

Grace Lutheran Church

3020 Grace Church Rd.
(704) 857-8641

Salisbury, NC 28147
www.grace-salisbury.com



8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

- + Ministers: The People of Grace +
- + Pastor: the Rev. Joshua Copeland +
gracepastor.salisbury@gmail.com (704) 245-2875
- + Director of Youth & Family Ministries Sarah Stirewalt +
graceyouth.salisbury@gmail.com (336) 250-1733
- + Bookkeeper/Treasurer Anita Miller +
gracebookkeeper.salisbury@gmail.com (704)857-8641
- + Secretary Terri Brown +
gracesecretary.salisbury@gmail.com (704) 213-4202
- + 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

"Praise and Thanksgiving"



- 1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
- 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
- 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
- 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



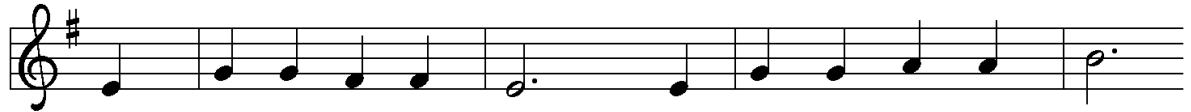
or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

+ 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 ...

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 44:6-8

⁶ Thus 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.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?

You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me?

There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—
¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the
deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of
adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit
that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with
Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory
about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the
children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will
of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its
enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We
know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor,
²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan
inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were
saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we
hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

⁷+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



+ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to
someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came
and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore
grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to
him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come
from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us
to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the
wheat along with them.’

³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come, You Thankful People, Come”

LBW#407



1 Come, you thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield.
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to your fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way,
Gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, does pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in your gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all your an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

+APOSTLE'S CREED

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.

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

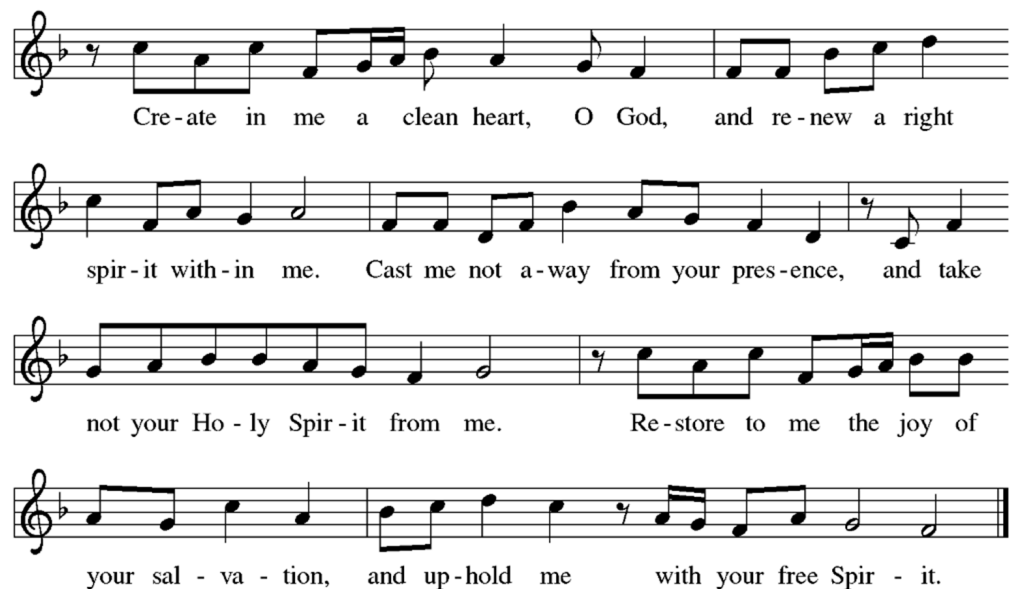
**Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.**

+ 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.

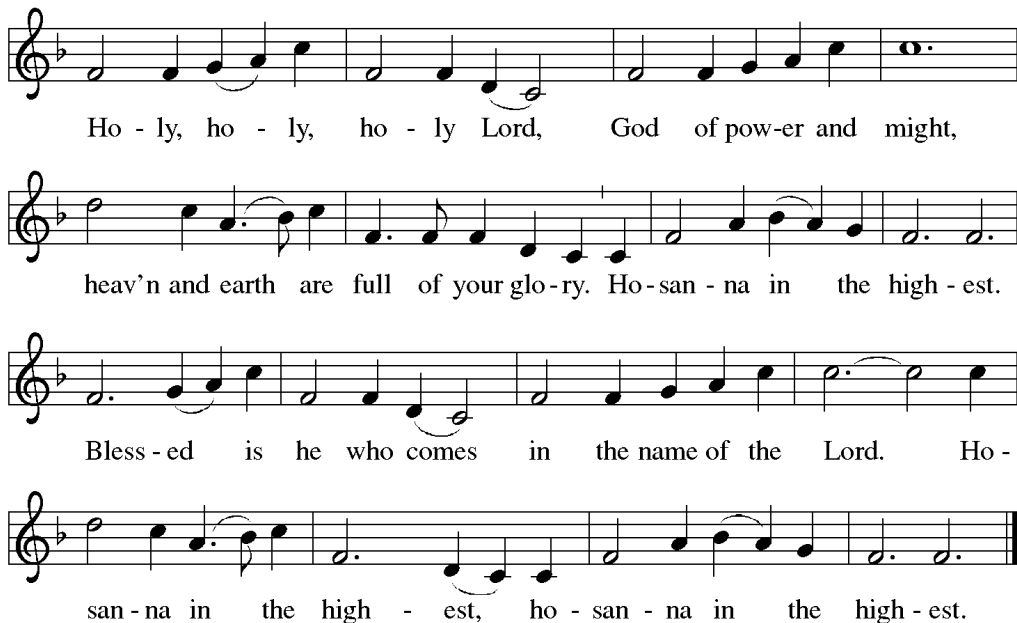
We lift them to the lord.

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:



+ 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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED FOR BOB AND ROBIN HOWARD

+ BENEDICTION

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

Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

“For These Friends in Christ You Gave Us”



For these friends in Christ you gave us, hear, O God, our song of praise!
In your wis - dom you have called them far from us, yet near to you.
May they not for long be stran - gers in the pla - ces where they go.
To your keep - ing we com-mend them as they tra - vel un - known ways.



For the gifts of grace they brought us, prayers of thanks to you we raise!
As you led your an - cient peo - ple, lead them all their jour - ney through.
Graft their lives with - in Christ's Bo - dy where their faith and love will grow.
May your grace in joy, in sor - row be suf - fic - ient all their days.



By their pre - sence by their car - ing they have bright-ened all our days!
Bless them with new joys and friend-ships, as new ven - tures they pur - sue.
Through their giv - ing and re - ciev - ing, let your bless - ings ov - er flow!
God of ev - 'ry new be - gin - ing, lift our hearts to you in praise.

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Setting 10 ELW

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<u>Serving 7/19/2026</u>		<u>Serving 7/26/2026</u>	
Organist	Becky Lippard	Organist	Teresa Yost
Children's Sermon	Leslie Sechler	Children's Sermon	Debbie Parris
Lector	Shelly Hunter	Lector	Greta Elmore
Communion Assistant	Kristina Martin, Pam Roseman	Communion Assistant	Kristina Martin, Megan Bame
Acolyte	Maggie Stirewalt	Acolyte	Clara Linker
Security Team	Robert Hunter, Tony Sechler	Security Team	Bobby Roberson, Ted Lotti
Sound System	Jamey Basinger	Sound System	Luke Bame
Teller Team	Lynn Lippard, Greg Hartsell, Gary White	Teller Team	Lynn Lippard, Greg Hartsell, Gary White
Ushers	Chad & Deana Rivers, Tony & Earlene Rivers	Ushers	Chad & Deana Rivers, Tony & Earlene Rivers

Prayer List

Immediate needs:

Lynn Aldridge, Monica Crossen

Community Concerns:

Lily Gariepy (*Fish Fry Recipient*), Kassana Alexander, David Stirewalt (*Gene Stirewalt*), Kristie Thomas (*Jackie Hurlbut*), Brenda Cole (*Barbara Collins*), Zinda Nesbitt (*Sharon Nesbitt*), Brian Collins (*Barbara Collins*)

Comfort:

Family and friends of Lynn Potter

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, Lynn Aldridge, Mike Stout, Nancy Shue

Those who serve others

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

This Week's Giving 07/12/2026		Needed Weekly	
Category	Amount	Per Spending Plan	Difference
Current	\$4,596.78		
Sunday School (Attendance 60)	\$94.00		
Altar Flowers	\$75.00		
Backpacks	\$70.00		
Property Fund	\$50.00		
Benevolence	\$550.00		
World Hunger	\$100.00		
Total Current:	\$5,535.78	\$8,251.00	-\$2,715.22
Fish Fry	\$100.00		
Cemetery	\$42.00		
Kids of Grace	\$10.00		
Total Deposit:	\$5,687.78		

Scan here for
online giving.



THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eustace Sloop by his family.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE will meet on Thursday at 6:30pm.

HELP US HELP THE STUDENTS: The Social Ministry Committee would like to provide Backpacks to local Elementary Schools to help students get started on the right track at the beginning of the school year! Please put "Backpacks" on your envelope or select "Social Ministries" online. We will collect through August 2.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS will be August 9. All students, teachers, and other school personnel are invited to bring their backpacks for a special blessing for the new school year.