



You are not alone.

**Welcome to Worship!**

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Grace Lutheran Church**

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

September 4, 2016 9:45 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](mailto:Mike@gracedm.org), 515-276-6873. **The next New Member class will be Sunday, October 23, 1:00 p.m. There will be a reception of new members during worship on November 20.**

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. **When following along in the bulletin, the congregation is invited to read the bolded items (often marked with a C:) aloud.**

**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

“Two Preludes”

by Alexander Scriabin

*Please stand as you are able*

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the only Sovereign, who dwells in light; Christ Jesus, who came to save sinners; the Holy Spirit, who lives within us.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: God of overflowing grace,

**C: we come to you with repentant hearts. Forgive us for shallow thankfulness. Forgive us for passing by the ones in need. Forgive us for setting our hopes on fleeting treasures. Forgive us our neglect and thoughtlessness. Bring us home from the wilderness of sin, and strengthen us to serve you in all that we do and say; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God... in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## Opening Hymn

“Blest Are They”

#728

### 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

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for  
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the  
Lord. For your  
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your  
word, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have  
Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.  
mer - cy. A - men.

## Canticle of Praise

*Refrain*  
Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

**C: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

*Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the Lord; or choose death by following other gods.*

<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **Children's Sermon**

### **Psalm 1**

*You are invited to read the bolded lines responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## Gospel Acclamation

### *Celtic Alleluia*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Fourteenth Chapter.

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

### **Gospel: Luke 14:25-33**

*Jesus speaks frankly about the fearsome costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.*

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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** “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

#667

## 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:

The image shows a musical score for a piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of the prayer, and the second system covers the second line, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray."

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting  
in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**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**                    “Mouvement Plastique”            by Vladimir Rebikoff

*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**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed...

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Lord's Prayer**

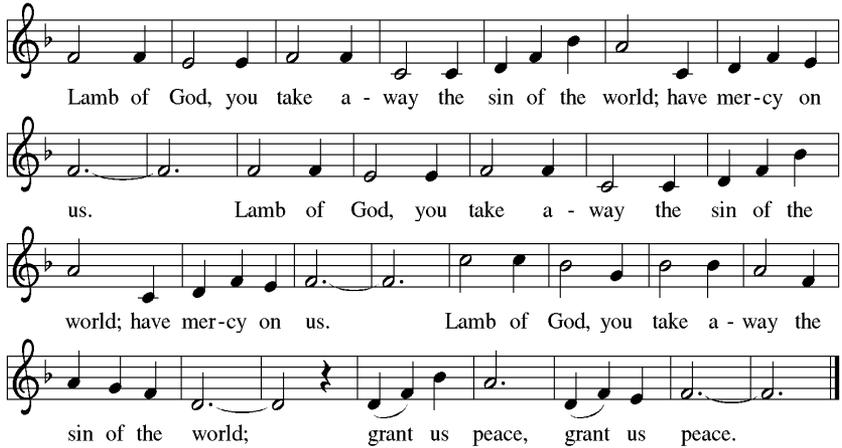
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

**Invitation to Communion**

P: Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.

*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:** 779, 793, 423

*Please stand as you are able*

### **Prayer after Communion**

P: We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their homes. Go with us on our way, and equip us that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

### **Blessing**

P: The Lord bless you... in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:** "My Life Flows On In Endless Song"

#763

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in Peace, share the Good News.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

"God of Our Fathers"

by Ron Boud



## Welcome to Grace!

**Ministers** – The People of God

**Pastor** –

The Rev. Michael Schmidt .....mike@gracedm.org

**Director of Music Ministries** –

Emma Stammer .....emma@gracedm.org

**Developer of Youth and Family Ministry** –

Ellen Rothweiler .....ellen@gracedm.org

**Interim Organist** –

Rich Snyder

**Grace Kids Care Director** –

Heather Nelson ..... heathernelsondc@msn.com

**Church Administrator** –

Denise Friesth .....denise@gracedm.org

**Director of Communications** –

Michelle Voelker ..... michelle@gracedm.org

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

**Ushers** – Norm and Lenora Iverson, Jay Wangerin, Bill Jensen, Carter Woodruff

**Acolytes** –

**Liturgist** – Janet Habick

**Lector** – Ro Zimany

**Children's Sermon** – Pastor Mike

**Altar Guild** – Carol Woodruff, Marion Nehmer

**Counters** – Mark Stumme, Tom McCleary

**Coffee** – Karen Taylor



## Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Office hours: Mon-Fri 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

515-276-6873

worship@gracedm.org

www.gracedm.org