

Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310



LESSONS & CAROLS

The First Sunday of Christmas

December 30, 2012

8:15 a.m. and 10:45 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

“The First Noel” arr. by David W. Moore

Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg on oboe and Rika Uchida on piano.

Welcome

Gathering Song

Angels We Have Heard on High

#289

Verses 1 and 3

Dialogue

P: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

C: By day and night he shines for all to see.

P: Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

C: that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

P: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

C: so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P: Jesus is the light of the world.

C: Jesus is the light of our lives.

P: Sing to God a new song!

C: A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

Opening Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

C: Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—a beam of light that shines through Jesus.

Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 1:1–5, 14–18

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in

the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

First Carol

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
Verses 1 and 2

#282

Second Reading: Micah 5:2–5a

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

Second Carol

In the Bleak Midwinter
Verses 1 and 2

#294

Third Reading: Luke 1:26–35, 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will

be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Third Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Verses 1 and 4

#272

Fourth Reading: Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Fourth Carol

Away in Manger
Verses 1 and 2

#277

Fifth Reading: Luke 2:8–20

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.

Fifth Carol

Angels, From the Realms of Glory
Verses 1 and 2

#275

Sixth Reading: Matthew 2:1–11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Sixth Carol

What Child is This
Verses 1 and 2

#296

Seventh Reading: 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.

Seventh Carol

Go Tell it on the Mountain

#290

Verses 1 and 2

Responsive Prayer

P: It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

C: Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

P: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

P: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

P: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to sing for joy with the angels.

P: In the brightness of his life

C: cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

P: It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

C: In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. 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 “What Child is This” arr. by David W. Moore
Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg on oboe and Rika Uchida on piano.

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.

Communion

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.

**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.**

Distribution Hymns: 284, 293, 718

Prayer after Communion

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.

Amen.

Blessing

P: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

C: Praise God, all creatures here below!

P: You are the shepherds telling the story.

C: We tell it in the streets and across the land.

P: You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

C: We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

P: You are the angels announcing peace.

C: We live with joy and go now in peace.

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

The First Noel
Verses 1,2 and 4.

#300

Postlude “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” arr. by David W. Moore
Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg on oboe and Rika Uchida on piano.

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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...

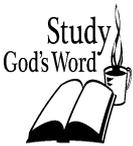
Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Kathy Bowermaster in gratitude for the blessings of this year.

A **Stephen Minister** is available in the upper room between services for people who need a listening ear, encouragement and prayer support.

Education Opportunities

Sunday School classes and **Adult Forum** will resume January 6 at 9:30 after coffee time.

Adult Forum **December 30** – Coffee and Fellowship in the Gathering Hall
January 6 – Epiphany presentation:
Pastor Bill Kallestad



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 New Year's Day.

There will be **NO Super Wednesday** activities on **Wednesday January 2**.



Super Wednesday meals will resume on January 9.

February 6: Open

Please sign up in the kitchen or give Jane a call as soon as possible (before she leaves town) at 277-6838.



Happy Birthday to: Marion Nehmer, Drake Carney, Verda Swanson, Jean Thompson, Tina Bickel, Nicholas Best, Betty Hirschauer, Elizabeth Dungan, Theodore Tussing, Bob Gweah, Penny Hansen, Sherry Merkwon, Andrew Allen, Nicholas Jessen, Conrad Thompson, Jay Wangerin, Eric Weber, Emily Scholten, Lynn Niemuth



Happy Anniversary to: Mark and Elizabeth Dungan

The program for **Men in Mission for January 3, 2013** will be by Len Ringgenberg the District Coordinator for the Iowa Kidsight

program. He will have a program on the Iowa Kidsight program throughout the state of Iowa and show you how the Lion's clubs of Iowa are saving the eyesight of hundreds of children throughout the state of Iowa.



Believe it or not, Lent is right around the corner, beginning on February 13. We would like to try having daily devotions like we do during Advent. However, more devotions will be needed since there are 40 days in the season. So that we can determine if there is enough interest, we have a sign-up sheet at Volunteer Central. If you would like to be a writer, please include your name and up to how many devotions you would be willing to write. **Please sign up on the interest list by January 15.**

This Week at Grace

SUNDAY, December 30, *no 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 in Grace Hall

TUESDAY, January 1, *New Years Day, Office closed*

No evening bible study

WEDNESDAY, January 2

No Super Wednesday activities tonight

THURSDAY, January 3

No Evening Worship tonight

9:00 a.m. – Quilters
6:30 p.m. – Men In Mission

FRIDAY, January 4

SATURDAY, January 5

SUNDAY, January 6

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship – Grace Hall
9:30 a.m. – Adult Forum, Education Hour, Brass Practice
9:30 a.m. – Stephen Minister in Upper Room
9:30 a.m. – Youth service planning meeting, High School room
9:30 a.m. – Good and Beautiful God Book Discussion - Chapel
10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion, baptism of Declan Holst



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 – 8:15 Linda Biegger, Dee Hummel, Tim Nelson, Larry

Nordeen 10:45 Mark Stumme, Jay Wangerin, Tom McCleary

Liturgist – 8:15 Paul Kallenbach 10:45 Denny Rehder

Lector – 8:15 Carol Woodruff 10:45 Amy Schmelzer

Children’s Sermon – Pastor Mike

Communion servers – 8:15 a.m. Carla Peterman, Carol Woodruff

Jan Gross, Mindy Scholten 10:45 a.m. Ellen Wonderlin, Jeff Farrell Amy

Schmelzer, Ardis Schmelzer

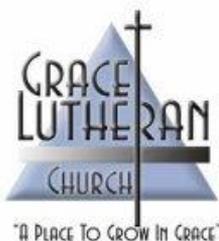
Acolytes – 8:15 Bobby Briggs 10:45 Megan Riordan

Altar Guild – Michelle Voelker, Sue Anderson, Carol Woodruff

Counters – 8:15 Tom McCleary, Chuck Denton 10:45 Jeff Farrell,

Alex Davik

Coffee – Kate Schaller



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