

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

### **Welcome to Worship**

### **The Ascension of Our Lord**

May 25, 2017, 1:00 p.m.

*The Mission of Grace Lutheran Church is to bring the good news of God's saving grace, through Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection to all to be free to be the people of God.*

**Prelude**

“Setting of "Come Away To The Sky"”

Held

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us come into the light, the revealing and healing light of God.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of grace and glory,

**C: you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn**

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”

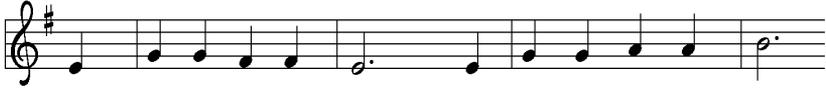
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**Greeting**

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## Canticle of Praise



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray...

**C: Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### **The Lesson**

### **Acts 1: 1-11**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." <sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 47

R:   
God has gone up with a shout.

**R** <sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a joyful sound.

**2**For the **LORD Most High is to be feared: a great king over all the earth,**

<sup>3</sup>who subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet;

**4**who chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom God loves. **R**

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

**6**Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises. **R**

<sup>7</sup>For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with a song.

**8**God reigns over the nations; God is enthroned on high.

<sup>9</sup>The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham. The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted. **R**

*Please stand as you are able*

### Gospel Acclamation

C:   
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Twenty-Fourth Chapter.

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

**Gospel: Luke 24:44-53**

*On the day of his ascension, Jesus leaves his disciples with a commission, a blessing, and a promise of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>44</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." <sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn**

"Alleluia! Sing To Jesus"

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**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: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer**

P: Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: 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**

“Song”

Handel

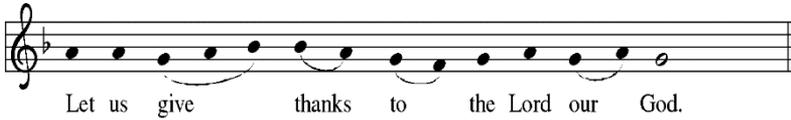
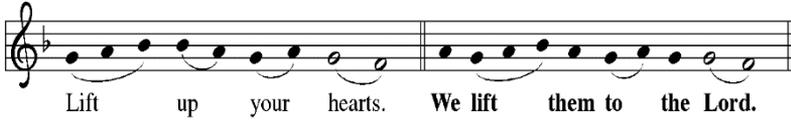
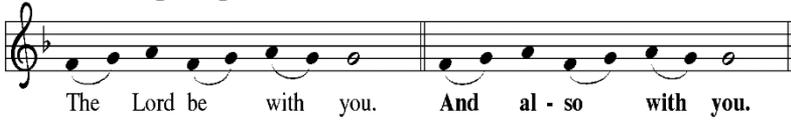
*Please stand as you are able*

### **Offering Prayer**

P: Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.

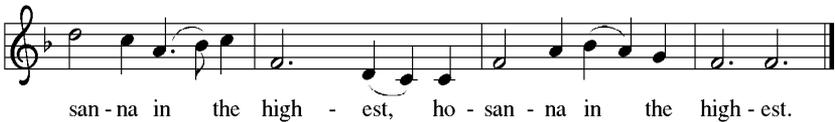
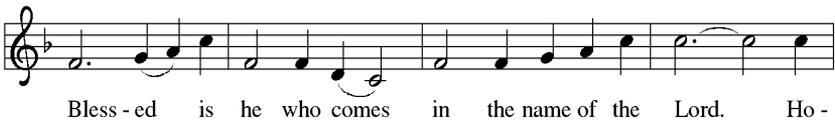
**C: Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving



## Preface

### Holy, Holy, Holy



## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

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: Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.  
Hallelujah!

*Please be seated*

## Communion Song



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

**Distribution Hymns:** 793, 423, 466

**Communion** – *We welcome all people to the Lord’s Table to receive Holy Communion. Communion will be by intinction: Receive the host (wafer), then dip the host into the chalice (cup) to receive wine (red) or grape juice (clear); depart by the side aisle. Gluten free wafers and a separate glass chalice are available by request on the pulpit side (left when facing altar).*

*Please stand as you are able*

## Prayer after Communion

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus’ resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C: Amen**

**Blessing**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn**

“We Know That Christ is Raised”

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**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

“Setting of "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"”

Held



Altar flowers given by Grace’s Women’s Board and Lydia Circle to the Glory of God.

The offering today will be presented to the DMARC Food Pantry.

Refreshments after the service prepared and served by Lydia Circle.

## 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 .....[rvdlsnyder@centurylink.net](mailto:rvdlsnyder@centurylink.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

**Usher:** Barb Powers

**Lector:** Deanna Snyder

**Communion Assistants:** Mary Helt, Barb Powers



## Grace Lutheran Church

3010 52nd St. Des Moines, Iowa 50310

**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

515-276-6873

[mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org)

[www.gracedm.org](http://www.gracedm.org)