



# Grace Lutheran Church

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

**Welcome to Worship!**

**The Baptism of Our Lord**

January 10, 2016 8:15 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!*** *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](mailto: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**                    “By Peaceful Waters”     by Donald Lee Moore  
*Silence is kept for reflection*

*Please stand as you are able*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God’s mercy.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: God of peace,

**C: we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. 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.**

**Gathering Hymn**                    “Loving Spirit”                    #397

**Greeting**

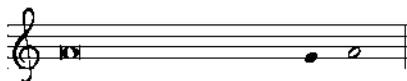
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**Opening Hymn**

*We are a “singing church,” so we follow the advice of the apostle Paul to teach and admonish “one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Colossians 3:16).*

## Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



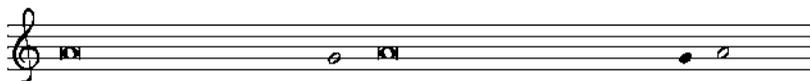
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## Canticle of Praise

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



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



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 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 and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: **Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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: Isaiah 43:1-7

<sup>1</sup>But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

L: the Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

### Reading notes:

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring them home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

**Chancel Choir**      “The Baptism of Jesus” by Austin C. Lovelace

## Children’s Sermon

### Psalm 29



- <sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- <sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R**
- <sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup>**the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- <sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.
- <sup>8</sup>**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R**
- <sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”
- <sup>10</sup>**The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**
- <sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace. **R**

*Please stand as you are able*



## Gospel

The Gospel Lesson is a selection from the accounts of the life of our Lord recorded by the four evangelists, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. John. Because Christ is with us in the Gospel reading, we stand to honor his presence. We also sing short verses before and after the reading of the Gospel.

### Gospel Notes:

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

<sup>15</sup>As the

## 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. Luke, the third Chapter.

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

## Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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** "Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized" #304

## **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:** Lord, in your mercy,

**C:** hear our prayer.

**P:** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all of your beloved for whom we pray, trusting in your 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.

## **Passing of the Peace**

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

**C:** And also with you!

## **Creed**

*The Creed is our response to God's speaking to us. Martyrs and saints have been confessing this creed since 325 A.D. The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" which means, "I believe!"*

## **Prayers of the People**

*This prayer in the service follows the directive of the Apostle Paul to young Timothy, a pastor: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live in peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."*

*Please be seated*

## Announcements

Temple Talk

Rich Snyder

## The Offering

Offertory

“A Reflection”

by Robert Schumann

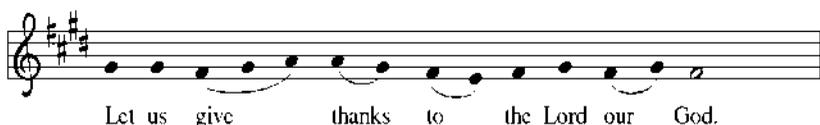
*Please stand as you are able*

## Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

C: Amen

## Great Thanksgiving



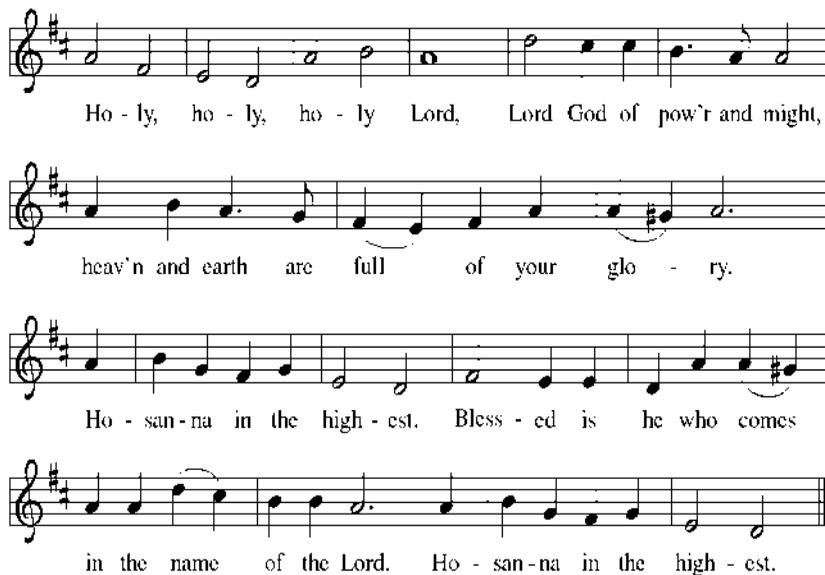
## Preface

*Preface means “introduction.” The pastor and people get ready to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation about how to celebrate the meal. These words state why we should give thanks using words and ideas appropriate for the season of the church year.*

## Preface



## Holy, Holy, Holy



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

## 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 by 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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

## Holy Holy Holy

*Sanctus is a Latin word meaning "Holy." The Sanctus contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem. We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.*

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: Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

*Please be seated*

### Lamb of God

**We will receive by intinction this morning:** Receive the host (wafer). 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).

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:** 472(3x), 482, 522

*Please stand as you are able*

### **Prayer after Communion**

P: We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our 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:** “Arise, Your Light Has Come!” #314

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** “Rise Up and Serve the Lord” by Patricia Lou Harris



### ***Blessing***

*Here as we leave to continue our journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land, God uses the pastor to say words that were said first through Aaron in the wilderness more than 3,000 years ago.*





## Welcome to Grace!

**Ministers** —The People of Grace

**Pastor** – The Rev. Michael Schmidt

**Visiting Pastor** - The Rev. Mark Mattes

**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** – Kevin Krause, Chuck Denton, Leslie Denton

**Acolytes** – Kayleigh Medhurst

**Liturgist** – Matt Jordahl

**Lector** – Carol Woodruff

**Children’s sermon** – Stephanie Johnson

**Altar Guild** – Carol Woodruff, Kathy Bowermaster, Sue Anderson

**Counters** – Carter Woodruff and Chuck Denton

**Coffee** – Bill Kallestad



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