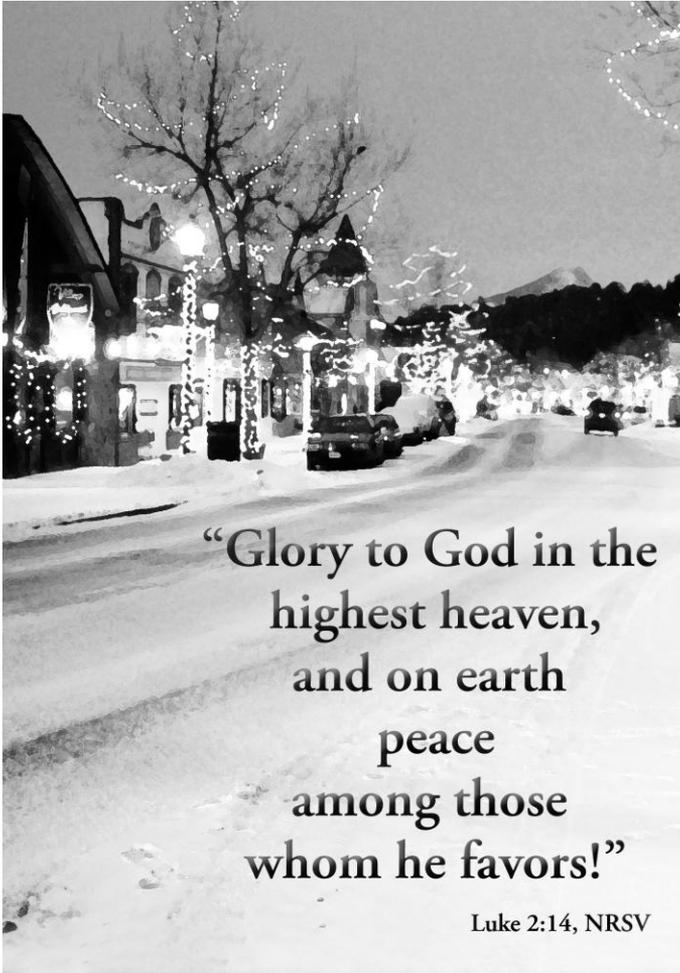


Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2012

5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.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

***Welcome!** Please sign the Attendance Registration sheets which are found in each pew. Visitors, please also sign the guest book at the Welcome Center, and please join us for coffee and education hour activities between services.*

***Large print bulletins** are available from the ushers.*

***A nursery is available** if your children become restless during the service. The service is also broadcast in the in the Gathering Hall.*

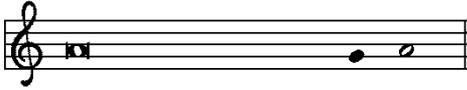
***Communion** – We welcome all people to the Lord’s table to receive Holy Communion. Children not instructed are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are not able to come forward to take communion, please notify an usher before the service. Then try to sit by the side aisle and the pastor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

***When by intinction:** Receive the host (wafer), then dip the host into the chalice (cup) to receive wine (red) or grape juice (clear); depart by the side aisle. Gluten free wafers and a separate glass chalice are available by request on the pulpit side (left when facing altar).*

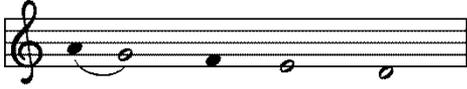
***When by pouring chalice:** Receive a cup. Receive and eat the bread. Proceed to the wine or grape juice. If you would prefer to have grape juice, take a rose colored glass from the inner ring of the tray; grape juice will be in the outer most chalice on both sides. Communion bread is gluten free.*



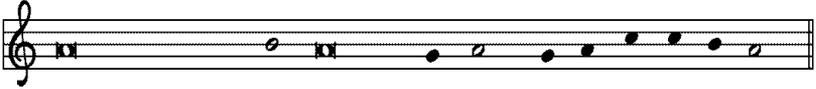
Kyrie



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.



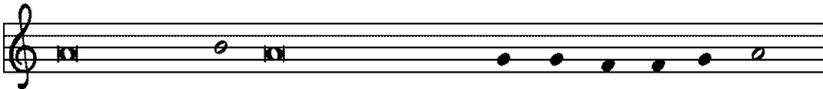
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



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



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 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 and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

C: **Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Please be seated

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2–7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L: the Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

Second Lesson: Titus 2:11–14

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation



C: Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Second Chapter.

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

Gospel: Luke 2:1–14 [15–20]

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While

they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

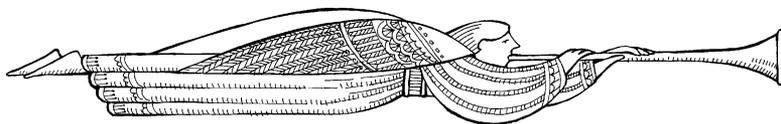
Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#270



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: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

**P: O God, who shines light into darkness, receive these prayers and the
prayers of our hearts through the power of the Spirit, in Jesus' name.**

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

“The Quiet Carol” by Ellen Jane Lorenz

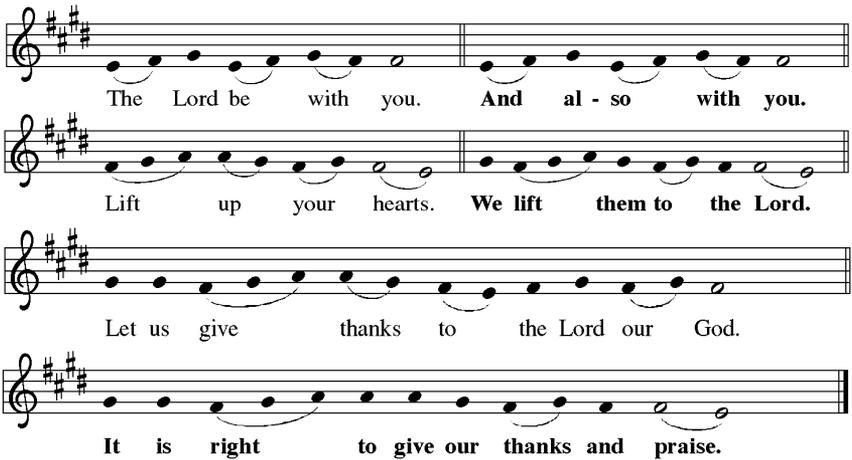
Please stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

P: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

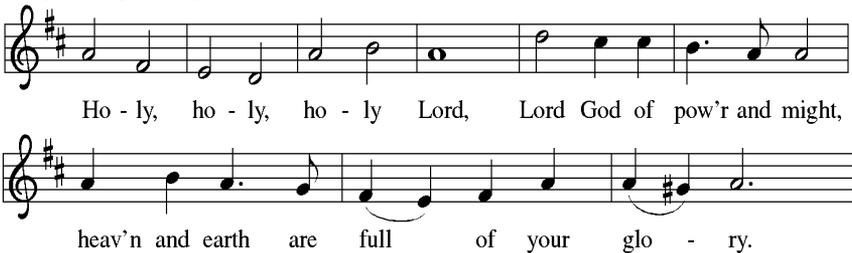
Great Thanksgiving



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, 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

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.**

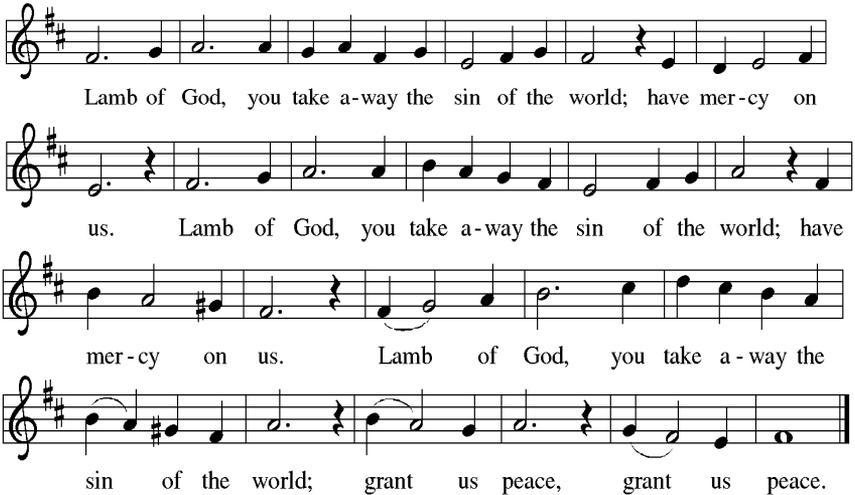
**For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen**

Invitation to Communion

P: Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. The bread of God comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Come, eat, and live.

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.

Distribution Hymns: 282, 277, 286, 490

Prayer after Communion

P: Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

The Gospel of the Incarnation: John 1:1–14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe

through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Hymn of Light: “Silent Night, Holy Night!” #281

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: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” #279

Postlude “Silent Night” arr. By Willia Stickles



Announcements and Calendar

In our prayers: LeRoi Beers, Lyle Black, Nayeli Jacobo, Diane Jessen, Karla Swanson, Cleone Oberg and the others we name before you...

Sunday School classes will resume on January 6th at 9:30.

Adult Forum December 30 – Coffee and Fellowship in the Gathering Hall

Adult Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings from 8:45–10:15a.m. in Grace Hall II. Tuesday evening Bible Study meets Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Hall. Pastor Mike leads both studies. Both will resume on the 8th. We will not have Bible Study on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

Super Wednesday meal and activities will resume on January 9.

Happy Birthday to: Wayne Curry, Piper Hutton, Jon Rutter, Stuart Mitchell, Nicole Nelson, Jeffrey Nelson, Marlene Bang, Barbara Berven, Christina Anderson, Ryan Randolph, Linda Rundle, Kevin Krause, Robin Randolph

Happy Anniversary to: Robert and Dorothy Jensen, Donald and Gloria Moon

Final Office Deposit for 2012

Please make sure any contributions that are mailed or left at the church office for deposit in 2012 are in by **noon on Friday, December 28th. This will be our final office deposit for the year.**

Contributions for Sunday, December 30, can be placed in the offering plates as usual and will be reflected on your year end 2012 tax statement. **The office will be closed on December**

Altar Flowers: Thank you to everyone who has helped provide flowers on the altar this past year with a donation of \$38.00. Each donation helps adorn the altar and also helps our church wide budget. This past year, each Sunday that flowers were requested, someone donated funds to cover the cost. Thank you! The new flower chart for 2013 is in the Gathering Hall on the west brick wall. Please consider choosing a Sunday in January to start the year.



There is a sign-up sheet at Volunteer Central for volunteers who would like to deliver poinsettias to our homebound members. Please wait to pick up the poinsettia until after the Christmas Day service at 10 am but before December 30. Thank you for being a part of this valuable ministry to our members!

This Week at Grace

Tuesday, December 25, *Christmas Day, Office closed*

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 26, *office closed*

No Super Wednesday Activities tonight

Thursday, December 27

9:00 a.m. – Quilters

No evening worship service tonight

Sunday, December 30

No Adult Forum, Education Hour, Brass practice or Stephen Minister available

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship – Gathering Hall

10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion

Monday, December 31, *office closed*

6:00 – 10:00 p.m. – AA Groups

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 – 5:00 Rick Fry, Kevin Krause, Norm and Lenora Iverson

11:00 Chuck & Leslie Denton, Paul Nelson, Jay Wangerin

Liturgist – 5:00 – Mary Helt 11:00 Hal Turner

Lector – 5:00 Kate Schaller 11:00 Carrie Schall

Children's Sermon: Pastor Mike

Communion Servers – 5:00 Carol Woodruff, Susanne Carney, Kate Schaller, Kenzie Carney 11:00 Doug Johnson, Rich Snyder, Stephanie Johnson, Sherry Kocek

Acolytes – 5:00 Ben Wonderlin, Sierra Carney, Courtney Brandsfield
11:00 Haley Dostalick, Yaritza Marquez

Altar Guild – Michelle Voelker, Sue Anderson, Carol Woodruff

Counters – 5:00 Mike Carney, Carter Woodruff



Grace Lutheran Church

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