

Grace Lutheran Church

3020 Grace Church Rd.
(704) 857-8641

Salisbury, NC 28147
www.grace-salisbury.com



Reformation Sunday

October 25, 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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.

Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

+ GATHERING HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

LBW#229



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



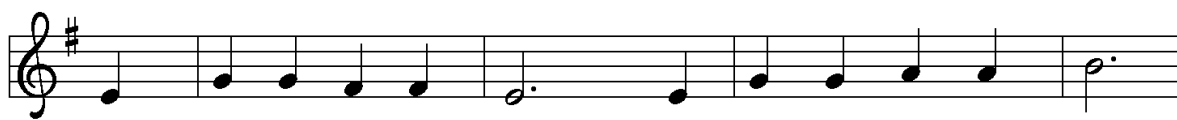
he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

+ 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 ...

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:31-34

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³ though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸ Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ “Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

"Lord Keep Us Steadfast"

verses 1 & 2



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

+ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:34-46

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet” ’?

⁴⁵ “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

+ GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

"Lord Keep Us Steadfast"

verse 3

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“Built on a Rock”

LBW#365

+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 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 ...

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

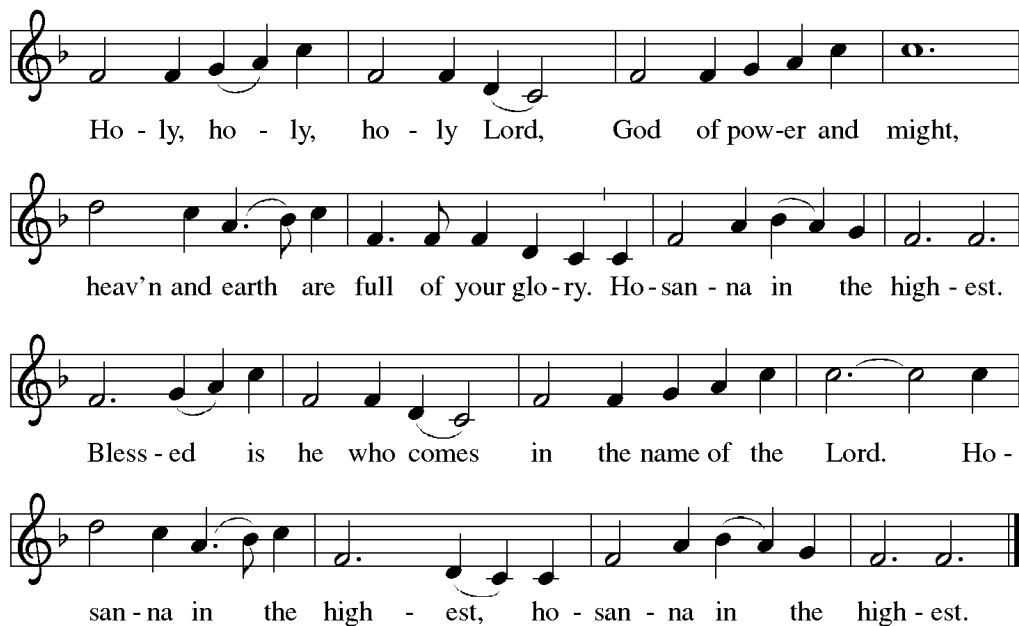
We lift them to the lord.

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.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, 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



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....

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.

By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

May the God of love draw you into the body of Christ and grant you strength and joy in all circumstances and may God ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

+ 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 10/25/2026</u>		<u>Serving 11/1/2026</u>	
Organist	Teresa Yost	Organist	Becky Lippard
Children's Sermon	Monica Basinger	Children's Sermon	Leslie Sechler
Lector	Heather Basinger	Lector	Shelly Hunter
Communion Assistant	Michael Miller, Shelly Hunter	Communion Assistant	Lynn Lippard S. Tim Sloop
Acolyte	Hunter Ritchie	Acolyte	
Crucifer	Cruz Beers	Crucifer	
Torchbearers	Clara Linker Maggie Stirewalt	Torchbearers	
Security Team	Jeremy Parris, Zach Moore	Security Team	
Sound System	Hudson Sechler	Sound System	Brody Linker
Teller Team	Marcus Reynolds, Helen Correll, Gene Stirewalt	Teller Team	Alex Storey, Tara Mills, Mary Sloop
Ushers	Gary Elmore, Lindsay Elmore, Myra Sechler, Danny Benfield	Ushers	Michael & Kristi Miller, Cooper & Olivia

Prayer List

Immediate needs:

Janis Eury, Kelly Shores, Mel & Faye Heilig, Tara Mills, Robert Hunter, David Miller

Community Concerns:

Lily Garipey (*Fish Fry Recipient*), David Stirewalt (*Gene Stirewalt*), Jerry Hurlbut (*Jackie Hurlbut*), Brian Collins (*Barbara Collins*), Patsy Myers (*Patty Linker*), Georgia Flanagan (*Tara Mills*), Bobby Barringer (*Tara Mills*), Ruby Faith Tyer (*Shelly Hunter*), Frances Yost Basinger (*Cassandra Kluttz*), Danny Schenck (*Randy Basinger*)

Comfort:

Family and friends of Sarah Lyerly

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, Joe Miller, Jesse Martin, Alice & Michael Baglio, Laura Reynolds, Emily Weddington, Monica Crossen, Mike Stout, Nancy Shue, Roy Morris, Rebekah Safriet, Kelly Shores, Mary Gentry

Those who serve others

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God and in memory of Michael Moore, Kenneth & Margaret Cress and Judy Cress by Marilyn Moore, Zach Moore and family and Kayce Walters and family.

THE FLOWERS ON THE STAND TODAY are in honor of Pastor Josh for his service to Grace Church.

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 to be read during the Prayers of the People. They will be taken to Pastor Josh at the Children's Sermon.

TRUNK OR TREAT is today from 5-7pm. Please support this by coming with a decorated trunk and LOTS of candy to hand out. We will also have a hayride and a cake walk. Donations for the cake walk can be dropped off in the FLC by 2:00pm. Hot Dogs will be served. Thank you for your support!

LUNCH & LEARN BIBLE STUDY will meet on Wednesday at Noon in the Parish Hall. Bring your lunch or email Pastor Josh for the link. Readings for next week are Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10, 22, 1 John 3:1-3 and Matthew 5:1-12

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY will be next Sunday with worship in the Family Life Center.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, November 1 for the purpose of nominating council persons for 2027. The following people are NOT eligible for nomination: **Randy Basinger, David Diggs, Gene Stirewalt, Donnie Stout, Monica Basinger, Shelly Hunter, Aaron Linker, Mike Stout, Nicole Ritchie, Michael Miller, Marcus Reynolds, Greg Hartsell, Kristina Martin, Duane Nolan, Sarah Nolan, Dan Roseman, Greta Elmore, Lynn Lippard, Alex Storey, Brent Yost**

2027 USHERS NEEDED. Help us extend a warm welcome at Grace Lutheran Church! We need four ushers for each month of 2027 to serve on all Sundays during their selected month. New and returning volunteers are welcome! To sign up for one or more months, see Head Usher Gary Elmore or scan the QR code. Thank you for sharing your time and serving our church family!



Week at a Glance

Tuesday	Quilting	10:00am
	Worship & Music Committee	6:30pm
Wednesday	Children's Choir	6:00pm
	Chancel Choir	7:00pm
	Risk Management	7:00pm