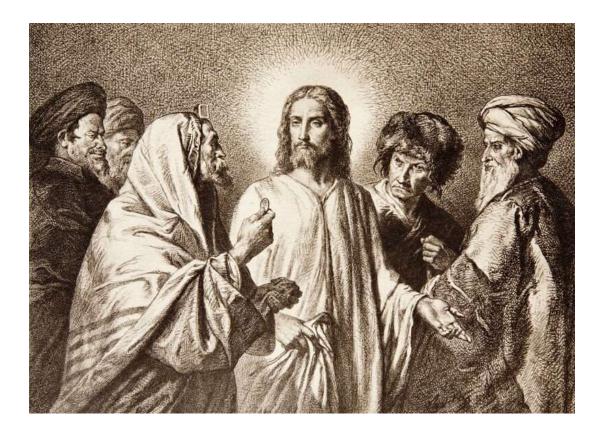
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610-346-8500 <u>durhamlutheran.org</u>

Rev. James Heckman, Bridge Pastor

October 22, 2023 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost



Introduction to Worship

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

> You can find the live stream at the following locations: www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude - NeoClassique - Mark Hayes

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness (Stand if you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P: Steadfast and faithful God,
- C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.
- P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
- C: Amen.





Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955 Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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- P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

- L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**
- L: 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.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

First Reading – Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

L: A reading from Isaiah, the forty-fifth chapter.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I 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. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so 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. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

PSALM: 96:1-13

- L: ¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- C: ²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
- L: ³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
- C: ⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.
- L: ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- C: ⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- L: ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- C: ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.
- L: ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- C: ¹⁰Tell 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."
- L: ¹¹Let 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.

- C: ¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.
- L: ¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

A reading from Thessalonians, the first chapter:

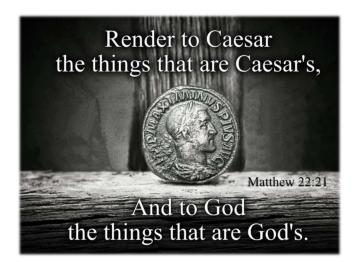
¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

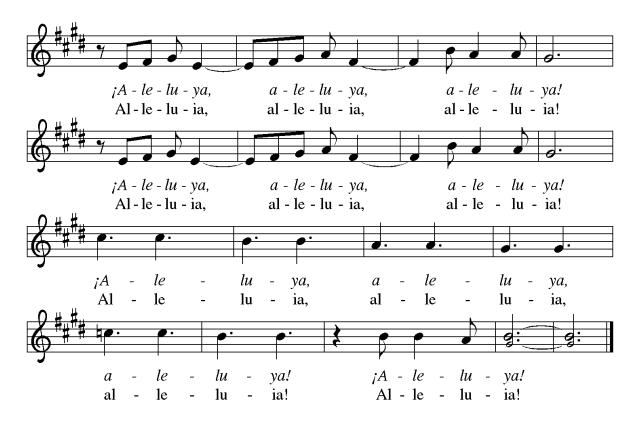
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because 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. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For 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. ⁹For the people of those regions 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, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**



Gospel Acclamation (Please stand if you are able)



The Gospel – Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

P: The Gospel according to Matthew. C: Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's," Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

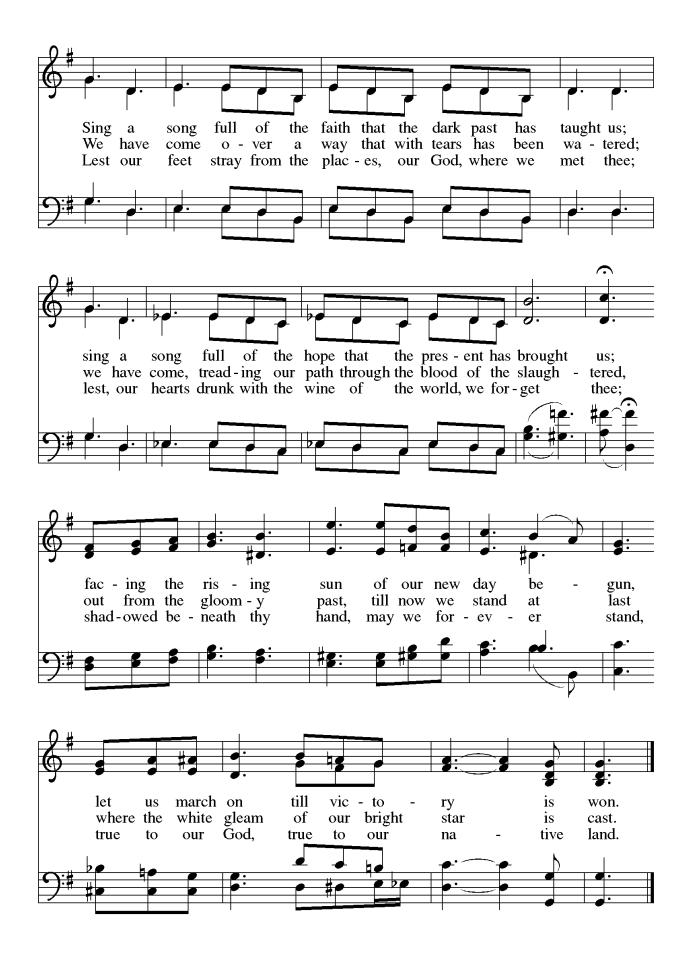
C: Praise to you. O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day: ELW 841

Lift Every Voice and Sing





Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938 Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants (especially). Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering (especially). Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: I Will Sing New Songs to the Lord - Joseph Martin

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

WE ARE AN OFFERING - ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands. Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, We give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: We are an offering, we are an offering.

- P: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C: Amen.
- P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave 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.

Announcements

BLESSING

P: The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**



Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest. C: Thanks be to God. Postlude

			ANNOUNCEM	ENTS	
	BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES		BAPTISMS
22			Diane & Steve DeWalt (40)		
23					Pastor David Deal
25	Cheryl Mesko				Jim Nicholas, Silas Rodenbach
13			Lisa & Bruce Crouse (33)		
		TH	IS WEEK'S ACT	TIVITIES	4
Sunday, October 22		10:00 AM 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM		Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman Confirmation @ Trinity	
Wednesday, October 25		10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM		Office hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
Thursday, October 26		10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM		Choir rehearsal Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
			PCOMING ACT	1	
Sunday, October 29 Reformation Sunday (communion)		10:00		Worship - F	Pr. Jim Heckman & @ St. Peter's
Wednesday, November 1		10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM		Office hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim	
Thursday, November 2		10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM		Choir rehearsal Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
		10:00 /	AM - 12:00 PM	Communion Education Class (PALM) @ Durham	
(communion) All Saints Sunday		10:00 AM After Worship		Worship - F First Comm members.	Pr. Jim Heckman union and receptions of new Alaska picture show
"		AM - 11:15 PM PM - 1:00 PM	NO Choir re Care -A-Lot Office Hour	ehearsal Visit	

Thursday, November 9	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Choir rehearsal
	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	NO Office hours
	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's



October Outreach - Our Outreach envelopes for October have been designated for Lutheran Disaster Response for flood relief.



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Esther Crouse; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Keep in your Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; PRAYERS Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Jason Bigley; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie Courtney; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Josephine Gimelson & family; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jean Pratt; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; The Schutt Family; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Pat Stangil; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Kelly Walsh; Henry Wong and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Stan Aagaard; Michael Barats; Sharon Fogelman; Joann Gary; Betty Kreitz; Lani Schlegel; Don Seipt; Marilyn Seipt; Hal Taylor; Ann Valent

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: PrayerChain@durhamlutheran.org

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman			
Choir Director / Organist	Carolyn Williams			
Greeter(s)	Leo Grzelkowski & Bea von Watzdorf			
Altar Guild	Val McGinn & Bea von Watzdorf			
Acolyte	Leo Grzelkowski			
Lector	Bea von Watzdorf			
Head / Communion Usher				
Council Counting Team	Barb Naska & Dave Sauter			
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson			
Custodian	Dianna Streletz			

Helping in Worshin