

# Grace Lutheran Church



**Christmas Day**  
December 25, 2013  
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.*





*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.

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the First Chapter.

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

**Gospel: Luke 2:8-20**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When 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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn**

“What Child is This”

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**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: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

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** "He Shall Feed His Flock from the "Messiah"

by G.F. Handel, arr. By Lyndell Leatherman

*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

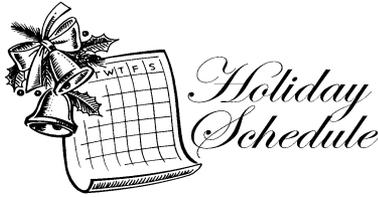


mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



**A Stephen Minister** will *not* be on site in the upper room tonight, during the Christmas Day services, or Sunday December 29.

If you are in need of a listening ear, encouragement or prayer support during the holidays, please contact the office and we will put you in contact with a Stephen Minister.



**For the full schedule of Holiday worship times and schedule changes, please pick up the weeks calendar.** The calendars can be found in acrylic holders on the walls in the front entrance and the hallway just outside Grace Hall each week. You may also see the up-to-date calendar online at [gracedm.org](http://gracedm.org) at any time.

### **Prayer Service on the Feast of the Holy Innocents**

*sponsored by the Des Moines Area Ecumenical Committee for Peace*  
Sunday, December 29th at 3 pm Grace Lutheran Church

For several years this committee has sponsored this service for the whole community. It commemorates the slaying of every child two years old and younger by Herod the Great as he sought to be sure the new "King" (Jesus) would be killed. The service lifts up the plight of children around the world who suffer because of war and poverty. Customarily, the offering is divided between a local agency and an international agency involved with helping children.

**Poinsettia deliveries:** If you have signed up to deliver poinsettias, please wait to pick up the poinsettia until December 25. Thank you for helping to spread some Christmas cheer!

### **Altar Flowers**

There are still dates available to sign up for altar flowers in 2014 including January. The 2014 Altar Flower Chart is hanging up on the brick wall in the Gathering Hall. Cost is \$38.00.

#### ***Year End Office Deposit***

Please make sure any contributions that are mailed or left at the church office for deposit in 2013 are in by

**11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 30.**

This will be our final office deposit of the year.

**Men in Mission** will meet Thursday January 2nd at 6pm for our monthly meeting. Our speaker for the evening will be our own Emmy Award winning Amy Schmelzer, KCCI Senior News Director who will discuss what it takes to put on a daily newscast. We hope you can join us - new members are always welcome.

### **Welcome to Grace!**

**Pastor** - Michael Schmidt

**Director of Laity Ministries** - Stephanie Johnson

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

**Grace Kids Care Director** - Heather Nelson

**Office Administrator** - Jacquelyn Holmes

**Office Assistant** - Michelle Voelker

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

**Ushers** – Jay Wangerin, Tom McCleary

**Liturgist** – Denny Rehder

**Lector** – Carol Woodruff

**Altar Guild** – Gail Peterson, Michelle Voelker, Jane Ridnour, Connie Heuton, Diane Jessen, Rita Stackhouse

**Counters** – Tom McCleary and Mark Stumme



## **Grace Lutheran Church**

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**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

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