

Welcome to Worship!
The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

February 12, 2017 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 February 26th class at 1:00 p.m. with receiving of new members in worship on March 12th.*

*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 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” by Lloyd Larson

Please stand as you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Loving God,

C: we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. 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

“By Gracious Powers”

#626

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.

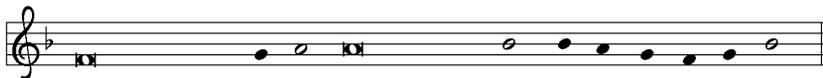
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



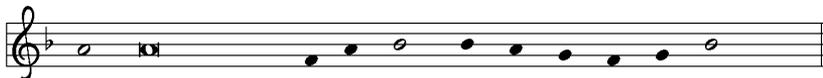
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



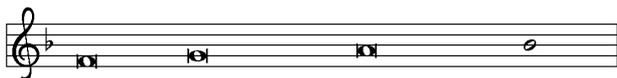
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right

hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace

to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -

lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

A - men, a - men.

P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,
C: **O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The Lord sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If 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. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹I 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, ²⁰loving 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

Anthem

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

by Sandra Eithun

Grace Bells

Children's Sermon

Psalm 119:1-8

You are invited to read the lines in bold responsively.

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,**

³who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

⁴You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

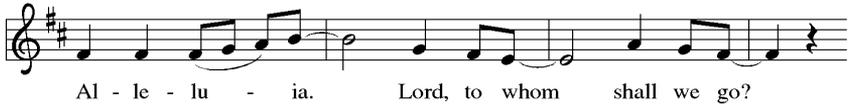
⁶Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

⁷I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Fifth Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’
²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has
already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye
causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose
one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.
³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it
is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body
to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a
certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his
wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery;
and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times,
‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to
the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it
is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by
Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your
head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be
‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil
one.”

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 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#631

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: Hear us, O God

C:



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

P: Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

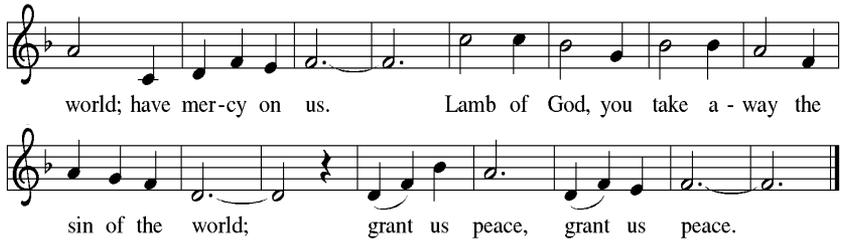
All: God of love, have mercy on us. Pour out your Spirit upon us. Center us in worship. Hold us in grace. Strengthen us in love. Send us forth in mission. In Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

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

C: And also with you!

Please be seated



Offering Hymns: 474, 479, 528

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. Bless those who go forth to share this sacrament with our sisters and brothers in their home. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now— today, tomorrow, every day— that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

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: "I Come With Joy: #482

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude "The Power of Your Love" by Jane Holstein



Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Schmidt

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Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor –

The Rev. Michael Schmidtmike@gracedm.org

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Emma Stammeremma@gracedm.org

Developer of Youth and Family Ministry –

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

Organist –

Rich Snydersnydersathome@att.net

Grace Kids Care Director –

Heather Nelsonheathernelsondc@msn.com

Church Administrator –

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

Director of Communications –

Michelle Voelkermichelle@gracedm.org

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Ushers – Norm Trentmann, Jay Wangerin, Bill Jensen, Barb Burley

Acolytes – Charla Preston

Liturgist – Denny Rehder

Lector – Felica Adams

Children’s Sermon – Pastor Mike

Altar Guild – Marion Nehmer, Carol Woodruff

Communion Assistants – Lori Fry, Kathleen Uehling, Mary Helt,
Alex Davik

Counters – Mark Stumme and Tom McCleary

Coffee – Youth – Cinnamon Roll Sunday