



Grace Lutheran Church | 824 N. Buchanan Blvd. | Durham, NC 27701

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



**David H. Brooks, Pastor— February 2, 2025**

## WELCOME TO GRACE

### ***Worshipping with us for the first time?***

Please fill out a guest card in the pew racks and tell us about yourself. If you have any questions, please ask an usher or any friendly face you see!

We welcome children in worship services. Age-appropriate activity bags are located in the Narthex. Copies of the week’s eNews announcements are located in the Narthex.

**Website:** [www.gracedurham.org](http://www.gracedurham.org)

**Contact Us:** [office@gracedurham.org](mailto:office@gracedurham.org)

919.682.6030

**Mission Statement:** We go with Good News, teaching, serving, and sharing Christ with our neighbors.

**Livestream:**

[www.gracedurham.org/livestream-channel](http://www.gracedurham.org/livestream-channel)

**Call In - Audio Only:** 309-205-3325, 312-626-6799, 305-224-1968

**Meeting ID:** 859 9393 2922 **Passcode:** 9196826030

## TODAY’S VERSE:

*“Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually.”*

*- 1 Chronicles 16:11*

## PRELUDE

..... **WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD** .....

## **The Presentation of Our Lord**

*The Presentation of Our Lord is referred to in some corners of the Church as Candlemas because of an ancient tradition of blessing all the candles to be used in the church in the coming year at the mass celebrated on that day. It was a way of underscoring the truth of Simeon’s confession that this baby Jesus was “a light for revelation to the Gentiles” and a light for glory to Israel. Let the light of every candle in church be a little epiphany of the love of God for all people in the person of God’s Son, Jesus, the Light of the world.*

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **Who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**


**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## OPENING HYMN: *LSB 907 "God Himself is Present"*



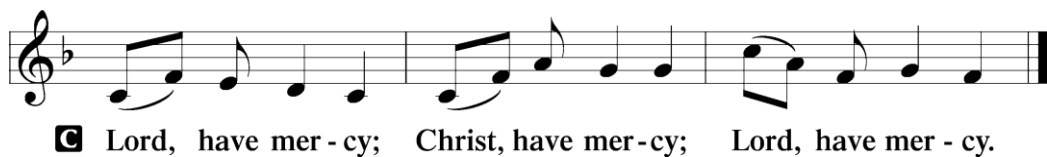
1 God Him - self is pres - ent: Let us now a - dore Him  
2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;  
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,  
And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His  
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
Trust-ing on - ly in Your mer - it. Like the ho - ly  
tem - ple; All with - in keep si - lence; Hum - bly kneel in  
ho - ly!" Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and  
an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore You, May I cease-less -  
deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone On His throne  
an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:  
ly a - dore You. Let Your will Ev - er still  
Is our God and Sav - ior; Praise His name for - ev - er!  
Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.  
Rule Your Church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, alt.; tr. John Miller, 1756–90, alt.; Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; Text and tune: Public domain

## WE WELCOME OUR LORD

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### KYRIE (*Sung Through Three Times*):



**G** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (*Sung to the Tune of LSB 515 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"*):

*1 To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.*

*2 To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—*

*3 For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.*

#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY:

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, Who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### ..... OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US .....

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

**1 Samuel 1:21-28** (*Pew Bible, pg. 225*)

The Old Testament Lesson is from the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter of 1 Samuel.

<sup>21</sup>The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. <sup>22</sup>But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may

appear in the presence of the Lord and dwell there forever." <sup>23</sup>Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the Lord establish His word." So the woman remained and

nursed her son until she weaned him.  
<sup>24</sup>And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. And the child was young. <sup>25</sup>Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. <sup>26</sup>And she said, “Oh, my

lord! As You live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in Your presence, praying to the Lord. <sup>27</sup>For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to Him. <sup>28</sup>Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.” And he worshiped the Lord there.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84- *Gather Comprehensive 77 “Happy Are They”*

kerrain

1.  
 Hap - py are they who dwell in your house, O  
 2.  
 Lord, who dwell in your house, O Lord.

Verses

1. My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the Lord.  
 My heart and my flesh cry to the living God.
2. The sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest;  
 Your altars, O Lord, my King and my God.
3. Happy are they who abide in your house.  
 You are their strength, your praises they will sing.

Text: Psalm 84:2, 3, 4, 5-6; Thomas J. Porter  
 Music: Thomas J. Porter  
 © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.

**EPISTLE LESSON:**

**Hebrews 2:14-18** (*Pew Bible, pg. 1002*)

The Epistle Lesson is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of Hebrews.

<sup>14</sup>Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one

who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore He had to be made like His brothers in

every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### ALLELUIA AND VERSE:

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL:

**Luke 2:22–32** (*Pew Bible, pg. 857*)

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second Chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a

man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the

Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen Your salvation <sup>31</sup>that

you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON: **The Rev. Dr. David H. Brooks**

HYMN OF THE DAY: **LSB 519 “In His Temple Now Behold Him”**

1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -  
2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -  
3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,  
pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,  
hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him  
weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,  
God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,  
Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,  
Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us  
His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.  
al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!  
in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825–1903, alt.; Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.; Text and tune: Public domain

APOSTLES' CREED:

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God

the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic<sup>†</sup> Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

..... WE OFFER OURSELVES TO THE LORD .....

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. . .  
Lord in Your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, with the 'hand wave of peace', as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matthew 5:22–24; Ephesians 4:1–3).*

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY: *(Ushers bring offering plate forward during the Offertory)*

**C** Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the

<sup>†</sup> meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of the Christian doctrine



hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and  
 give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

..... OUR LORD GIVES HIMSELF TO US .....

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE:

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

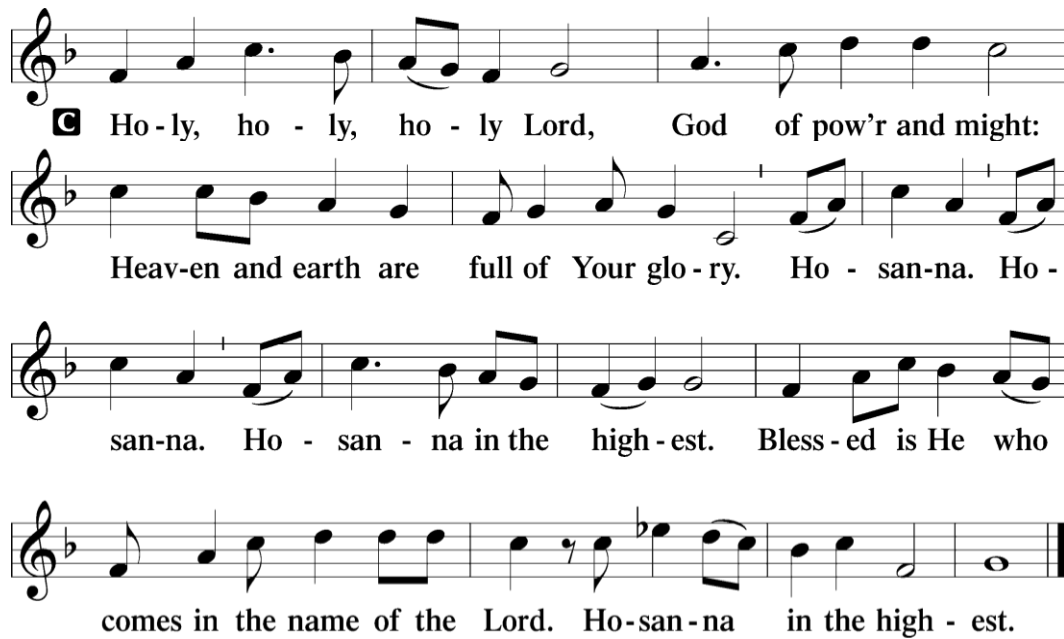
**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that . . .

## SANCTUS:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER:

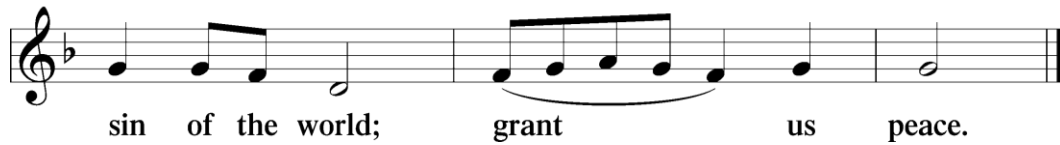
**P** As we prepare for this great gift, let us pray as our Lord has taught us:

**C** **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.**

### AGNUS DEI:



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



**HOLY COMMUNION:**

***Receiving Holy Communion***

As Lutheran Christians, we believe, teach, and confess that Jesus Christ gives us His own true Body and Blood via the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper (1 Cor. 10:16). We trust His promise that this Supper is for the forgiveness of our sins, the increase of our faith, and the strengthening of our life as the Church. Baptized Christians who share our confession, repent of their sins, and seek the Lord’s blessing are welcome to receive. *First time guests are kindly asked to speak to our pastor or an usher before receiving communion.* Those not communing are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

***[For silent prayer before communing]***

*Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this Holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

***[For silent prayer after receiving the Sacrament]***

*Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: *LSB 624 “The Infant Priest Was Holy Born”***

1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -  
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con  
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God’s own  
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who

ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple  
 of God’s righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought  
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels  
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the

forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.  
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.  
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.  
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God’s face.

5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,  
As at the rail on bended knee  
Our hungry mouths from Him receive  
The bread of immortality.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,  
A priestly food and priestly meat;  
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours  
His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim  
Our voices join the endless hymn,  
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing  
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970; Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731-1807; Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227; Tune: Public domain

### LSB 643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
2 With praise and thanks-giving To God ever-living,  
The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.  
The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed  
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,  
The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.  
The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.  
His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing



To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.  
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.; Tune: Welsh; Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227; Tune: Public domain

## WE THANK OUR LORD

### THANK THE LORD:



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US OUT

### BENEDICTION:

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *LSB 836 "O God of Light"*



1 O God of light, Your Word, a lamp un - fail - ing,  
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,  
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing  
4 To all the world Your sum - mons You are send - ing,



Shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way  
Though we re - belled, You gent - ly sought a - gain  
To sin - ful hearts Your jus - tice and Your grace;  
Through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,



And show Your grace, Your plan for us un - veil - ing,  
And spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,  
And quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for Your heal - ing,  
That myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



And guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.  
Who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.  
See Your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.  
May praise and cel - e - brate Your gift of grace.

Text: Sarah E. Taylor, 1883–1954, alt.; Tune: H. Barrie Cabena, 1933; Text: © 1952, renewed 1980 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB; Hymn License no. 110004227; Tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004227

**DISMISSAL:**

**P:** Go forth! Walk in the light of Christ to the glory of God and for the care of the neighbor.

**C:** We go in the peace of God. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**



### Grace Generous Giving QR Code

Quick response codes (QR codes) - provide a simple and secure method of giving. Hover over the QR code with your smartphone camera and tap the notification that pops up. You will be taken to the giving page on our website (Vanco) to make your donation.

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## SERVING YOU TODAY:

**Organist:** Erin Hodge

**10:10 AM**  
**Ushers**  
Dave Dickmander  
Tom McGill\*

**Reader**  
Kent Silvernail

**Communion Assistant**  
Marie Snyder

**Greeter:** Kathy Peterson

**Altar Guild:** John Kolba  
Setup; Frank Oruwari, Cleanup

**A/V Operator:** John Kolba

\*Acolyte

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**Acknowledgments:** Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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