



gracefallschurch.org  GraceFallsChurchVA  gracelutheranchurchva  Grace Falls Church

**M:** Minister

**A:** All

## WELCOME

**HYMN:** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  
*found on page 6 of this worship folder*

## INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**A:** Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** God created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**A:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**A:** Amen.

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

*The minister offers the Prayer of the Day.*

## THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

### FIRST LESSON:

1 Kings 19:1-18

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup> So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them." <sup>3</sup> Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, <sup>4</sup> while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." <sup>5</sup> Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup> He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." <sup>8</sup> So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>9</sup> There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup> He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." <sup>11</sup> The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>3</sup> When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup> He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." <sup>15</sup> The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. <sup>16</sup> Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. <sup>17</sup> Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. <sup>18</sup> Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him."

## **SECOND LESSON:**

Acts 12:1-11

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. <sup>2</sup> He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. <sup>3</sup> When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. <sup>4</sup> After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover. <sup>5</sup> So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. <sup>6</sup> The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. <sup>7</sup> Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists. <sup>8</sup> Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. <sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. <sup>10</sup> They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him. <sup>11</sup> Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen."

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**A:**

**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.**

**HYMN:**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”  
*found on page 7 of this worship folder*

**MESSAGE**

“Because Jesus Lives: I Am Not Stuck”  
*based on John 5:1-9*

John 5:1-9

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. <sup>2</sup> Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. <sup>3</sup> Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. <sup>5</sup> One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” <sup>7</sup> “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.” <sup>8</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” <sup>9</sup> At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,

## PRAYERS & BLESSING

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*The minister offers the Prayer of the Church.*

### LORD'S PRAYER

**A: 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.**

### HYMN:

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”  
*found on page 9 of this worship folder*

### BLESSING

## “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”



Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing thy  
 Here I raise my E - be - neez - er, Hith - er to thy help I'm  
 O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to



grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for  
 come. And I hope by thy good plea - sure Safe - ly  
 be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, Bind my



songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious  
 to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
 wan - d'ring heart to thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I



son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove; Praise the  
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
 feel it, Prone to leave the God I love; Here's my



mount; I'm fixed up - on it; mount of God's re - deem - ing love.  
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 heart, O take and seal it; Seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790  
 Tune: *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813

NETTLETON  
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## 200

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y shield  
 2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger to  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y thanks

and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
 ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant one  
 de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
 have for it; He's by our side up - on the plain

That has us now o'er - tak - en. The old  
 Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,  
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's  
 With his good gifts and Spir - it. And do

e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;  
 "Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,  
 prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,  
 what they will — Hate, steal, hurt, or kill —

Deep guile and great might      Are his dread arms in fight;  
 The al - might - y Lord.      And there's no oth - er God;  
 He can harm us none.      He's judged; the deed is done!  
 Though all may be gone,      Our vic - to - ry is won;

On earth is not his e - qual.  
 He holds the field for - ev - er.  
 One lit - tle word can fell him.  
 The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

## 441

## O God, Our Help in Ages Past

6 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne Your saints have  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re -  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight Are like an

years to come, Still be our guard while  
years to come, Our shel - ter from the  
dwelt se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is your  
ceived its frame, From ev - er - last - ing  
eve - ning gone, Short as the watch that

trou - bles last And our e - ter - nal home!  
storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home,  
arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure,  
you are God, To end - less years the same,  
ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Soon bears us all away;  
We fly, forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Still be our guard while troubles last  
And our eternal home!

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Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt.  
Tune: William Croft, 1678-1727, alt.; Desc. Michael E. Young, b. 1939

ST. ANNE  
CM

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