

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

### **Welcome to Worship** **Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

November 19, 2017

8:15 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 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.*

*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**

“At the River”

Spong

*Please stand as you are able*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who calls us into an everlasting hope, who guides us to springs of the water of life, who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom.

**C: Amen.**

P: One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: O God, our merciful redeemer,

**C: we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor’s face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God... the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn** “My Lord, What A Morning”

#438

**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.



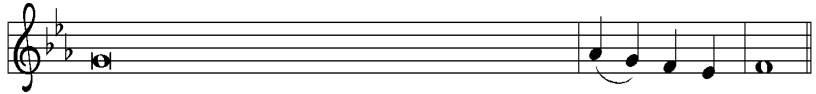
Lord, have mercy.

**Opening Hymn**

*We are a “singing church,” so we follow the advice of the apostle Paul to teach and admonish “one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Colossians 3:16).*

## Kyrie

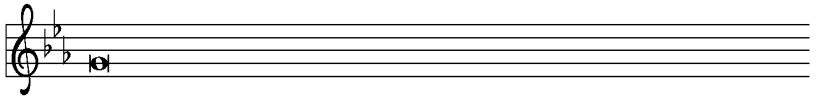
*In Mark 10 we hear of Jesus' journey through Jericho to Jerusalem where he encounters Bartimaeus, a blind man, who hears this is Jesus and shouts, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me." From that time to the present, Jesus' followers have prayed that same prayer to God: "Kyrie Eleison" ("Lord, have mercy"). We are totally dependent upon God, so we pray for mercy in every aspect of life.*



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



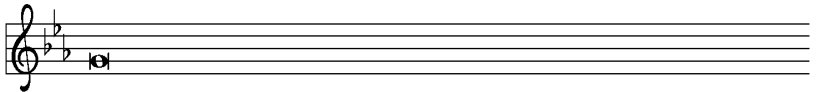
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## Canticle of Praise



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Hymn of Praise

Quite often in the Bible, Jesus eats with people and shares parables about banquets and feasts. This hymn points us to the Lord's Supper as a foretaste of the feast to come. This is an opportunity for us to hear and sing the hymn of praise with all the saints in heaven.

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

## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Reading** Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." <sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. <sup>14</sup>The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. <sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Anthem**

"God is Our Refuge"

John Carter

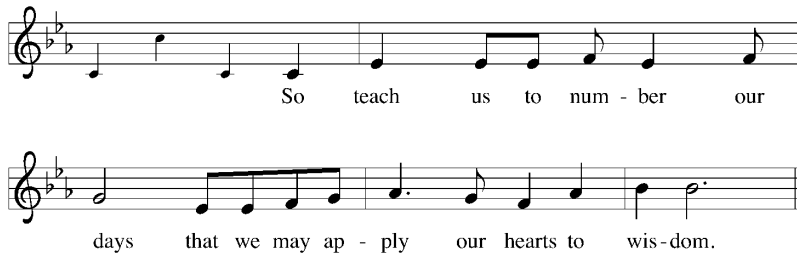
*Chancel Choir*

### **Reading Notes:**

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

Psalm 90:1-12

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



<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

<sup>2</sup>**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."

<sup>4</sup>**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night; R**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

<sup>6</sup>**in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

<sup>8</sup>**Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. R**

<sup>9</sup>When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

<sup>10</sup>**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

<sup>11</sup>Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?

<sup>12</sup>**So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. R**

## Gospel

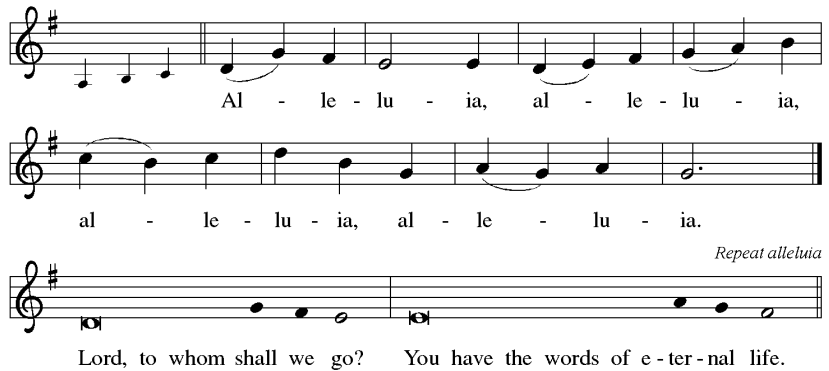
The Gospel Lesson is a selection from the accounts of the life of our Lord recorded by the four evangelists, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. John. Because Christ is with us in the Gospel reading, we stand to honor his presence. We also sing short verses before and after the reading of the Gospel.

## Gospel Notes

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

Please stand as you are able

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## Gospel Acclamation

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

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

## Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the



ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’ <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

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

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

“Now What?”

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn of the Day**

“Lord of Light”

#688

**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: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

9

**Creed**

*The Creed is our response to God's speaking to us. Martyrs and saints have been confessing this creed since 325 A.D. The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" which means, "I believe!"*

**Prayers of the People**

*This prayer in the service follows the directive of the Apostle Paul to young Timothy, a pastor: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests,*

*prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for Kings and all those in authority, that we may live in peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”*

P: Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus 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**

**Temple Talk**

Well-Being 2020 Task Force

**The Offering**

**Offertory**

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

Gieschen

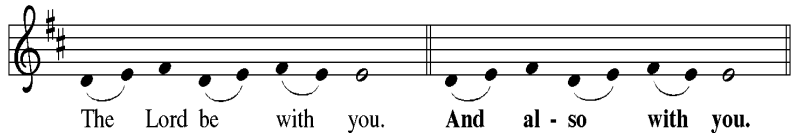
*Please stand as you are able*

**Offering Prayer**

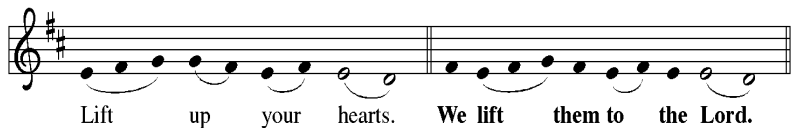
P: Creator God, you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

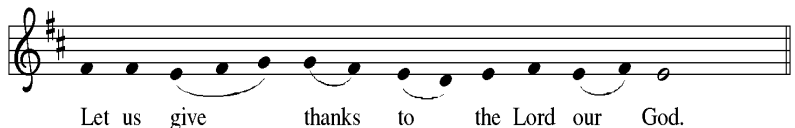
**Great Thanksgiving**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

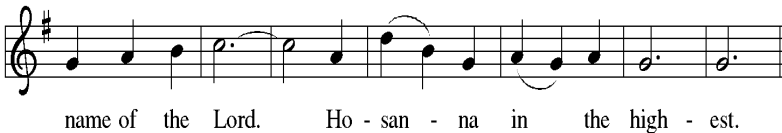
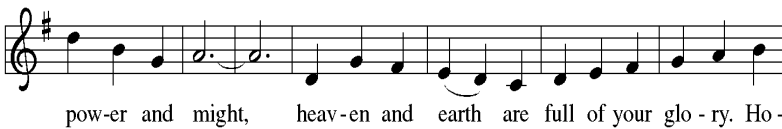


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**Preface**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**



**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**

**Preface**

*Preface means "introduction." The pastor and people get ready to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as how to celebrate the meal. These words state why we should give thanks using words and ideas appropriate for the season of the church year.*

**Holy, Holy, Holy**  
*Sanctus is a Latin word meaning "Holy." The Sanctus contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem. We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.*

## Invitation to Communion

P: Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

*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.

***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.***

**Distribution Hymns** 542, 616(3x), 793

*Please stand as you are able*

### Prayer after Communion

P: Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come...with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, 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** "Praise and Thanksgiving"

#689

### Dismissal

P: Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Behnke

### Blessing

*Here as we leave to continue our journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land, God uses the pastor to say words that were said first through Aaron in the wilderness more than 3,000 years ago.*