

Grace Lutheran Church

3020 Grace Church Rd. Salisbury, NC 28147

(704) 857-8641

www.grace-salisbury.com



8th Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025

- + Ministers: The People of Grace +
- + Pastor: the Rev. Joshua Copeland +
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- + Director of Youth & Family Ministries Sarah Stirewalt +
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- + Bookkeeper/Treasurer Anita Miller +
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- + Secretary Terri Brown +
gracesecretary.salisbury@gmail.com (
- + Director of Music Lynn Lippard +
- + Director of Children & Youth Choirs Emily Copeland +
- + 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)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LBW = Green book

PRELUDE

WOV = Blue book

+ GATHERING

+ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR DECLAN LUCA DAY

PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Parents: We present Declan Luca Day to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of Holy Baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the Holy Scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that you and your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Declan and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

+ PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

+ THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit.

By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Declan Luca Day, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

Let us pray....We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give this child new birth, cleanse him from sin, and raise him to eternal life. Sustain Declan with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Declan Luca Day, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

A lighted candle is presented to the newly baptized to symbolize the Holy Spirit's presence.

Council Representative: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

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.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

+GATHERING HYMN

“Build a Longer Table”



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



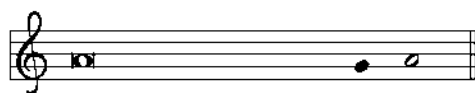
Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

+ GREETING

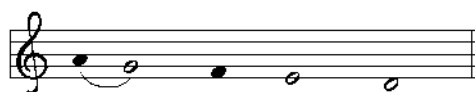
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

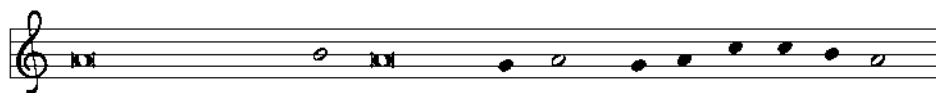
+ KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



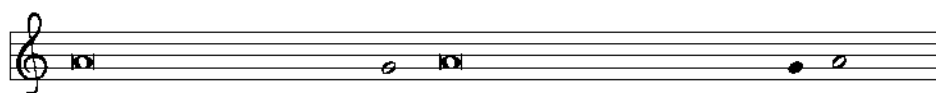
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



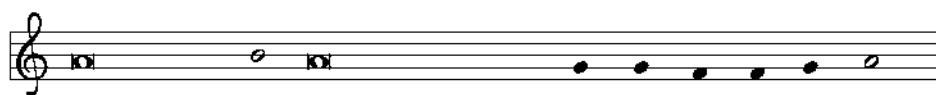
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

+ CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister

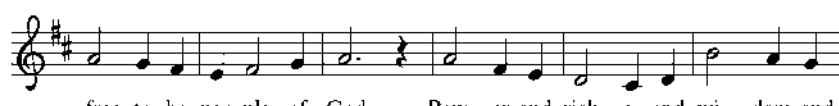


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

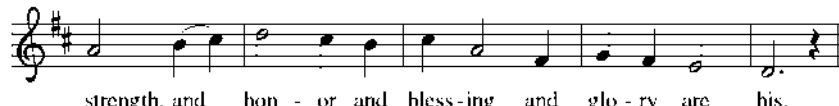
All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and




strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the

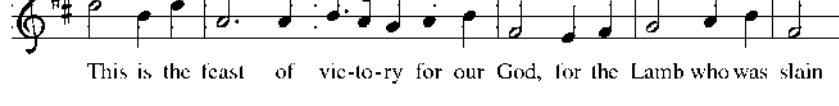


hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and

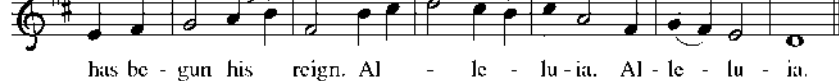


might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

+ SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together ...

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

FIRST READING: ECCLESIASTES 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

² **you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3: 1-11

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



+ GOSPEL LUKE 12:13-21

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LBW#410

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, align the desires of our hearts with your will for us and answer our prayers as may be best for us.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Hear these prayers which we offer with confident faith in your love and mercy and answer us that your glory may be known; through Christ our Lord and Redeemer who stands with you and the Holy Spirit, overseeing all creation now and always.

Amen.

+ SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

+ OFFERTORY SONG

““Create in Me a Clean Heart”

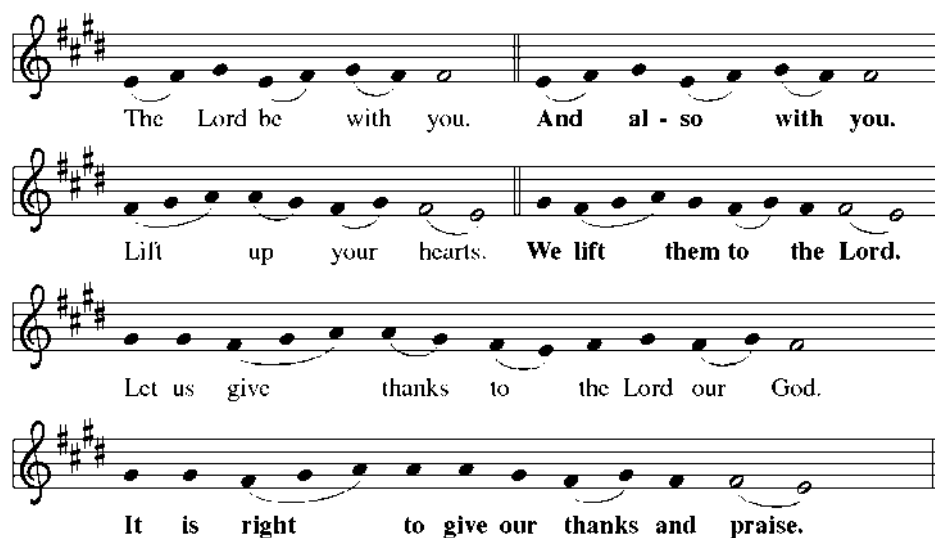
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

+ OFFERING PRAYER

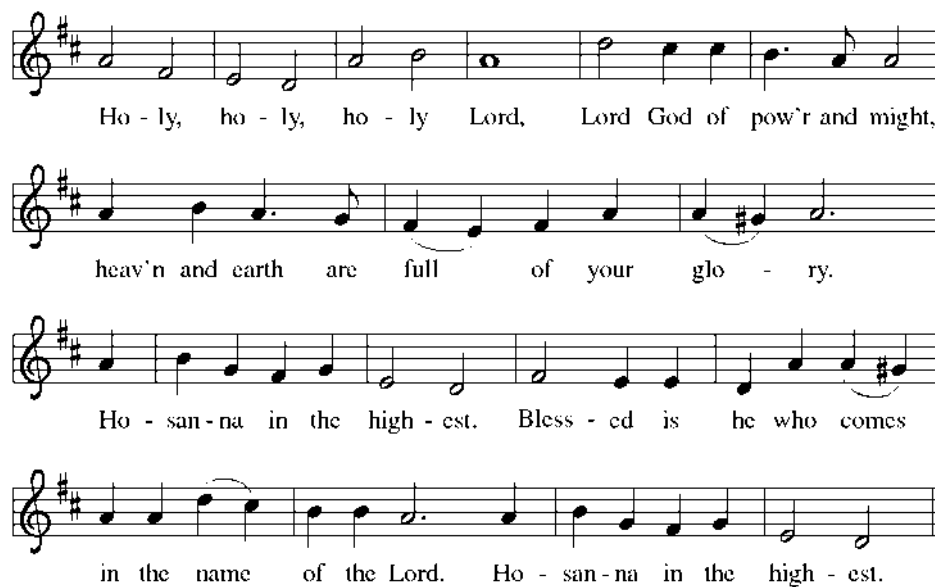
Let us pray together ...

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

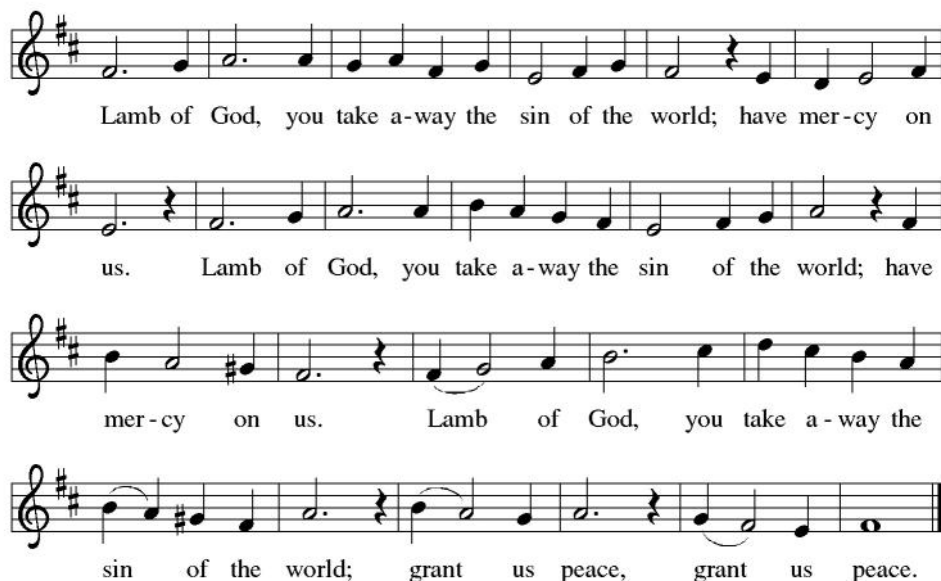
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

+ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION – All baptized 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

Gracious God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

Amen.

+ BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

“We Know that Christ is Raised”

LBW#189

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATION MEETING

Useful Information

<u>Serving 8/3/2025</u>		<u>Serving 8/10/2025</u>	
Organist	Teresa Yost	Organist	Becky Lippard
Children's Sermon	Sarah Stirewalt	Children's Sermon	Heather Basinger
Lector	Heather Basinger	Lector	Debbie Parris
Communion Assistant	Shelly Hunter & Marcus Reynolds	Communion Assistant	Shelly Hunter & Marcus Reynolds
Acolyte	Illa Sechler	Acolyte	Cruz Beers
Security Team	Chad Rivers & David Diggs	Security Team	Michael Miller & Matt Sechler
Sound System	Finn Basinger	Sound System	Jamey Basinger
Teller Team	Greg Hartsell, Gary White & Nicole Ritchie	Teller Team	Greg Hartsell, Gary White & Nicole Ritchie
Ushers	Jennifer & Chris Sloop, Emily & Kurt Weddington	Ushers	Jennifer & Chris Sloop, Emily & Kurt Weddington

Prayer List

Immediate needs:

Donnie Stout, Drew Sechler, Shirley Stiller, Earlene Rivers, Gail Srednicki

Community Concerns:

Jessie Martin (*Cassie Martin*), Lindsay Raney (*Sarah Nolan*), Larry Crowell (*Emily Weddington*)

Comfort:

Family and friends of Larry Stirewalt

Ongoing Needs:

John & Barbara Miller, Bobby & Barbara Sloop, Mary Miller, Kari Overcash, Janice Gray, Janis Eury, Allen & Lynn Sloop, Sophie Hooks, Louise Vaughn, Margie Martin, Judy Copeland, Diane Bouk, Arlene Wise, Hazel Miller, Ronnie Gorman, Earl Thomas

Those who serve others

Active Duty Military personnel and families; First Responders

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Setting 4 ELW

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