



Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2017

9:00 a.m.

OUR STATEMENT OF MISSION

Grace Lutheran Church is a community of faith, centered in worship, held in grace, strengthened in love, sent forth in mission, in Jesus' name.

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 the Gathering Hall after service. 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. There will be a new members class, Sunday, August 20th at 10:30 in the Gathering Hall.

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.

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.*

Listen! God Is Calling! *An East African Worship Service*

(based upon Tanzanian hymns and hymn tunes)

Prelude "Come, Let Us Eat" & "Gracious Spirit, Hear Our Pleading"

Arr. by Anne Krentz Organ

Please stand as you are able

"Listen God is Calling!"

Brightly

Neno lake Mungu (T.M. 112)



Leader Congregation

Lis - ten lis - ten God is call - ing through the Word in - vit - ing,



of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. joy.



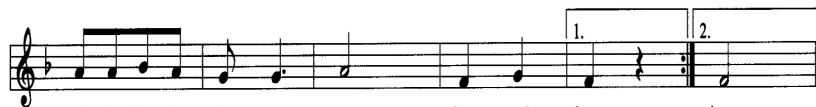
Hear the in - vi - ta - tion, sent forth to all.



Let us come and wor - ship; an - swer God's call.



Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing through the Word in - vit - ing,



of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. joy.

Tanzanian Liturgy

As we worship today, we celebrate the ways that we walk with our brothers and sisters in Christ from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, especially those of the Msindo and Mararo parishes with whom we share a Companion Congregation relationship. At Grace Lutheran Church, every time we have a month with five Sundays, we set the fifth one aside as a time to share in a worship setting with a Tanzanian Liturgy as well as the Altar candle stands. In doing so, it serves as a reminder of our journey with these brothers and sisters, and others throughout the world.

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Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

C: Amen.

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

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Eternal God our creator,

C: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our 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.

Gathering Hymn “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading” #401
Sing vss. 1-3

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

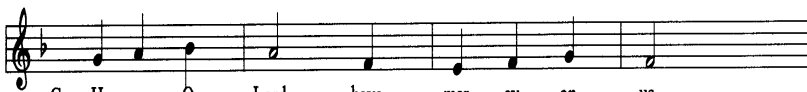
C: And also with you.

Kyrie (Prayerfully)

Mfurahini (T.M. 33)



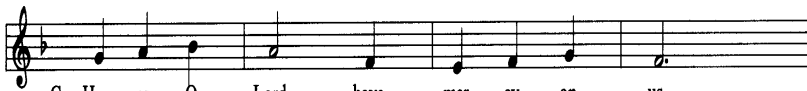
L. Let us now pray in peace to the Lord.



C. Hear us O Lord, have mer - cy on us.



L. For peace and sal - va - tion we pray to the Lord.



C. Hear us O Lord, have mer - cy on us.



For the whole world, for the one Church of God;



for Chris - tian u - ni - ty here and a - broad.



L. Help and de - fend us; com - fort and save.



C. Hear us O Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Hymn of Praise (Joyfully)

Kule Mbinguni (T. M. 62 arr.)



Leader

1. Praise God the Fa - ther; praise God the Son;

Congregation

2. On - ly be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther

3. Now let our voi - ces join as we sing;



with Ho - ly Spir - it all three in one.
you are the Sav - ior; there is no o - ther.
praise and thanks - giv - ing glad - ly we bring.



Refrain (All)

Lord now we praise you for your sal - va - tion,



your grace ex - tends to each land and na - tion.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...

C: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy.

By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you."⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David,

because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne to-day. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Joyce Lewis and Mary Jane Tesdall

Psalm 119:129-136

You are invited to sing the response and read the lines in bold responsively.

When your word is opened, it gives
light and understanding.

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word is opened it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me and be gracious to me, as you always do to those who love your name. R**

¹³³Order my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Reading Notes:

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well. In verse 13 God gives him additional honor and riches beyond compare.

Gospel Acclamation

Old Lutheran liturgies often call this verse the "Gradual" which is based upon a Latin word meaning "step". We step up, with the Gospel acclamation, to hear the words of eternal life.

Gospel Notes:

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.

¹³⁵Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your teaching. R

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation

Glo - ry to you, Lord, mas - ter and king;
Words of sal - va - tion you came to bring.

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

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

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." ⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:

Praise be to Christ, who loved and for - gave;
con - quer - ing death, he rose from the grave.

Please be seated

Sermon

“Who needs a parable?”

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

#879

Apostles’ 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.

Creed

The Apostle’s Creed is in a way the “Reader’s Digest Bible”. If you took the Bible and did to it what Southern chefs do to green beans (cook them for 24 hours), you would find the Apostle’s Creed at the bottom of the pot when you lifted the lid.

Prayers of the People

In the middle of worship, we pause to pray not only for ourselves and our loved ones and their needs, but for everyone: the whole church, the world, and its leaders, and the local community. This kind of all-

inclusive prayer is at the heart of Christian worship precisely because Jesus Christ died and rose again, not just for a few but for all people.

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

Announcements

The Offering

Offertory

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Arr. by Mark Hayes

Please stand as you are able

Ahimidiwe Mwamba Wangu (T.M.72)



1. Thanks be to God who gives us all things:
 2. With grate - feul hearts our gifts we now bring;
 3. Come to his ta - ble now and re - ceive,



Health peace and har - vests from the good land:
 All that we have has come from a - bove.
 Where bread is bro - ken and the wine poured,



All that we "own" we have but re - ceived
 With thank - ful voic - es let us now sing
 Sal - va - tion now for all who be - lieve



From God's own hand.
 Of God's great love.
 In Christ our Lord.

Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this 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: Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread. Our Lord's body let us take together.

Please be seated

The Distribution

"Jesus, O Lamb of God" is a haunting tune that comes from a traditional Maasai cry for help.

Prayerfully (free meter)

Engoipapayai Enanu (T.M.26)



Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the

Lord's Prayer

We gather in prayer in response to the gospel heard in the proclamation that this meal is given "for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin." We find ourselves at the very heart of the gospel message. Christ not only speaks to us in the supper, but gives us what he is speaking about: his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

We will receive by pouring chalice this morning: Receive a cup. Receive and eat the bread. Proceed to the wine or grape juice. Communion bread is gluten free.



sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the

sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the

sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Distribution Hymns: 479, 482, 484

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

P: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

C: Amen

Joyfully

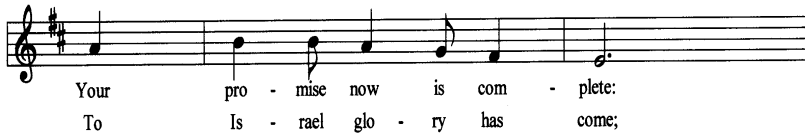
Kwa Neema na Pendo (T.M.64)



1. Lord, send your ser - vants in peace.
2. God's sav - ing work has been shown:



Ac - cord - ing to your good word.
A light all na - tions may see.



Your pro - mise now is com - plete:
To Is - rael glo - ry has come;



Sal - va - tion for the whole world.
God's peo - ple now are set free!

Refrain



So thank the Lord for such love - Give Thanks!



Tell ev' - ry - one what he's done.



Re - jice and car - ry his name - Go Forth!



That all may wor - ship the Son.

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.

Dismissal

With the dismissal from worship, we are sent to serve the Lord through the unique gifts, talents, and relationships of each one of us. This is not a conclusion of service, but a start to what the next week will bring in our walk with Christ. So it is fitting that the response is a resounding "Thanks be to God."

Sending Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

#660

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: Thanks be to God.**Postlude**

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

By Conrad Kocher, arr. by Lloyd Larson

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Welcome to Grace!

Ministers – The People of God

Pastor –

The Rev. Michael Schmidt mike@gracedm.org

Minister for Music Ministries –

Emma Stammer emma@gracedm.org

Minister for Youth and Family –

Ellen Rothweiler ellen@gracedm.org

Organist –

Rich Snyder snydersathome@att.net

Pianist-

Kathy Bowermaster

Grace Kids Care Director –

Heather Nelson heathernelsondc@msn.com

Minister for Administration –

Denise Friesth denise@gracedm.org

Minister for Communications –

Michelle Voelker michelle@gracedm.org

Office Assistant for Worship

Jessica Flannery jessica@gracedm.org

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Ushers – Kevin Krause, Chuck Denton, Bill Jensen and Jay Wangerin

Acolytes –

Liturgist – Denny Rehder

Lector – Julie Honsey

Communion Assistants – Martha Mitchell, Loree Nelson, Tim Nelson, and Julie Honsey

Altar Guild – Gail Peterson

Counters – Mike Carney and Carter Woodruff

Coffee – Ross Peeler



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