



Grace Upon
Grace

Welcome to Worship!

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

September 18, 2016 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. **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 items in bold (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

“Prelude”

by Paul Creston

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

“Give Thanks”



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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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-more!

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

Refrain

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

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

Refrain

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

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

Refrain

God; to make all things new.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

C: God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances,⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,

and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Children’s Sermon

Psalm 113

You are invited to read the lines in bold responsively.

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high above all nations; God’s glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

⁶**but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸**enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia

The image shows two staves of musical notation for a Celtic Alleluia. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes on both staves.

Gospel Acclamation

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

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

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest man who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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 “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

#608

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 the 'Prayers of the People' section. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. 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.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system concludes with a final chord and a double bar line.

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.

Reception of New Members

8:15 Lon and Denise Friesth, and their children Tana Friesth Perry, Michael Friesth, Lisa Friesth, Adam Friesth, and Eric Friesth.

10:45 Monte, Cheryl, Calvin, and Levi Wilner

Welcome

P: Let us welcome these sisters and brothers in Christ to this community of faith.

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.

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

“As the Deer”

by Douglas Wagner

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: 466, 472, 474

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: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

#843

Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, share the Good News.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“The God of Abraham Praise” by John Carter

Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor –

The Rev. Michael Schmidtmike@gracedm.org

Director of Music Ministries –

Emma Stammeremma@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 – Kiley Brandsfield

Liturgist – Denny Rehder

Lector – Felicia Adams

Children’s Sermon – Ellen Rothweiler

Altar Guild – Carol Woodruff, Marion Nehmer

Counters – Chris Lawson and Bill Jensen

Coffee – Ross Peeler

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Pastor Michael Schmidt

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