

Grace Lutheran Church



1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Dec 1, 2013

8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion Services

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. Heather Nelson or another daycare staff member will be the attendant each Sunday morning. If there is no one in the nursery, check in the daycare office. 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.*

***Stephen Ministry** is a one-to-one care giving ministry for those experiencing personal problems such as grieving or crisis situations. A Stephen Minister will be available in the Upper Room on each Sunday morning between services to listen and offer prayer.*

Prelude "Noel, A Little Christmas Suite, I. Andantino and III. Grazioso"
by Bertold Hummel
Jennifer WB, oboe, Bruce Anderson, clarinet and Timothy Gale, bassoon
Please prepare for worship through quiet reflection and meditation

Welcome

Hymn "The King Shall Come" #260

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

8:15 – The Schmidt/Olson Family 10:45 - The Hutton Family

Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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Prayer of the Day

**C: God above all others, show us how to place you above all else.
Remove false idols from our lives. Give us clean hearts to worship
you, and you alone. Amen.**

Please be seated

Reading: Daniel 3:1, 8-12

King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura

in the province of Babylon. ⁸Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. ⁹They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! ¹⁰You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, ¹¹and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire. ¹²There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up."

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Children's Sermon

Reading continued: Daniel 3:13-18

¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in; so they brought those men before the king. ¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? ¹⁵Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?" ¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. ¹⁷If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. ¹⁸But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up."

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Reflection

Reading Continued: Daniel 3:19-30

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, ²⁰and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. ²¹So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. ²²Because the king's command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. ²³But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire.

²⁴Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, "Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?" They answered the king, "True, O king." ²⁵He replied, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god." ²⁶Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. ²⁷And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics were not harmed, and not even the smell of fire came from them. ²⁸Nebuchadnezzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king's command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. ²⁹Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that utters blasphemy against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins; for there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way." ³⁰Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Reflection

Please stand as you are able

Hymn

“Faith of Our Fathers”

#812

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

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: With humility we ask for your faithful attention. With gratitude we accept your goodness. We pray all these in the name of Emmanuel, God with us.

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

“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”

by Mark Hayes, arr. By Douglas E. Wagner

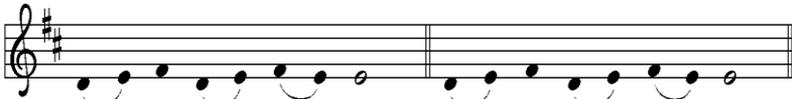
Please stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

P: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior 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-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed 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 as 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

Come to the table where Christ comes to make a home in you.
 Welcome to the feast.

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: 629, 638, 325, 824

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: God of wonder, we give thanks that you have fed us once again with this foretaste of the feast to come. Strengthen us through this gift to serve

our neighbor with joy, that all may come to see your glory reflected in the lives of your people; 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.

Hymn

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

#774

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Lift Up Your Heads”

by David Paxton

Good Morning and Welcome to Grace!



In our prayers: LeRoi Beers, Lyle Black, Vivian Feilmann, Diane Jessen, Dolores Johnson, Shyral Nelsen (Deanna Webber’s mother), Duleep Singh, Robert Schmidt (Pastor Mike’s father), Brian Vance, and the others we name before you...

Quarters received today and every First Sunday are designated for Hunger.

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** meet at 9:30 after coffee time.

Today's forum: Pastor Mike

December 8: Goodbye cake reception for Sherry Kocek

Adult Bible Study, led by Pastor Mike, meets Tuesday mornings from 8:45–10:15a.m. in Grace Hall II.



The next **New Member Class** will meet Sunday December 8 from 1-2 p.m. in the Gathering Hall with Pastor Mike.



Super Wednesday Supper: will be served by the Ridnours. *Please check the calendar if you have been thinking of signing up for a meal – we really need help in January and February.*



Happy Birthday to: Sarah Williamson, Deanna Weber, Josh Lund, Beverly Anderson, Sean Calhoun, Christopher Barks, Martha Page, Ami Bradwell, Carter Woodruff, Anna Marie Peterson, Duane Ulrick, Darlis Honnold, Aaron Brandsfield, Guy Berven

Happy Anniversary to: Ross & Cindy Peeler



Advent Wreath Lighting

Would you or your family like to light the advent wreath this month? Times are available for both the 8:15 and 10:45 service, as well as all three services on Christmas Eve. Contact Pastor Mike or Stephanie Johnson in the office.

Share an Advent Devotion

If you have not yet signed up to write an Advent devotion but would like to do so, there's still time. We invite you to go to <http://volunteersignup.org/JTEAL> and sign up for the Bible passage of your choice. More information can be found on the volunteer website. Thank you!



Bells and Brass Concert

6 p.m. Sunday December 8th in the Sanctuary . Bring a friend to share the lovely Christmas music from our own Grace Bells, Youth Bells, Grace Brass and Chancel Choir. Cookies, coffee and cider to be served after the concert in Grace Hall.



Children's Christmas Program

The program will be presented at the 10:45 service on Sunday, December 15. Dress rehearsal will be Saturday, December 14 from 10 a.m. – noon. Students will be rehearsing during the Sunday school hour (9:30—9:50) every Sunday, including December 15.

Star Tree

Help make Christmas wishes come true for someone from LSI's Early Childhood Program or Mosaic's local group homes. Please select a star from the Star Tree in the Gathering Hall. Please limit toys & gifts purchased to \$25 or less. Gifts should be turned in to Grace by December 18th.



The altar is decorated each Christmas by the donation of poinsettias from members at Grace. This year the poinsettias will be pink, white and red. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to decorate the church, complete the order form and place in the offering plate along with payment or turn into the church office. Cost

is \$8.00 per plant and payment is due with the order. ***The last day to order poinsettias will be Tuesday, December 3rd.*** You will be able to pick up your poinsettia after Sunday worship services on **December 29th.**



Advent decorations

Advent is a season that moves us. This movement is one from darkness toward light, from exile into freedom, from hope to joy. This year, we are decorating the sanctuary in such a way as to enhance this narrative. Pay attention to the changes in the sanctuary and the way that they too tell the story of this movement toward light, freedom, and joy as we prepare for the birth of the Nativity of our Lord.



If you are beginning to think about your Christmas gift giving, the Social Ministry Team would like you to consider how your gift giving can be a blessing to those who make the gifts you purchase as well as to those who receive your gift. At the Social Ministry Center in the Gathering Hall there are several copies of the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog and Lutheran World Relief's Christmas Gift catalog. The catalog items range from scarfs, jewelry, baskets and clothing items made by people from all over the world, to barnyard animals and bicycle ambulances for third world communities, to food and vaccinations for orphaned children. Stop by the Center to look over the catalogs. Take one home or visit them online at www.ELCA.org/goodgifts or www.wow.com/Lutheran+World+Relief.

Holiday Bake Sale

Companion Congregation Committee

When: December 8

Where: Grace Hall

Why: To support visitors who will come in June.

Do you have a favorite recipe for the holidays?

Do you like to share goodies?

Do you want to purchase some interesting things to serve for the holidays?

The committee will make a variety of baked goods. **HOWEVER**, we are aware of many amazing bakers at Grace. **PLEASE**, please, consider contributing some of your wonderful baked cookies, cakes, etc. to the bake sale to help bring our Tanzanian friends to Des Moines.

To contribute, call Jane Ridnour at 577-7841 or Mary Freimuth Helt at 577-6425 or just bring your goodies to Grace Hall and label CCC. We look forward to enjoying your contributions.

Weekly e-news

Are you signed up for the weekly enews? If you'd like to be added to the distribution list, or if your email has changed, please contact Kathy Bowermaster at kbowerma@hotmail.com. We will use this list for the daily Advent devotions as well, but you can easily opt out of the emails at any time. Thanks for helping us keep our lists current.



Grace Hall Winter Wonderland!

Our annual Festival of Trees is well under way and there are just a few trees left to be adopted and decorated. You are also welcome to bring in your own tree. Please let Stephanie or Jackie know, 276-6873. Reserved trees will be labeled with your group's name and will await your creative decorating touches. Choice of trees is on a first come, first serve basis... all adoptable trees are about 4 foot.

Welcome to Grace!

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

Office Assistant - Michelle Voelker

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Ushers – 8:15 Carol Krause, Jerry Westercamp, Mike Peterman, Kevin Drury 10:45 Jay Wangerin, Mike Carney, Rick Fry, Gary Nelson

Liturgist – 8:15 Paul Kallenbach 10:45 Kristina Hutton

Lector – 8:15 Julie Honsey 10:45 Ro Zimany

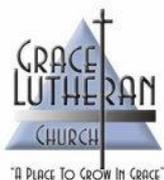
Children's Sermon – Pastor Mike

Communion servers – 8:15 Carol Woodruff, Kristin Medhurst, Karen Taylor, Cathy Barks **Acolytes** – 8:15 Kyler Medhurst 10:45 Ben Wonderlin

Altar Guild – Carol Woodruff, Diane Jessen

Counters – 8:15 Jon Rissman and Mike Carney 10:45 Tom McCleary and Alex Davik

Coffee – Karen Taylor, Cathy Barks



Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Pastor Michael Schmidt

515-276-6873

worship@gracedm.org www.gracedm.org
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