



Welcome to Worship

Advent 1

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

November 27, 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.*

*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

“He Is Our Peace”

by Carol Tornquist

Welcome

Please stand as you are able

Gathering Hymn

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

#250

Advent Candle Lighting and Prayer

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

C: Amen.

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



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
2	Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.

Verse 1

People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: “Let us walk in that light of that Lord now!”

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Children's Sermon

Psalm 122

You are invited to read the lines in bold responsively.

¹I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

²**Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

⁴**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

⁸**For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."

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. Matthew, the twenty-fourth Chapter.

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

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, unexpected event that will bring salvation or judgment upon people caught up in the usual affairs of daily life. He urges people to be alert and expectant.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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 “In the Bleak Midwinter” #294

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: Let us pray,

C: "O Little Town"



P: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior.

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 "Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown" by Melody Bober

Please stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

P: Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light.

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

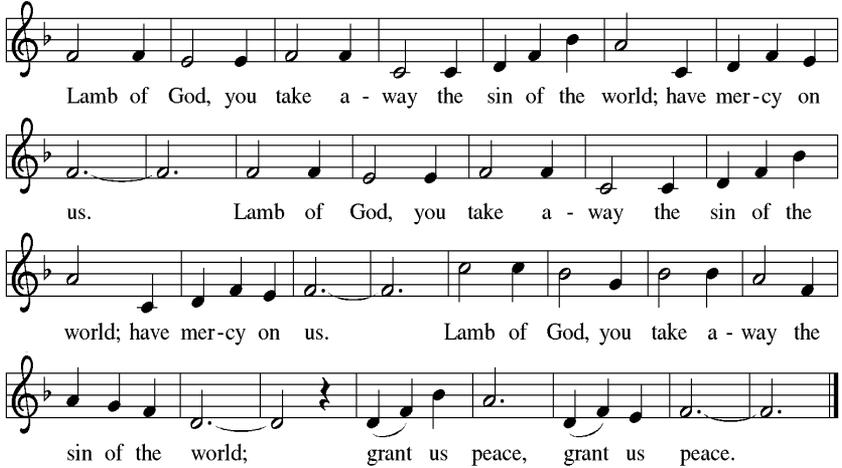
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is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

Invitation to Communion

P: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

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.

Offering Hymns: 528(3x), 592, 595

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their home. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our 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: “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts“

#658

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude “Great Is He, The King of Glory!”

by Anne Organ



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

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

Director of Communications –

Michelle Voelkermichelle@gracedm.org

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Ushers – Jay Wangerin, Mike Carney, Rick Fry

Acolyte -

Liturgist – Mary Helt

Lector – Felicia Adams

Children's Sermon – Carol Mattes

Altar Guild – Connie Heuton, Jane Ridnour

Communion Assistants – Suzanne Carney, McKenzie Carney, Melissa Young, Sierra Carney

Counters – Chris Lawson and Bill Jensen

Coffee – Karen Taylor



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Pastor Michael Schmidt

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