

Grace Lutheran Church

3020 Grace Church Rd.
(704) 857-8641

Salisbury, NC 28147
www.grace-salisbury.com



11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

- + Ministers: The People of Grace +
- + Pastor: the Rev. Joshua Copeland +
gracepastor.salisbury@gmail.com (
- + Director of Youth & Family Ministries Sarah Stirewalt +
graceyouth.salisbury@gmail.com (
- + Bookkeeper/Treasurer Anita Miller +
gracebookkeeper.salisbury@gmail.com (
- + Secretary Terri Brown +
gracesecretary.salisbury@gmail.com (
- + Director of Music Lynn Lippard +
- + Director of Children & Youth Choirs Angela Lippard +
- + Accompanist for Children & Youth Teresa Yost +
- + Accompanist for Chancel Choir Becky Lippard +
- + Pastor Emeritus Rev. Gene C. Bost +

+ Those who are able please stand.
(Congregation responses are printed in bold type)

LBW = Green book
WOV = Blue book

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

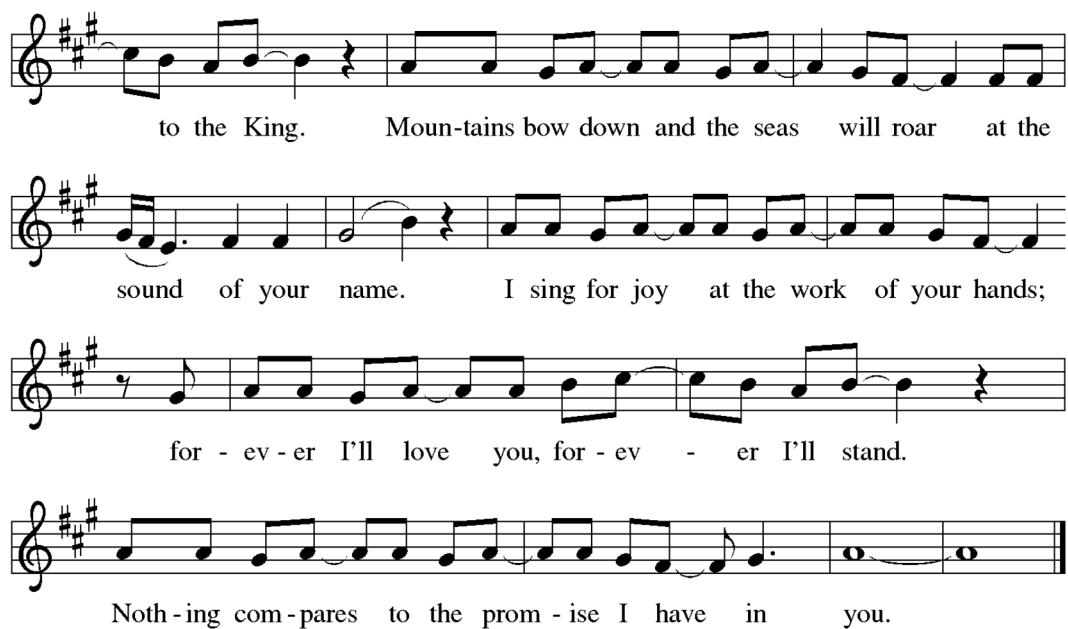
Amen.

+ GATHERING HYMN

"Shout to the Lord"

(sing through twice)





to the King. Moun-tains bow down and the seas will roar at the
 sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
 for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.
 Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

+ GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you

+ KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.
 We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

+ CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

+ SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together ...

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 19:9-18

⁹ At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹ He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.” The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85:8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

+ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:22-33

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.

³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

LBW#467

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Raymond, Sandra and Jen Yoder, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

Raymond, Sandra and Jen have come to our congregation from Grace Lutheran in Richmond, Illinois.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Sisters and brother in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Those being welcomed respond.

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those joining the congregation are welcomed.

Let us welcome Raymond, Sandra and Jen our sisters and brother in Christ to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

+ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

+ SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

+ OFFERTORY SONG



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

+ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together ...

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

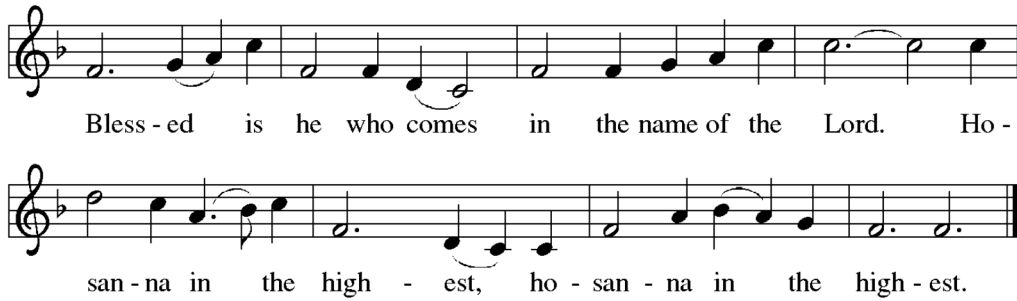
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

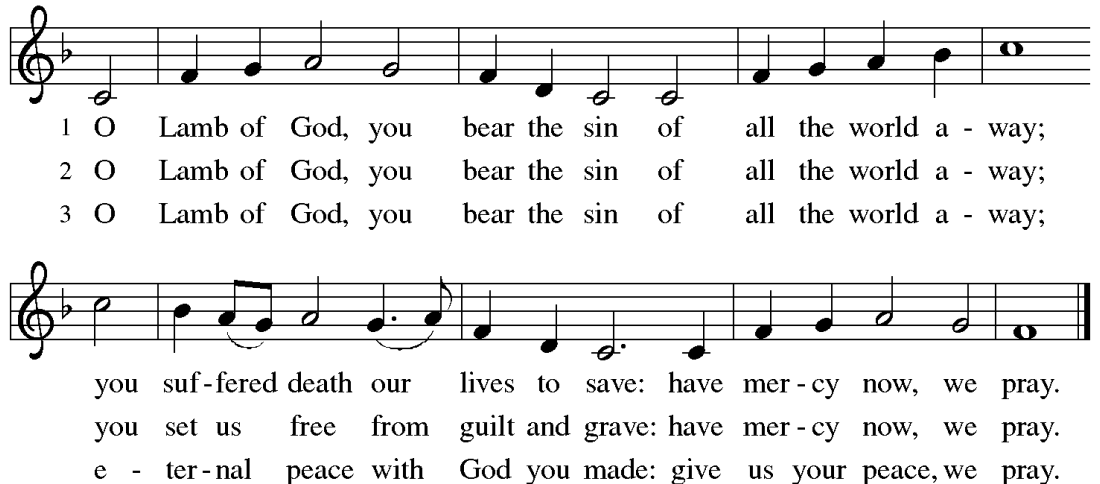
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

+ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION – All of God's children are welcome at the table for communion. Come forward in two lines to receive the bread from the pastor and wine/grape juice from a communion assistant.

+ TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

Amen.

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together....

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

LBW#320



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Setting 10 ELW

Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-723066

<u>Serving 8/9/2026</u>		<u>Serving 8/16/2026</u>	
Organist	Teresa Yost	Organist	Becky Lippard
Children's Sermon	Sarah Stirewalt	Children's Sermon	Heather Basinger
Lector	Megan Bame	Lector	S. Tim Sloop
Communion Assistant	Alex Storey, Gary Elmore	Communion Assistant	Alex Storey, Shelly Hunter
Acolyte	Ila Sechler	Acolyte	Annalyn Kluttz
Security Team	David Diggs, Chad Rivers	Security Team	Travis Nolan, Monty Brown
Sound System	Hudson Sechler	Sound System	Brody Linker
Teller Team	Nicole Ritchie, David Linker, Dan Roseman	Teller Team	Nicole Ritchie, David Linker, Dan Roseman
Ushers	Jennifer, Chris, Keaton and Kelsey Sloop	Ushers	Jennifer, Chris, Keaton and Kelsey Sloop

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God and in honor of David & Peggy Linker's wedding anniversary.

LOVE OFFERING for Laura Reynolds will be collected through the end of August.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS will be during the Children's Sermon today. All students, teachers, and other school personnel are invited to bring their backpacks for a special blessing for the new school year.

AMAZING GRACE SENIORS will travel to The Bob Timberlake Gallery on Thursday, August 20th. An early lunch will be enjoyed at Lexington BBQ then travel to the Gallery. Meet at the church at 10:30am. Please let Barbara Schenk know by Tuesday in order to reserve a seat on the van.

WOW! Thanks for your generosity! We collected \$1,190 for Backpacks for local elementary schools. Thanks to our awesome shopping team, we were able to provide 20 backpacks EACH to China Grove, Knollwood, and Millbridge Elementary Schools!

Grace Christian Homeschool Co-op invite you to a fundraiser Lemonade Stand on Sunday, August 16th. Homemade lemonade will be available for a donation to support a field trip to Catawba Science Center in November. Tables will be in front of the FLC following worship. Please come and enjoy a cup of fresh-squeezed lemonade and support the Co-op ministry!

RALLY DAY will begin at 9:00am next Sunday in the FLC with breakfast. At 9:30am children will go to their Sunday School classes and adults will have a joint class in the Sanctuary.

PRAYERS & PRAISES baskets are located in the Narthex and at the front of the Sanctuary for anyone who would like to submit a Praise or Prayer.

This Week's Giving 08/02/2026		Needed Weekly	
Category	Amount	Per Spending Plan	Difference
Attendance 137			
Current	\$ 5,350.00		
Sunday School (Attendance 49)	\$ 157.00		
Altar Flowers	\$ 175.00		
Benevolence	\$ 595.00		
World Hunger	\$ 50.00		
Total Current	\$ 6,327.00	\$ 8,251.00	\$ (1,924.00)
Laura Reynolds Love Offering	\$ 6,970.00		
South Rowan Bible Teachers	\$ 200.00		
Backpacks	\$ 615.00		
Fish Fry	\$ 500.00		
Total Deposit	\$ 14,612.00		
	\$ 570.00		
Building Fund	\$ 100.00		
Total Deposit:	\$ 9,071.00		

Scan here for
online giving.



July 2026	Electronic Giving Amount
Fund	
Current	\$5,235.78
Benevolence	\$160.00
Building Fund	\$140.00
Fish Fry	\$45.00
Kids of Grace	\$25.00
Youth of Grace	\$5.00
Lutheran Disaster Response	\$5.00
Tori Overcash	\$20.00
Memorial-Fish Fry	
Organ Fund	\$140.00
Scholarship	\$25.00
Total	\$5,800.78

Prayer List

Immediate needs:

Janis Eury, Mary Gentry, Maribeth Baker

Community Concerns:

Lily Gariepy (*Fish Fry Recipient*), David Stirewalt (*Gene Stirewalt*), Kristie Thomas (*Jackie Hurlbut*), Zinda Nesbitt (*Sharon Nesbitt*), Brian Collins (*Barbara Collins*), Patsy Myers (*Patty Linker*), Atticus Steitz (*Amy Miller*), Georgia Flanagan (*Tara Mills*)

Comfort:

Family and friends of Blanche Hefner

Family and friends of Alan Staton

Family and friends of Gary Koker

Ongoing Needs:

John Miller, Bobby & Barbara Sloop, Mary Miller, Kari Overcash, Janice Gray, Janis Eury, Allen & Lynn Sloop, Sophie Hooks, Louise Vaughn, Judy Copeland, Diane Bouk, Arlene Wise, Hazel Miller, Ronnie Gorman, Earl Thomas, Jesse Martin, Alice & Michael Baglio, Laura Reynolds, Ray Baker, Emily Weddington, Monica Crossen, Mike Stout, Nancy Shue, Roy Morris

Those who serve others

Active Duty Military personnel and families; First Responders and families; our school teachers, staff and administrators