

October 18, 2026
Hope Lutheran Church
6201 Coventry Way
Clinton, MD 20735

The Reverend Philip C. Hirsch – Bishop
The Reverend Eric Faret - Pastor
Jane Snyder – Minister of Music



Welcome to Hope Lutheran Church



Hope Lutheran Church
Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
6201 Coventry Way Clinton, MD 20735
(301) 868-2678



www.hopeclinton.org

Our Mission: *To Be God's Loving Presence in a Hurting World*

The Reverend Eric B. Faret, Pastor (631-704-8063) pastoreric@hopeclinton.org
Pastor Eric's Office Hours - Wednesday & Friday - 10:00am-4:00pm

Church Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10:30am-2:30pm or by appointment
Veronica Taylor, Administrative Assistant
Office: 301-868-2678 - office@hopeclinton.org

A Warm Welcome to Hope Lutheran Church

We hope that your worship experience this morning is spiritually enriching and meaningful.

- Children are always welcome at worship.
- We practice eucharistic hospitality. All are welcome to Holy Communion.
- **Are you here for the first time?** Our congregation is a member of the Metropolitan D.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. If you are looking for a church home, we welcome your inquiry.
- **Restrooms** are located down the hall to the right.
- **Cellphones** create a distraction during worship. We ask that you check now to make sure it is in airplane mode.
- **Our team of ushers** are available throughout the service to assist.
- **Gluten-free hosts:** The baked bread distributed during Holy Communion is gluten-free, nut-free, **but full of Jesus!**

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE EXIT THROUGH THE SIDE EGRESS.

Worship Plan for Sunday, October 18, 2026

21st Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
Baptism Celebration

INTRODUCTION

The harvest season reminds us that everything we receive ultimately comes from beyond ourselves. The soil, rain, sunlight, seed, and growth are gifts entrusted to our care. In today's Gospel, Jesus is asked a question about money: "Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" His answer has echoed through the centuries: "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." The coin bears Caesar's image, but Scripture tells us that we bear God's image. So perhaps the deeper question is not simply "What do we owe?" but "To whom do we belong?" Our time, our gifts, our possessions, our relationships, and our very lives are gifts from God. As we gather in this season of harvest, we give thanks for all God has entrusted to us—and we ask how our lives might become an offering of gratitude, generosity, justice, and love.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it.

All that we have comes from God.

The fields yield their harvest, and the earth gives its abundance.

We receive God's gifts with thanksgiving.

We bear the image of the One who created us.

Our lives belong to God.

Let us offer our time, gifts, work, and hearts to the One who has given us everything.

With grateful hearts, we offer ourselves to God.

Come, let us worship the Lord.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The assembly stands.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God.

We gather today not only to give thanks for our own baptism but also to celebrate the baptismal anniversary for **Lorna Redding and Debbie Kerzic**.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG – “You Servants of God” (ELW 825)

You Servants of God



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is -
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

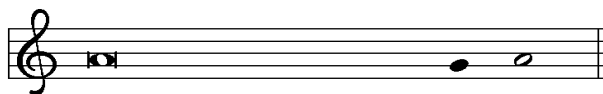
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

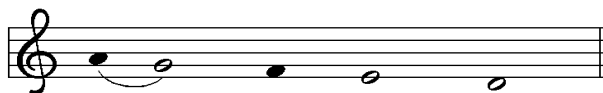
GREETING

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 (ELW p. 147)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



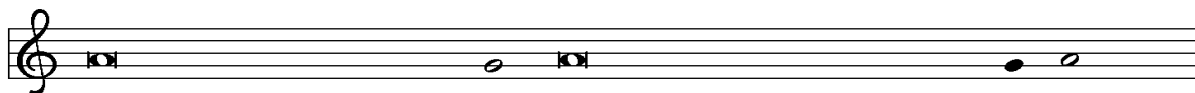
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



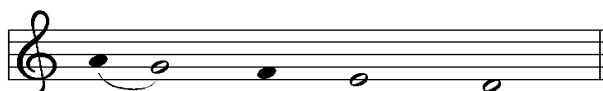
Lord, have mer - cy.



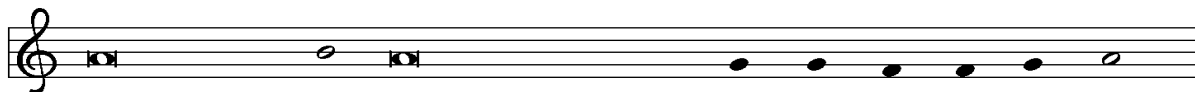
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 (ELW p. 148)



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-13

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

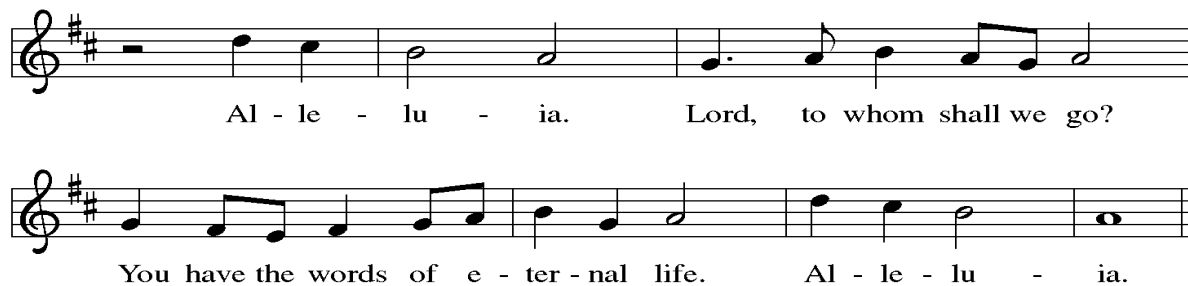
A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY – “Lift Every Voice and Sing” (ELW 841)

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

APOSTLES' CREED (Assistant Minister)

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.

PRAYER SONG – “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (ELW 742) *verse 3 only*

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886
Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Spoken Responsively)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING SONG - "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" (ELW 678) *verse 3 only*

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



- 1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,
all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;
Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;
O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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OFFERING PRAYER (Assistant Minister)

Let Us Pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

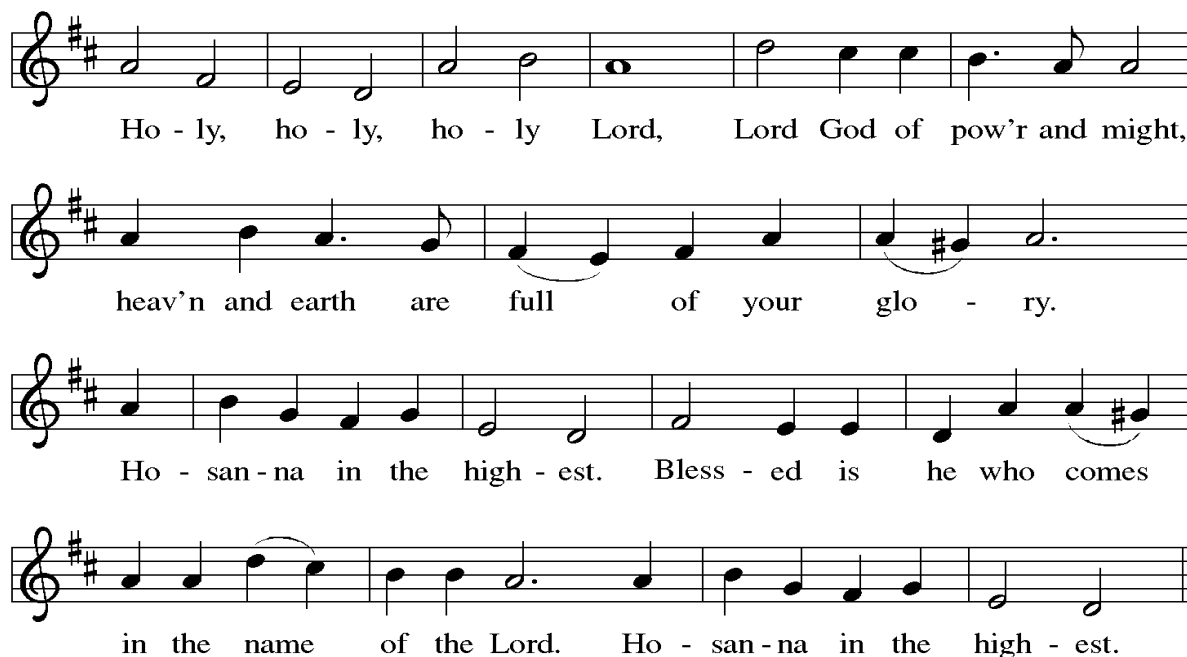
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER - VIDEO

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated.

SONG - "Lamb of God" (ELW p. 154)

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

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG – “Jesus Loves Me!” (ELW 595) verse 3 only

Jesus Loves Me!



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Assistant Minister)

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for
the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BIRTHDAYS/WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES/BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Baptism Anniversaries: Lorna Redding and Debbie Kerzic

Birthdays: Tim Rosin (October 24th)

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG – “God of Grace and God of Glory” (ELW 705)

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

SENDING (Assistant Minister)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Christmas Bazaar – Hosted by Christ Episcopal Church, Saturday, December 5th, 9:00am-4:00pm., 8710 Old Branch Avenue, Clinton, MD. If you would like to secure a table space (table not included), contact Lucille Belgrave at (240) 326-3637. The cost for each space is \$40.00.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Meeting – today at 12noon.

Burial for Shuey Schumaker - Shuey's burial will be held on Monday, October 19th at 10:30am, Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Hwy, Cheltenham, MD 20623.

Revival Festival - St. Michael's Truth will hold its 2nd Annual Revival Festival on Saturday, October 24th, 3:00-6:00pm, at St. Michael's Truth, 4915 St. Barnabas Road, Temple Hills, MD. Bishop Hirsch and Pr. Moses Barrios from the synod office will be among the speakers.

Reformation Sunday – Combined service with Peace Lutheran Church, Sunday, October 25th, at 10:00am. Address: 401 Smallwood Drive, St. Charles, MD. 20602-2880

All Saints Sunday - During worship service we will pay tribute to our loved ones who passed away from November 1, 2025, to present. Please provide the full names to Veronica via email to office@hopeclinton.org, no later than October 27th.

Congregational Budget Meeting – Sunday, November 1st at 12noon.

Christmas Shoe Box Project – We are still collecting shoe boxes to wrap and fill with personal items for S.O.M.E. (So Others May Eat). Please bring in your donated items by Sunday, November 22nd. Cash donations are also accepted.

Bible Study - Join us on Fridays at 11:00am. Great interactive discussions and fellowship.

GriefShare Support Group – It's not too late to join. If you or someone you know are in need of support, join us on Wednesdays, from 2:00-4:00pm.

Neighborhood Walking Group – Join the community walking group Tuesday mornings at 8:15am. The group will meet in Hope's parking lot.

Calling all Temple Servers - Opportunities are available to serve on Sundays. A signup sheet is posted in the Narthex.

For financial donations to Hope Lutheran Church, you are welcome to use our QR code.

