

**Welcome to Worship!**

**Palm Sunday**

April 9, 2017 10:45 a.m.

**Grace Lutheran Church**

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

**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 on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. with receiving of members on May 21<sup>st</sup>.*

*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.*

*Please stand as you are able*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

**C: Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: Merciful God,

**C: you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. 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.**

*Procession with Palms: Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the week leading up to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday. We begin the celebration of Palm Sunday by processing with palm branches as we sing the Gathering Hymn. This is done as a way of placing all of us with the crowd that gathered as Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a colt. The crowd waved palm branches as a sign of hope.*

**Opening Hymn**

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

#344

**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.**



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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

**C: Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

*The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.*

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand

up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Chancel Choir      “The Coming of the Lord”      by Austin Lovelace

### Children’s Sermon

#### Psalm 31:9-16

*You are invited to read the lines in bold responsively.*

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, “You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”**

*Please stand as you are able*

#### Gospel Acclamation



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Twenty-First Chapter.

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

### **Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11**

*Jesus enters Jerusalem*

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>“Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

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 Cross of Christ I Glory”

#324

## 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

P: Hear us, O God

**C: Stay with Me**

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four staves. The first two staves are for the voice (treble and bass clefs) and the last two are for the piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and pray. Watch and pray." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady accompaniment.

P: Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your steadfast love; 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!**

*Please be seated*

**Announcements**

**The Offering**

**Offertory**      “What Wondrous Love is This?”      By John Carter

*Please stand as you are able*

**Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

**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,**

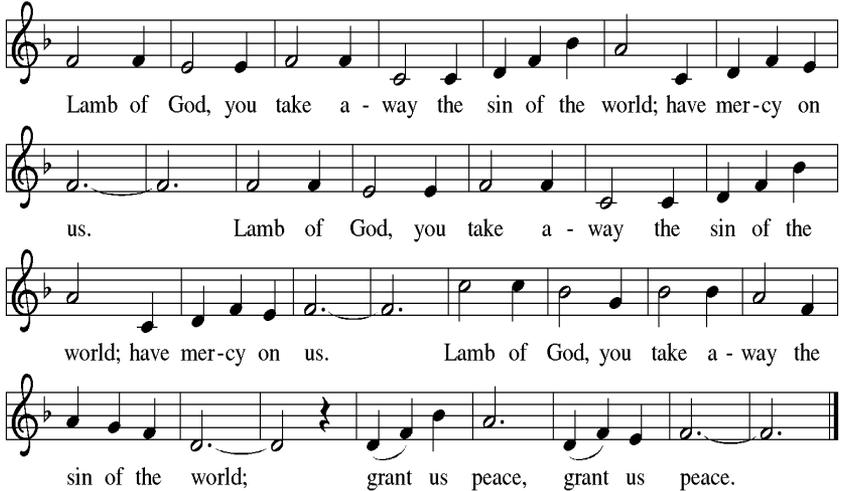
**forever and ever. Amen**

## Invitation to Communion

P: Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

*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:** 592, 616(3x), 712

*Please stand as you are able*

### Prayer after Communion

P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Bless those who share this meal with our sisters and brothers in their home. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through 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:** "Prepare the Royal Highway"

#264

**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

“Lift High the Cross”

by Larry Shackley



## Welcome to Grace!

**Ministers** – The People of God

**Pastor** –

The Rev. Michael Schmidt .....[mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org)

**Director of Music Ministries** –

Emma Stammer .....[emma@gracedm.org](mailto:emma@gracedm.org)

**Developer of Youth and Family Ministry** –

Ellen Rothweiler.....[ellen@gracedm.org](mailto:ellen@gracedm.org)

**Organist** –

Rich Snyder .....[snydersathome@att.net](mailto:snydersathome@att.net)

**Grace Kids Care Director** –

Heather Nelson .....[heathernelsondc@msn.com](mailto:heathernelsondc@msn.com)

**Church Administrator** –

Denise Friesth.....[denise@gracedm.org](mailto:denise@gracedm.org)

**Director of Communications** –

Michelle Voelker .....[michelle@gracedm.org](mailto:michelle@gracedm.org)

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

**Ushers** – Jay Wangerin, Tom McCleary, Dee Hummel, Gary Nelson

**Acolyte** –

**Liturgist** – Denny Rehder

**Lector** – Ro Zimany

**Children's Sermon** – Carol Mattes

**Altar Guild** – Connie Heuton, Jane Ridnour

**Communion Assistants** — Lori Fry, Alex Davik, Mary Helt, Kathleen Uehling

**Counters** – Mark Stumme and Tom McCleary

**Coffee** – Karen Taylor



## Grace Lutheran Church

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**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

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