



# Increased Faith Increases Duty

**PEACE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Houghton, Michigan  
Sunday, October 12, 2025

## **Welcome to Worship**

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastor and members of Peace! Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection, Jesus saves all sinners. We learn these truths from the Bible — God's complete plan for our salvation and his guidebook for our lives. Peace greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

## **About Our Service**

The gospel (or good news) is not just information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts, transform our lives, and give us lasting peace. Therefore, Lutheran Worship places the gospel in central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In the message and meal (Holy Communion), in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out on the following pages. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red or blue hymnals located on the chair in front of you.

## **Current Worship Series: Wounds that Heal**

August 24: God's Word Divides

August 31: The Door Is Very Narrow

September 7: Those Who Exalt Themselves Will Be Humbled

September 14: Count the Cost

September 21: The Found are Left; the Lost are Found

September 28: No One Can Serve Two Masters

October 5: What Helps In Life Fails in Death

**October 12: Increased Faith Increases Duty**

## **Series Theme: *Wounds that Heal***

Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart.

Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need.

“Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem” (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. So, with a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

## **Today’s Focus: *Increased Faith Increases Duty***

As someone rises through the ranks at work, there are typically benefits: higher salary, more authority, better benefits. However, there is often a corresponding increase in responsibility: longer hours, more meetings, raised expectations. So, if someone is offered a promotion, they might ask, “Is this worth it?” It is similar in God’s kingdom. As our faith grows, there are obvious benefits: the comfort of knowing you are a redeemed and loved child of God, the peace of knowing your eternity is secure. However, increased faith also increases duty. There are ever more opportunities for service. This week, Jesus has sharp words for those who want the benefits of being Christian but would shirk those responsibilities. However, to lead us to take up those responsibilities, our Savior doesn’t threaten or cajole. He helps us see that while increased faith increases duty, increased duty increases delight. The believer knows he serves the One who came to serve us first. Just as Christ’s service brought him great joy, so does our service to others.

## **Service Participants:**

Computer Organ: Zack Sickmann and Nate Crowder

Pastor of Peace: Tommy Welch



# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR

*Sunday, October 12, 2025*

## Hymn

*By Grace I'm Saved*



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -  
2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, came down to  
3 By grace! O mark this word of prom - ise when you are  
4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, in trib - u -  
5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; in Je - sus'



lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of  
earth to bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own  
by your sins op - pressed, when Sa - tan plagues your trou - bled  
la - tion's fur - nace tried, by grace, de - spite all fear and  
prom - ise I re - joice, for though I know my heart's con -



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? So then this  
mer - it that Je - sus died, your soul to win? No, it was  
con - science, and when your heart is seek - ing rest. What rea - son  
trou - ble, the Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I  
di - tion, I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.  
grace, and grace a - lone, that brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.  
can - not com - pre - hend God by his grace to you did send.  
help and strength se - cure if grace were not my an - chor sure?  
glad, all grief has flown since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Text: Christian L. Scheidt, 1709–1761, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,  
and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,  
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## Absolution

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The name of  
the triune  
God and the  
sign of the  
cross remind  
worshippers of  
their  
baptisms.

Psalm 32:1

The use of the  
keys of  
absolution is  
that special  
right which  
Christ gave to  
his church on  
earth: to  
proclaim the  
forgiveness of  
sins through  
Jesus. See  
John 20:21-23.

## Hymn of Praise

Holy God, We Praise Your Name sts. 1–2, 5

For centuries, Christians have responded to the assurance of forgiveness with a song of praise. This morning, we *give thanks* to the Triune God for using his power to forgive our sins.

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of  
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel  
 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly

all, we bow be - fore you. All on  
 choirs a - bove are rais - ing; cher - u -  
 Spir - it, three we name you, though in

earth your scep - ter claim; all in heav'n a -  
 bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing  
 es - sence on - ly one, un - di - vid - ed

bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your vast do -  
 cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with sweet ac -  
 God we claim you, and, a - dor - ing, bend the

main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
 cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"  
 knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.  
 Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness, keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

# The Word



## First Reading

1 Chronicles 29:1–2, 10–18

<sup>1</sup>Then King David said to the whole assembly: “My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God. <sup>2</sup>With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities.

King Solomon knew from experience that if you serve money, you will end up sorely disappointed.

<sup>10</sup>David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying,

“Praise be to you, LORD,  
the God of our father Israel,  
from everlasting to everlasting.

<sup>11</sup>Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power  
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,  
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;  
you are exalted as head over all.

<sup>12</sup>Wealth and honor come from you;  
you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power  
to exalt and give strength to all.

<sup>13</sup>Now, our God, we give you thanks,  
and praise your glorious name.

<sup>14</sup>“But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. <sup>15</sup>We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. <sup>16</sup>LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. <sup>17</sup>I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who

are here have given to you. <sup>18</sup>LORD, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

Saint Paul teaches that serving money will lead to spiritual destruction. But serving God with our money leads to a fulfilling life.

### Second Reading

*2 Thessalonians 1:1–5, 11–12*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silas and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup>Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing. <sup>4</sup>Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

<sup>5</sup>All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.

<sup>11</sup>With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.

<sup>12</sup>We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

# Hymn of the Day

O Church, Arise



1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the  
2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to  
3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the  
4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give—



call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that  
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the  
Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -  
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.  
wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.  
neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!  
win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -  
When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the  
And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -  
As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle  
out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for  
merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues  
tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger



cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.  
which he died— an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.  
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.  
for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

## Gospel

*Luke 17:1–10*

All money belongs to God; he loans it to us to manage for his glory. Through a parable, Jesus teaches us to be shrewd in the way we use money to serve him.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come. <sup>2</sup>It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble. <sup>3</sup>So watch yourselves.

“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. <sup>4</sup>Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

<sup>6</sup>He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

<sup>7</sup>“Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’? <sup>8</sup>Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup>Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## Sermon

*Luke 17:1-10*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Apostle's Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

## **Offering**

*The members of Peace have joined together in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) to do the Lord's work of sharing the message of Jesus. Visitors need not feel obligated. You are our guests!*

*Kindly fill out one of our Connection Cards. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.*

## **Prayer of the Church**

*Please stand. The pastor will speak the prayer of the church and the congregation will join to pray the Lord's Prayer.*

## **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.**

## **Blessing**

*Ephesians 3:20-21* Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

*Numbers 6:22* The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.  
**Amen.**

# Hymn

Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor



1 Christ, the sure and stead - y an - chor in the  
 2 Christ, the sure and stead - y an - chor while the  
 3 Christ, the sure and stead - y an - chor through the  
 4 Christ, the sure and stead - y an - chor as we



fu - ry of the storm— when the winds of doubt blow  
 tem - pest ra - ges on— when temp - ta - tion claims the  
 floods of un - be - lief— hope - less, some - how, O my  
 face the wave of death— when these trials give way to



through me and my sails have all been torn,  
 bat - tle and it seems the night has won,  
 soul now, lift your eyes to Cal - va - ry.  
 glo - ry and we draw our fi - nal breath,



in the suf - f'ring, in the sor - row, when my  
 deep - er still then goes the an - chor, though I  
 This my bal - last of as - sur - ance, see his  
 we will cross that great ho - ri - zon, clouds be -  
 Christ, the shore of our sal - va - tion, ev - er



sink - ing hopes are few, I will hold fast to the  
 just - ly stand ac - cused; I will hold fast to the  
 love for - ev - er proved; I will hold fast to the  
 hind and life se - cure, and the calm will be the  
 faith - ful, ev - er true— we will hold fast to the



an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.  
 an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.  
 an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.  
 bet - ter, for the storms that we en - dure.  
 an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.

4th stanza repeat italics

# Announcements

## Foundations of Faith

Foundations is for everyone: people interested in becoming members, those looking to build their faith, or the curious observer who wants to study the Bible without feeling obligated to join a church. This study is Bible-based and discussion-centered. Classes can be arranged to fit personal schedules

To get plugged in or to request more information, contact Pastor Welch (pastor@peacehoughton.org). Childcare is available upon request.

## Online Offering Option

If you would like to give an online offering today, please scan the QR code. All online donations are safe and go directly to Peace.

## Upcoming Events

The semester events are found below. For some of these, signing up is required since space is limited. To sign up, find the event on the Peace Lutheran Houghton app, or the website. The QR code will bring you to the event page on the website.



Sunday, Oct 12:	Hike after church
Saturday, Nov 1:	Pickleball tournament – <b>sign up required</b>
Saturday, Nov 8:	Laser tag – <b>sign up required</b>
Wednesday, Nov 19:	Thanksgiving dinner
Saturday, Dec 6:	Christmas canvassing and dinner



## **Wednesday Dinner Help**

Every Wednesday, the students meet for dinner and a Bible study. Please consider helping to provide a meal. The sign-up sheet is in the entryway on the blue table. It is not expected that you would pay for the meal, unless you want to. If you do purchase items for a meal, submit a receipt to Pastor Welch, and Peace will reimburse you. Reach out to Pastor Welch with any questions you may have. Thank you!

## **Council Meeting This Thursday at 7:00**



47745 Mill Rd.  
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Pastor Welch's Email: [pastor@peacehoughton.org](mailto:pastor@peacehoughton.org)

**[Peacehoughton.org](http://Peacehoughton.org)**

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ, to gather college students and the local community into a family of believers, and to share the message of hope and the promise of salvation through grace.