

# Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

*"It is the  
Spirit  
that gives  
Life:  
the flesh is useless.  
The words that  
I have spoken  
to you are  
Spirit  
and Life."*

*John 6:63, NRSV*

## **The Season of Pentecost**

August 12-September 2, 2012

9:00 a.m.

*The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to bring the good news of God's saving grace, through Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection to all to be free to be the people of God.*

# Welcome to Worship at Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

## Prelude

*Please prepare for worship through quiet reflection and meditation*  
“For the Beauty of the Earth” by Conrad Kocher, arr. by Brian Chung

## Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

**Amen.**

P: Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God and Father of all,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

#879

## Greeting

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

*The congregation sings the refrain only*

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for  
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for  
hun-gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam-i-ly; for  
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord,                      let us pray to the Lord.

## Canticle of Praise

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of

vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -

le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

**C: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

*Please be seated*

### **First Reading: Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18**

*In the Near East, covenant means agreement or alliance. It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." <sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, "Far be it from us

that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup> for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup> and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

**PSALM (ELW): Psalm 34:15–22**

R:   
The eyes of the LORD are up - on the righ - teous.

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are up- | on the righteous, and God's ears are open | to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the LORD is against those | who do evil, to erase the remembrance of them | from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and | the LORD hears them and delivers them from | all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The LORD is near to the | brokenhearted and saves those whose spir- | its are crushed. R**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles | of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from | every one.

<sup>20</sup>**God will keep safe | all their bones; not one of them | shall be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death | to the wicked and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.

<sup>22</sup>**O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. R**

**Special Music**

“Amazing Grace”

John Newton/Early American Folk, arr. Richard Walters

*Sherry Kocek, soprano, Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg piano*

**Children's Sermon**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the Sixth Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: John 6:56–69**

*The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"*

<sup>56</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.

<sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. <sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." <sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*  
**Sermon**

*Please stand as you are able*  
**Hymn of the Day**  
"Blessed Assurance" #638

**Creed**  
**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.**

**Prayers of the People**  
L: Let us pray  
**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: Receive our hopes and prayers, O God of mercy, for great is your faithfulness in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
**C: Amen.**

**All: God of love, have mercy on us. Pour out your Spirit upon us. Center us in worship. Hold us in grace. Strengthen us in love. Send us forth in mission. In Jesus' holy name. Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all,

C: **And also with you!**

*Please be seated*

**Announcements**

**The Offering**

**Offertory:**

"Elegie"

by Gordon Young

*Please stand as you are able*

**Offering Prayer**

P: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

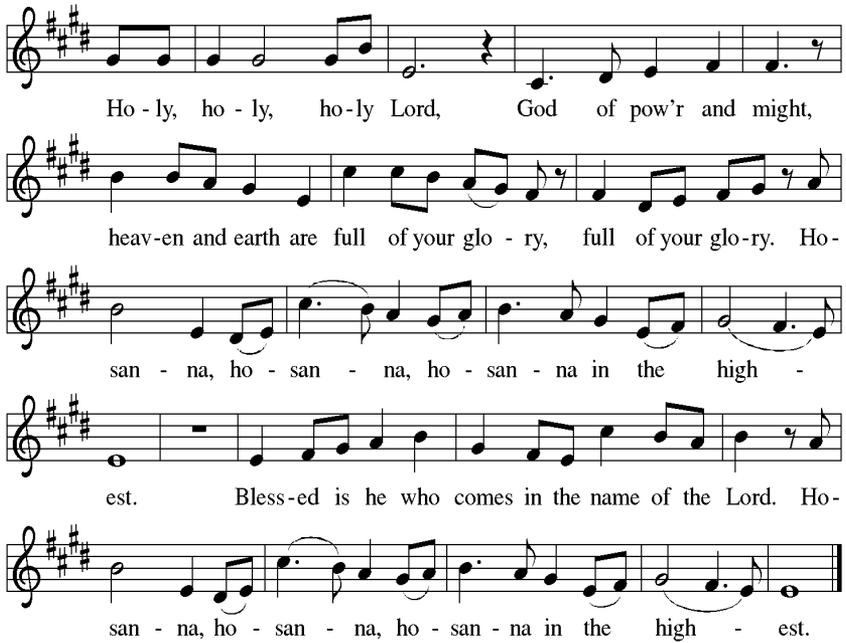
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## Preface

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Thanksgiving at the Table

P: 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.

For as often we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim our Lord's death until he comes.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

## 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.

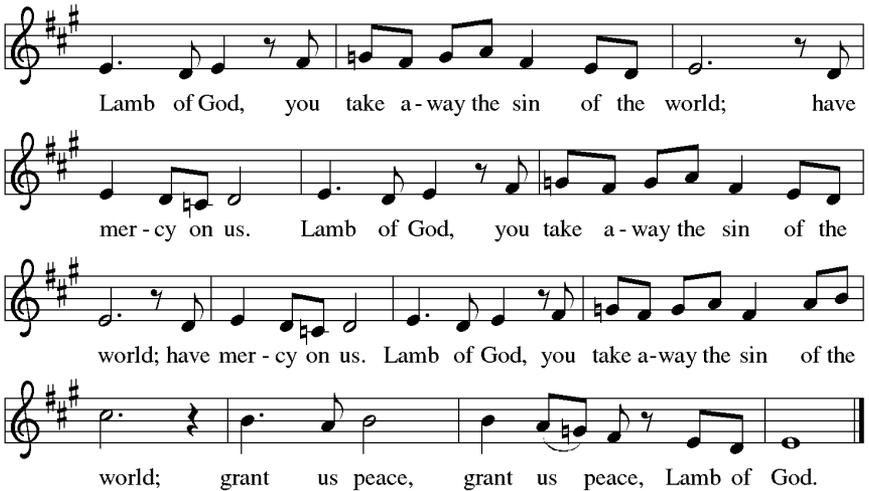
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen

## Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Jesus said, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

*Please be seated*

## Lamb of God



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, Lamb of God.

**Distribution Hymns:**

**#542, #616, #800**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Prayer after Communion**

P: Generous God, we thank you that at Wisdom's holy table you have fed us again with her bread and wine, the food of everlasting life. Send us, your servants, into all the land, that we may act wisely, seek the good of our neighbor, and call others to come to the feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

**Blessing**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

**"In Christ There is No East or West"**

**#650**

**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:**

"Postlude on 'Duke Street'"

by Franklin Ritter



## **Good Morning and Welcome to Grace!**

Please sign the Attendance Registrations sheets which are found in each pew. Visitors, please also sign the guest book at the Welcome Center!

**Calendar, prayers and announcements may be found on the colored insert. While we do recycle the bulletins, please feel free to take home the colored and readings insert.**

**Communion** – We welcome all people to the Lord’s table to receive Holy Communion. Children not instructed are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are not able to come forward to take communion, please notify an usher before the service. Then try to sit by the aisle and the pastors will commune you in your pew.

Receive a cup. Receive and eat the bread. Proceed to the wine or grape juice. If you would prefer to have grape juice, take a rose colored glass from the inner ring of the tray; grape juice will be in the outer most chalice on both sides. Communion bread is gluten free.

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Stephen Ministry is about hope. A Stephen Minister actively listens to a care receiver's concerns, identifying feelings and needs with skillful compassion, faithfulness and trustworthiness. If you have a personal or health related problem area in your life and need someone to listen, **a trained Stephen Minister is available in the Upper Room between services.**

# Announcements and Calendar

**Sunday August 26, 2012**

**In our prayers:** Tony, Heath, Erik, Jill, LeRoi Beers, Norma Black, Frances Engquist, Vivian Feilmann, Willa Mae Johansen, Lucy Krauss, Marvin Malmin, Margaret Olson, Helen Richards, Malena Seymour (Gail Peterson's mother), Sarah Williamson, Zelma Wilson, Robert Ziesman, the family of Betty Vance, and the others we name before you...



**Flowers on the altar** are given to the glory of God by Lenora and Norm Iverson in honor of family.

**Happy Birthday to the following people this week!**



Tim Nelson, Sean Anderson, Richard Randolph, Philip Snyder, Brandon Niemuth, Palma Williams, Susan Halblom, Todd Prescott, Janet Gross, Leonard Ringgenberg, Janet Habick, Eleanor Carlson, Gary Nehmer, Cindy Peeler



**Happy Anniversary to:**

Gary and Sharyn Nelson, Jerry and Diane Westercamp, Norman and Lenora Iverson, Joshua and Kristene Shortell, Kurt and Kathy Bowermaster, Martin and Kari Dostalík

## A new way to receive Grace news!

We're creating an email newsletter for Grace members, visitors, and friends, and we want to include you. When you sign the friendship pad in the pew today, please add your email address if you'd like to receive email news about Grace.

Or send a quick email message to

[graceluth5@msn.com](mailto:graceluth5@msn.com). *We promise not to share your email address with anyone outside the church, and you'll be able to manage your own subscription and unsubscribe at any time.*



## Parents of college students or military service

Is your child heading off to college or the military service? If so, we, as their church family, would like to stay connected with these young adult members.

The plan is to send some goodies along with notes of encouragement a few times through the school year. All we need is your child's college address. Please provide to Cherie Rissman. (205-8939 or [cherierissman@gmail.com](mailto:cherierissman@gmail.com))



## Celebration Sunday

Save the Date! Sunday September 9 will begin with one service at 9 a.m. Tailgating fun will follow the service - we are planning a number of service activities and games with choices for adults and children. Social Ministry will also be serving a meal and dessert. Watch for more detailed information in the bulletin and newsletter!

## Fall Piano and Voice Lessons at Grace!!!

Sherry Kocek, Ensemble Director at Grace has openings in her studio this fall for piano and voice students. Children and adults are welcome! Grace members will be given a discount rate.

Please contact, Sherry at 309-536-0962 or [skocek@msn.com](mailto:skocek@msn.com)

## **This Week at Grace**

### **SUNDAY, August 26**

- 9:00 a.m. – Holy Communion
- 10:00 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship
- 10:00 a.m. – Grace Women’s Board

### **MONDAY, August 27**

- 10:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. – Tops
- 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. – AA in Grace Hall

### **TUESDAY, August 28**

- 6:00 p.m. – Tops
- 7:00 p.m. – Council Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY, August 29**

- 9:00 a.m. – Willing Workers
- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. – LSI Staff Meeting

### **THURSDAY, August 30**

- 9:00 a.m. – Quilters

### **FRIDAY, August 31**

### **SATURDAY, September 1**

**No Saturday evening service**

### **SUNDAY, September 2**

- 9:00 a.m. – Holy Communion, baptism of Henry Jordahl
- 10:00 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship

## **Welcome to Grace!**

**Ministers** – The People of God

**Pastor** - Michael Schmidt

**Director of Laity Ministries** - Stephanie Johnson

**Director of Music Ministries** - Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg

**Ensemble Director** – Sherry Kocek

**Grace Kids Care Director** - Heather Nelson

**Office Administrator** - Jacquelyn Holmes

**Building/Grounds** - Luis Reaza

**Receptionist** - Diana Johnson

**Office Assistant** - Michelle Voelker

**Ushers** – Jay Wangerin, Norm Trentmann

**Liturgist** – Denny Rehder

**Lector** – Kate Schaller

**Childrens Sermon** – Pastor Mike

**Communion servers** – Shirley Shiffler, Alex Davik, Lori Fry, Kevin Krause

**Acolytes** – Paul Weaver, Megan Riordan

**Altar Guild** – Gail Peterson, Carol Woodruff

**Counters** – Mike Carney, Chris Lawson

**Coffee Servers** –

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

515-276-6873

[worship@gracedm.org](mailto:worship@gracedm.org)

[www.gracedm.org](http://www.gracedm.org)