

Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310



Christmas Day

December 25, 2012

10:00 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

***Welcome!** Please sign the Attendance Registrations 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.*



Welcome to Worship at Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Prelude “Noel nouvelet (Sing We Now of Christmas)”

by Richard Hudson

Please prepare for worship through quiet reflection and meditation

Welcome

Dialogue

P: Who are these angels who come to earth,

C: Bearing the news of the Christ child's birth?

P: Who are these shepherds who run to see,

C: And worship the babe on bended knee?

P: Who is this child, so small, so slight,

C: Of whom the angels sang that night?

P: Who is this king, a manger his throne,

C: Who humbles himself to make us his own?

P: Who is this God who sends a Son

C: Into our midst, the promised one?

Gathering Hymn

“Joy to the World”

#267

Prayer of the Day

C: Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Please be seated

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7–10

A messenger races home to Jerusalem with the marvelous words: "Your God reigns!" In comforting the people, God proves to be the best brother or sister (redeemer) they have ever known. Everyone will witness the victory (salvation) of God.

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their

voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 98

R: 

All the ends of the earth have seen the vic-to-ry of our God.

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done ¹marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have ¹won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made ¹known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight ¹of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the ¹house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory ¹of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, ¹all you lands; lift up your voice, re- ¹joice, and sing. R**

⁵Sing to the LORD ¹with the harp, with the harp and the ¹voice of song.

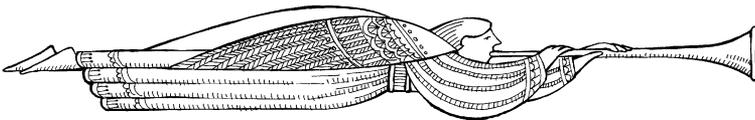
⁶**With trumpets and the sound ¹of the horn shout with joy before the ¹king, the LORD. R**

⁷Let the sea roar, and ¹all that fills it, the world and those who ¹dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers ¹clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to ¹judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the ¹world with righteousness and the peo- ¹ples with equity. R

Special Music *Kathy Bowermaster and Jenny Rehder*



Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."¹⁰And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; ¹²like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

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. John, the First Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 1:1–14

The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

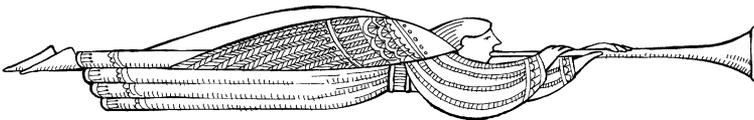
Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn

“Love Has Come”

#292



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 Coventry Carol” by James Southbridge

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 (tune: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!)

P: Oh, may the good Lord be with you,

C: And may the Lord be with you too.

P: Lift your hearts to him in praise.

C: To the Lord our hearts we raise.

P: Let us offer praises true.

C: It is fitting so to do: Gratefully we sing to the Lord, our King.

Preface

The Sanctus (tune: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)

Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!

Heav'n and earth cannot contain all the glory of Your name!

Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh

In the name of God the King! Halle-lujahs glad we sing:

Hail, hosanna! Praises due. Be for-ever, Lord to You!

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 (tune: Away in a Manger)

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.
The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
As we forgive others, our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver your children most dear,
For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.
To you be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever! 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: 272, 294, 296, 298

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

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.

Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

#288

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Lord is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Angels We Have Heard on High” by Henry Balcombe



Announcements and Calendar

In our prayers: LeRoi Beers, Lyle Black, Nayeli Jacobo, Diane Jessen, Karla Swanson, Cleone Oberger 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

Friday, December 28

Saturday, December 29

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

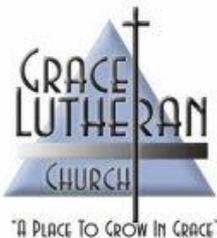
Office Assistant - Michelle Voelker

Ushers – Jay Wangerin, Tom McCleary

Lector/Liturgist – Kathy Bowermaster

Altar Guild – Michelle Voelker, Sue Anderson, Carol Woodruff

Counters – Tom McCleary, Mark Stumme



Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Pastor Michael Schmidt

515-276-6873

worship@gracedm.org

www.gracedm.org