glo - ry!

5. Ye who confess Christ's holy name, to God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim, to God give praise and glory!
All idols underfoot be trod, the Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!
6. Then come before his presence now and banish fear and sadness;
to your Redeemer pay your vow and sing with joy and gladness:
Though great distress my soul befell, the Lord, my God, did all things well.
To God all praise and glory!

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

338

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Gal. 5:25

Capo 3: ♮ (G)

(D⁷)

(G)

(C)

(Am⁷)

(G) 7

(Em)

(F#)

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; wean it from
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies, no sud - den
 3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King? All, all thine
 4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh; teach me the
 5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love, one ho - ly

(Bm)

(E⁷)

(D/A)

(A⁷)

(D)

(D⁷)

(C)

earth, through all its puls - es move; stoop to my weak - ness,
 rend - ing of the veil of clay, no an - gel vis - i -
 • own, soul, heart, and strength and mind. I see thy cross—there
 strug - gles of the soul to bear, to check the ris - ing
 pas - sion fill - ing all my frame; the bap - tism of the

(D⁷)

♮ (G)

(C)

(G) (D⁷)

(G) 7

might - y as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 tant, no o - p'ning skies; but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 • teach my heart to cling: O let me seek thee, and O let me find.
 doubt, the reb - el sigh; teach me the pa - tience of un - answered prayer.
 heav'n - de - scend - ed Dove, my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

For Your Gift of God the Spirit

You were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance. Eph. 1:13, 14

1. For your gift of God the Spir - it, pow'r to make our lives a - new,
 2. He who in cre - a - tion's dawn-ing brood-ed on the life - less deep,
 3. He, him-self the liv - ing Au - thor, wakes to life the sa - cred Word,
 4. He, the might - y God, in-dwells us; his to strength-en, help, em-pow'r;

pledge of life and hope of glo - ry, Sav - ior, we would wor-ship you.
 still a - cross our na - ture's dark-ness moves to wake our souls from sleep,
 reads with us its ho - ly pa - ges and re - veals our ris - en Lord.
 his to o - ver - come the tempt-er, ours to call in dan-ger's hour.

Crown - ing gift of res - ur - rec - tion sent from your as - cend - ed throne,
 moves to stir, to draw, to quick - en, thrusts us through with sense of sin;
 He it is who works with-in us, teach - ing reb - el hearts to pray,
 In his strength we dare to bat - tle all the rag - ing hosts of sin,

full - ness of the ver - y God - head, come to make your life our own.
 brings to birth and seals and fills us—sav - ing Ad - vo - cate with - in.
 he whose ho - ly in - ter - ces - sions rise for us both night and day.
 and by him a - lone we con - quer foes with-out and foes with - in.