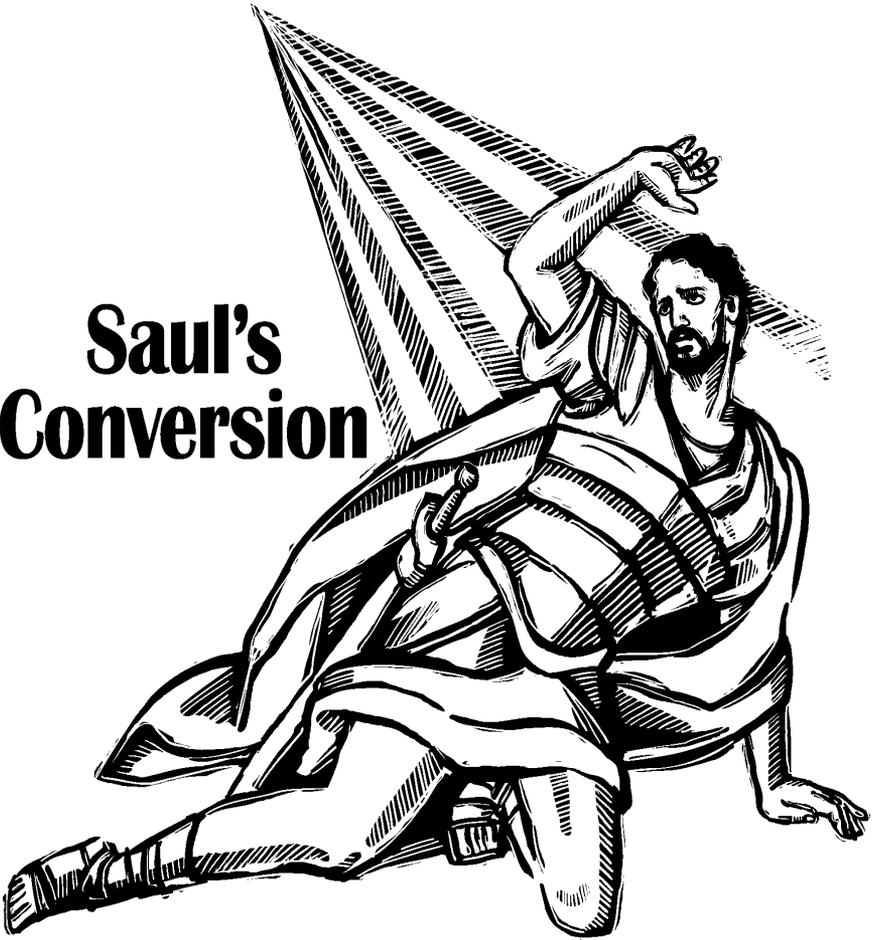


Grace Lutheran Church

Saul's Conversion



The Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2014

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. 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 ages 3 and above are welcome at the parents’ discretion, after meeting for instruction with the pastor. 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 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. 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.*

Welcome to Worship at Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Prelude

“Great God, Your Love Has Called Us”

by Aaron David Miller

Please prepare for worship through quiet reflection and meditation

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: Although we strive for goodness, we often fall short. We persecute where we should love. Forgive what we have thought, done, and said, and what we have failed to do or say. Cleanse our hearts, make us resilient to shame, and accept us for who we are. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn

“We All Are One in Mission”

#576

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
hun-gry and the poor; that
friends and fam-i-ly; for
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain



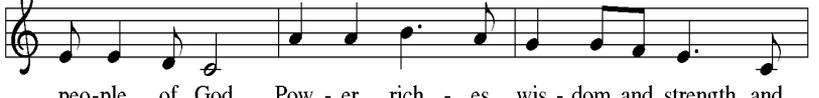
This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



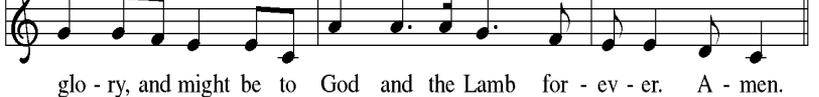
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: God of sight, you called Saul to your service, and showed him the mission you chose for him. Call us into your service, and reveal your mission for us, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Please be seated

Children's Sermon

The Reading: Acts 9:1-19

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem;¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all

who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated

8:15 Anthem "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #858

Arr. Robert Hobby

Verses 1,2,4 Congregation and Choir

Verse 3 Chancel Choir alone

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn "Here I Am, Lord"

#574

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 Intercession

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: With knowledge of your never-ending goodness, we pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

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

Temple Talk

Swat Team

The Offering

Offertory

“Elegie”

by Cesar Franck

Please stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, 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.

The musical score for 'Great Thanksgiving' consists of four systems of music. Each system has a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notes are: System 1: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6. System 2: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6. System 3: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6. System 4: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

The musical score for 'Holy, Holy, Holy' consists of three systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass clef and a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). The notes are: System 1: Treble: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, Eb5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6, D6, Eb6, F6, G6, A6, Bb6, C7, D7, Eb7, F7, G7, A7, Bb7, C8, D8, Eb8, F8, G8, A8, Bb8, C9, D9, Eb9, F9, G9, A9, Bb9, C10, D10, Eb10, F10, G10, A10, Bb10, C11, D11, Eb11, F11, G11, A11, Bb11, C12, D12, Eb12, F12, G12, A12, Bb12, C13, D13, Eb13, F13, G13, A13, Bb13, C14, D14, Eb14, F14, G14, A14, Bb14, C15, D15, Eb15, F15, G15, A15, Bb15, C16, D16, Eb16, F16, G16, A16, Bb16, C17, D17, Eb17, F17, G17, A17, Bb17, C18, D18, Eb18, F18, G18, A18, Bb18, C19, D19, Eb19, F19, G19, A19, Bb19, C20, D20, Eb20, F20, G20, A20, Bb20, C21, D21, Eb21, F21, G21, A21, Bb21, C22, D22, Eb22, F22, G22, A22, Bb22, C23, D23, Eb23, F23, G23, A23, Bb23, C24, D24, Eb24, F24, G24, A24, Bb24, C25, D25, Eb25, F25, G25, A25, Bb25, C26, D26, Eb26, F26, G26, A26, Bb26, C27, D27, Eb27, F27, G27, A27, Bb27, C28, D28, Eb28, F28, G28, A28, Bb28, C29, D29, Eb29, F29, G29, A29, Bb29, C30, D30, Eb30, F30, G30, A30, Bb30, C31, D31, Eb31, F31, G31, A31, Bb31, C32, D32, Eb32, F32, G32, A32, Bb32, C33, D33, Eb33, F33, G33, A33, Bb33, C34, D34, Eb34, F34, G34, A34, Bb34, C35, D35, Eb35, F35, G35, A35, Bb35, C36, D36, Eb36, F36, G36, A36, Bb36, C37, D37, Eb37, F37, G37, A37, Bb37, C38, D38, Eb38, F38, G38, A38, Bb38, C39, D39, Eb39, F39, G39, A39, Bb39, C40, D40, Eb40, F40, G40, A40, Bb40, C41, D41, Eb41, F41, G41, A41, Bb41, C42, D42, Eb42, F42, G42, A42, Bb42, C43, D43, Eb43, F43, G43, A43, Bb43, C44, D44, Eb44, F44, G44, A44, Bb44, C45, D45, Eb45, F45, G45, A45, Bb45, C46, D46, Eb46, F46, G46, A46, Bb46, C47, D47, Eb47, F47, G47, A47, Bb47, C48, D48, Eb48, F48, G48, A48, Bb48, C49, D49, Eb49, F49, G49, A49, Bb49, C50, D50, Eb50, F50, G50, A50, Bb50, C51, D51, Eb51, F51, G51, A51, Bb51, C52, D52, Eb52, F52, G52, A52, Bb52, C53, D53, Eb53, F53, G53, A53, Bb53, C54, D54, Eb54, F54, G54, A54, Bb54, C55, D55, Eb55, F55, G55, A55, Bb55, C56, D56, Eb56, F56, G56, A56, Bb56, C57, D57, Eb57, F57, G57, A57, Bb57, C58, D58, Eb58, F58, G58, A58, Bb58, C59, D59, Eb59, F59, G59, A59, Bb59, C60, D60, Eb60, F60, G60, A60, Bb60, C61, D61, Eb61, F61, G61, A61, Bb61, C62, D62, Eb62, F62, G62, A62, Bb62, C63, D63, Eb63, F63, G63, A63, Bb63, C64, D64, Eb64, F64, G64, A64, Bb64, C65, D65, Eb65, F65, G65, A65, Bb65, C66, D66, Eb66, F66, G66, A66, Bb66, C67, D67, Eb67, F67, G67, A67, Bb67, C68, D68, Eb68, F68, G68, A68, Bb68, C69, D69, Eb69, F69, G69, A69, Bb69, C70, D70, Eb70, F70, G70, A70, Bb70, C71, D71, Eb71, F71, G71, A71, Bb71, C72, D72, Eb72, F72, G72, A72, Bb72, C73, D73, Eb73, F73, G73, A73, Bb73, C74, D74, Eb74, F74, G74, A74, Bb74, C75, D75, Eb75, F75, G75, A75, Bb75, C76, D76, Eb76, F76, G76, A76, Bb76, C77, D77, Eb77, F77, G77, A77, Bb77, C78, D78, Eb78, F78, G78, A78, Bb78, C79, D79, Eb79, F79, G79, A79, Bb79, C80, D80, Eb80, F80, G80, A80, Bb80, C81, D81, Eb81, F81, G81, A81, Bb81, C82, D82, Eb82, F82, G82, A82, Bb82, C83, D83, Eb83, F83, G83, A83, Bb83, C84, D84, Eb84, F84, G84, A84, Bb84, C85, D85, Eb85, F85, G85, A85, Bb85, C86, D86, Eb86, F86, G86, A86, Bb86, C87, D87, Eb87, F87, G87, A87, Bb87, C88, D88, Eb88, F88, G88, A88, Bb88, C89, D89, Eb89, F89, G89, A89, Bb89, C90, D90, Eb90, F90, G90, A90, Bb90, C91, D91, Eb91, F91, G91, A91, Bb91, C92, D92, Eb92, F92, G92, A92, Bb92, C93, D93, Eb93, F93, G93, A93, Bb93, C94, D94, Eb94, F94, G94, A94, Bb94, C95, D95, Eb95, F95, G95, A95, Bb95, C96, D96, Eb96, F96, G96, A96, Bb96, C97, D97, Eb97, F97, G97, A97, Bb97, C98, D98, Eb98, F98, G98, A98, Bb98, C99, D99, Eb99, F99, G99, A99, Bb99, C100, D100, Eb100, F100, G100, A100, Bb100, C101, D101, Eb101, F101, G101, A101, Bb101, C102, D102, Eb102, F102, G102, A102, Bb102, C103, D103, Eb103, F103, G103, A103, Bb103, C104, D104, Eb104, F104, G104, A104, Bb104, C105, D105, Eb105, F105, G105, A105, Bb105, C106, D106, Eb106, F106, G106, A106, Bb106, C107, D107, Eb107, F107, G107, A107, Bb107, C108, D108, Eb108, F108, G108, A108, Bb108, C109, D109, Eb109, F109, G109, A109, Bb109, C110, D110, Eb110, F110, G110, A110, Bb110, C111, D111, Eb111, F111, G111, A111, Bb111, C112, D112, Eb112, F112, G112, A112, Bb112, C113, D113, Eb113, F113, G113, A113, Bb113, C114, D114, Eb114, F114, G114, A114, Bb114, C115, D115, Eb115, F115, G115, A115, Bb115, C116, D116, Eb116, F116, G116, A116, Bb116, C117, D117, Eb117, F117, G117, A117, Bb117, C118, D118, Eb118, F118, G118, A118, Bb118, C119, D119, Eb119, F119, G119, A119, Bb119, C120, D120, Eb120, F120, G120, A120, Bb120, C121, D121, Eb121, F121, G121, A121, Bb121, C122, D122, Eb122, F122, G122, A122, Bb122, C123, D123, Eb123, F123, G123, A123, Bb123, C124, D124, Eb124, F124, G124, A124, Bb124, C125, D125, Eb125, F125, G125, A125, Bb125, C126, D126, Eb126, F126, G126, A126, Bb126, C127, D127, Eb127, F127, G127, A127, Bb127, C128, D128, Eb128, F128, G128, A128, Bb128, C129, D129, Eb129, F129, G129, A129, Bb129, C130, D130, Eb130, F130, G130, A130, Bb130, C131, D131, Eb131, F131, G131, A131, Bb131, C132, D132, Eb132, F132, G132, A132, Bb132, C133, D133, Eb133, F133, G133, A133, Bb133, C134, D134, Eb134, F134, G134, A134, Bb134, C135, D135, Eb135, F135, G135, A135, Bb135, C136, D136, Eb136, F136, G136, A136, Bb136, C137, D137, Eb137, F137, G137, A137, Bb137, C138, D138, Eb138, F138, G138, A138, Bb138, C139, D139, Eb139, F139, G139, A139, Bb139, C140, D140, Eb140, F140, G140, A140, Bb140, C141, D141, Eb141, F141, G141, A141, Bb141, C142, D142, Eb142, F142, G142, A142, Bb142, C143, D143, Eb143, F143, G143, A143, Bb143, C144, D144, Eb144, F144, G144, A144, Bb144, C145, D145, Eb145, F145, G145, A145, Bb145, C146, D146, Eb146, F146, G146, A146, Bb146, C147, D147, Eb147, F147, G147, A147, Bb147, C148, D148, Eb148, F148, G148, A148, Bb148, C149, D149, Eb149, F149, G149, A149, Bb149, C150, D150, Eb150, F150, G150, A150, Bb150, C151, D151, Eb151, F151, G151, A151, Bb151, C152, D152, Eb152, F152, G152, A152, Bb152, C153, D153, Eb153, F153, G153, A153, Bb153, C154, D154, Eb154, F154, G154, A154, Bb154, C155, D155, Eb155, F155, G155, A155, Bb155, C156, 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Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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, 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

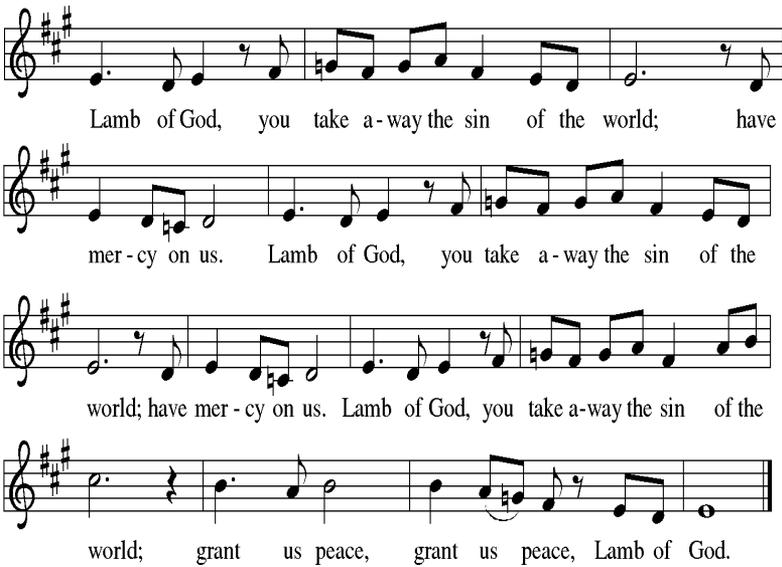
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,**

**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

P: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast.

Communion Song



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, Lamb of God.

Distribution Hymns: 608, 824, 466

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: Loving God, by your Spirit we are born anew, and you nourish us like newborns with this holy food, by which we grow into salvation. Give us grace to live as your risen daughters and sons, shining in the world with

your marvelous light, until you gather all creation to the heavenly table where Christ reigns in glory forever.

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

“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”

#676

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

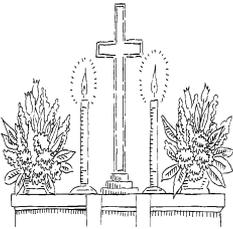
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Living for Jesus”

by Gerald Peterson

Good Morning and Welcome to Grace!



In our prayers: LeRoi Beers, Lyle Black, Sandy Briggs, Drake Carney, Haley Dostalick, Dolores Johnson, Lucy Krauss, Robert Schmidt, Brian Vance, and the others we name before you...

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Frances Best in honor and in memory of loved ones.

Quarters placed in the offering plate this and every first Sunday are for Hunger.



Happy Birthday to: John Roehrick, Vernon Fanning, Michael Newell, Jacqueline Wangerin, Dylan Rutter, Ardis Olson, Karla Swanson, Daniel Dinnauer, Hannah Honsey, Regan Nelson, Donna Kennebeck, Claire Kallestad



Happy Anniversary to:

Mark & Annette Taylor, Justin & Carolyn Andersen, Jon & Cherie Rissman, Adam & Jessica Christensen

Education Opportunities

Sunday School and Adult Forum begin each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

May 4: 9:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting (see announcements)

May 7: 6:30 p.m. Congregational Meeting (see announcements)

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

For your convenience, the current calendar can be found online at www.gracedm.org or in print form in the entry hall and the hallway just outside of Grace Hall near the Fair Trade coffee display.

Announcements

Congregational Meetings: The focus of these identical meetings on May 4 and May 7 is to discuss the context of the larger community within which Grace Lutheran Church resides. There will be information brought forward from community interviews as well as conversation starters. The first meeting focused on recalling our history as a community of faith. Now we will dive further into our context. Come and join us.

Grace Fellowship

This afternoon, May 4, 5:00 PM

Program presented by Ro and Barb Zimany on their recent cruise including Indonesia, Malaysia and other destinations.

You're Invited ...

To an afternoon of Trombone & Piano

performed by **Adam Dostalik**

This afternoon • 1:15 p.m.

Temple for Performing Arts • Grand Hall, 4th Floor
10th & Locust Street • Des Moines, Iowa



Join in celebrating the end of the program year at Grace by attending the Ice Cream Social on Sunday, May 18 at 10:00 a.m.

While socializing and enjoying an ice cream sundae there will be an opportunity for any church group, organization or team to have a picture taken for the new church directory. If you would like your group's picture taken, contact Joie Gronert by May 11 to be included in the picture-taking schedule. There will also be a stand for fun and silly prop pictures. If you have props to donate for the occasion, contact Joie Gronert at jgronert1@hotmail.com or Julie Honsey at honsey.julie@gmail.com.

Grace Diaper Drive

The Grace Diaper Drive begins today and continues through Sunday, May 25. Diapers and wipes may be placed in the box in the Gathering Hall.



VBS teen and adult volunteers wanted: For preschool week (June 9-13), we are looking for volunteers to teach or be classroom assistants, help with sign-in, and greet families as they arrive. For elementary week (June 23-27), our volunteers serve in a variety of ways, including signing families in and out, guiding groups of kids to stations, helping with aftercare, and lending a hand in the afternoons with pre-planned activities and field trips. Volunteer forms for teens and a sign-up sheet for adults are available in the Gathering Hall, or the sign up is available at

<http://www.volunteersignup.org/AEC89> for preschool week and <http://www.volunteersignup.org/C7AFL> for elementary week. Thanks for helping out. Our volunteers are key to making the VBS program successful. See you this summer!

VBS snacks: For those who would like to help out with VBS but can't be here in person during those weeks, we appreciate snack donations as well. A signup list for both weeks is available in the Gathering Hall. Thanks for your help with this!

Is someone in your family graduating from college this spring? We would like to recognize his or her accomplishment in the next newsletter, so please send a short announcement (3-5 sentences, about 60 words) to stephaniejohnson@q.com by **May 22**. You are also welcome to include a digital picture. Congratulations to the graduates!

May 4, 2014

Acts 9:1-19

Key Verses: “[Saul] fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’ He asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ The reply came, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.’” Acts 9:4-6

Time: 32 CE

Background: Saul was among the most notorious and ruthless persecutors of Christians at the time following Jesus’ death and resurrection. He was both a Jew and a Roman citizen, which gave him powerful education and status in the world. He was able to use both while he was persecuting Christians, and also after his conversion when he began preaching the word and planting churches throughout the land. His conversion was dramatic and abrupt, occurring along the road while he was on a journey to hunt Christians. His conversion required the participation of the Christian, Ananias. Ananias was also called, and both men were asked to trust one another for the conversion to take place. Both fulfilled their callings, and a powerful ministry was started on that day.

Community: What group or groups of people are being persecuted today? Who are the persecutors? What part do you play? What can you do to stop the persecution?

At Home: What has God called you to do for God and God’s people? How have you responded? Do something this week to bring you one step closer to fulfilling God’s call for your life.

Read This Week:

Monday, May 5, *Saul Preaches in Damascus*, Acts 9:19-22

Tuesday, May 6, *Saul Escapes from the Jews*, Acts 9:23-31

Wednesday, May 7, *Peter in Lydda and Joppa*, Acts 9:36-43

Thursday, May 8, *Peter and Cornelius*, Acts 10:1-16

Friday, May 9, *Peter and Cornelius*, Acts 10:17-23a

Saturday, May 10, *Peter and Cornelius*, Acts 10:23b-33

Next Week: Sunday, May 11, *Paul and Silas*, Acts 16:16-34

Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor – Rev. 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 – 8:15 Carol Krause, Jerry Westercamp, Mike Peterman, Kevin

Drury 10:45 Jay Wangerin, Mike Carney

Liturgist – 8:15 Kristina Hutton 10:45 Janet Habick

Lector – 8:15 Amy Schmelzer 10:45 Ben Wonderlin

Children's Sermon – Carol Woodruff

Communion servers – 8:15 - Julie Honsey, Ashley Lund, Ardis Schmelzer, Jan Gross

Acolytes – 8:15 Sarah Voelker, Emma Mattes

10:45 – Lydia McCleary

Altar Guild – Alice Kulzer, Gail Peterson

Counters – 8:15 Chris Lawson and Carter Woodruff

10:45 Mark Stumme and Mike Carney



Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Schmidt

515-276-6873

worship@gracedm.org

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