

Confirmation



Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship!

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2015

10:45 a.m.

Welcome! *If this is your first time worshipping at Grace Lutheran, the Visitor Center in the Gathering Hall (right outside the sanctuary) has information for you about our congregation. Please sign the guest book, ask questions, say hello! We invite you to join us for coffee, tea, and donuts in Grace Hall between services. The greeters, ushers, or announcement sheet will happily fill you in on education hour offerings, Sunday school, and the teen hangout.*

If you are interested in finding out more about membership at Grace, please contact Pastor Mike at Mike@gracedm.org, 515-276-6873.

We worship together in many ways: Standing, sitting, singing, speaking, listening. You are invited to worship in as many (or few) ways as you are comfortable and able.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

Please sign the Attendance Registration sheets which are found in each pew.

Children belong and are welcome in worship! *Children's bulletins are available from the ushers, and activity bags are available outside the doors to the sanctuary. If your children become restless, the service is broadcast in the Gathering Hall so you may still watch and participate together. The nursery is available for newborns to age 3 and is staffed by Grace Kids Care staff members.*

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.*

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one care giving ministry for those experiencing personal problems such as grieving or crisis situations. If you would like to be connected to a Stephen Minister, please contact the office for assistance.

Prelude “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” by Larry Shackley

Welcome

Please stand as you are able

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn

“A Mighty Fortress”
with Grace Brass

#505

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.

Prayer of the Day

C: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: The Word of the Lord

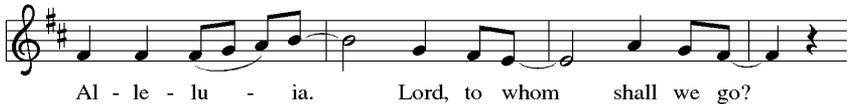
C: Thanks be to God

Psalm

“Be Still and Know” by Clifford McCormick
Chancel Choir

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Please be seated

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

“Here I Am, Lord”

#574

Please be seated

Affirmation of Baptism

Those affirming their baptism this morning are *Robert Briggs, Sierra Carney, Anthony Garcia, Hannah Jensen, Yaritza Marquez, Kyler Medhurst, Sage Speck, Sarah Voelker, Benjamin Wonderlin....*

Presentation

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

A sponsor or another representative of the congregation presents those making affirmation.

R: I present *Robert Briggs, Sierra Carney, Anthony Garcia, Hannah Jensen, Yaritza Marquez, Kyler Medhurst, Sage Speck, Sarah Voelker, Benjamin Wonderlin* who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P: Let us pray.

P: Merciful God, we thank you for these youth, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Profession of Faith

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Affirmation of Baptism

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:
to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

R: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Verses:

Robert Briggs

Isaiah 41:10

“Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.”

Sierra Carney

Psalm 29:11

“May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!”

Anthony Garcia

Romans 10:10

“For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.”

Hannah Jensen

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Yaritza Marquez

Mark 10:14

“Jesus said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs.”

Kyler Medhurst

Exodus 15:2

“The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation; this is my God and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.”

Sage Speck

Isaiah 40:13

“But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”

Sarah Voelker

Ephesians 1:16

“I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.”

Benjamin Wonderlin

Micah 6:8

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in *Robert, Sierra, Anthony, Hannah, Yaritza, Kyler, Sage, Sarah, and Benjamin* the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,

the spirit of joy in your presence,

both now and forever.

C: Amen.

Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

P: Let us rejoice with this sister and brother in Christ.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Please stand as you are able

Prayers of the People

L: Hear us, O God

C:

The image shows a musical score for piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a treble and bass clef, with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we". The second system continues the music and lyrics: "pray. Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray." The score uses various chordal textures and melodic lines in both hands.

P: Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through Christ our 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.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all,

C: **And also with you!**

Please be seated

Announcements

The Offering

Offertory

“Beautiful Savior”

by John Carter

Please stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hill were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together

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: 528, 542, 592

Prayer after Communion

P: We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers who are homebound. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who share in this meal and receive your words of new life. Strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant 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.

Sending Hymn: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" #579

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude "I'm Gonna Sing/Ain't - a That Good News"
by Larry Shackley



Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor – The Rev. Michael Schmidt

Director of Laity Ministries - Stephanie Johnson

Director of Music Ministries – Emma Stammer

Developer of Youth and Family Ministry – Ellen Rothweiler

Organist - Jennifer Wohlenhaus Bloomberg

Grace Kids Care Director - Heather Nelson

Church Administrator - Jacquelyn Holmes

Director of Communications - Michelle Voelker

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Ushers – Jay Wangerin, Aaron Brandsfield, Courtney Brandsfield, Eric Weber

Acolytes – Ivy Lawson, Laria Preston

Liturgist – Alex Davik

Lector – Maya Lint

Communion Assistants – Kathleen Uehling, Susanne Carney, Jenie Schmidt, Kristin Medhurst

Altar Guild – Barb Zimany, Loree Nelson

Counters – Mark Stumme and Chris Lawson

Coffee – The Briggs Family



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