

# **Grace Lutheran Church**

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

# Welcome to Worship Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022 9:00 a.m. Liturgical worship with piano Eclectic Setting

#### **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 worshiping at Grace Lutheran, we're glad you are here!

The following information pertains to how things normally work. Pandemic changes to worship and communion will be announced in worship, and/or in the margins of the bulletin. However our mission, the love we feel for all people, and the ways we care for each other will remain unchanged.

You can learn more about our congregation

- •on our website at www.gracedm.org
- •by asking a greeter or other members of the congregation
- •picking up one of our brief brochures from the Visitor Center in the Gathering Hall, or newsletters in the Entryway.

Worship Online: During times when we are online-only, or when you cannot be with us in person, you can participate in worship on our website or Facebook page @gracelutherandm .

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.

**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 needed, the **Kids Corner** in the Gathering Hall has puzzles, books, coloring pages and Megablocks! This space is intended to offer a place for children to be and play if they need to step of out of worship and during fellowship times.

**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.

If you are interested in finding out more about membership at Grace, please contact Pastor Mike at Mike@gracedm.org, 515-276-6873.

#### **Prelude**

#### Welcome

Please stand as you are able
Thanksgiving for Baptism
P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

P: We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# **Gathering 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).



### 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**

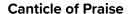


# Kyrie

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.





P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

# **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray,

C: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

#### First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. 38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. 41He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. 42This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

**Anthem** "Brother James' Air" (Psalm 23) arr. Douglas Wagner Chancel Choir

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again; And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I pass through shadow's death,

## **Reading Notes**

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

Yet will I fear no ill; For Thou art with me; and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes; My head with oil Thou dost anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my days Will surely follow me; And in my Father's heart always My dwelling place shall be.

# Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Please stand as you are able

#### **Reading Notes**

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**



### **Gospel Acclamation**

P:The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the Tenth Chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.** 

#### **Gospel: John 10:22-30**

<sup>22</sup>Åt that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

P: The Gospel of the Lord **C: Praise to you, O Christ** 

Please be seated **Sermon** "Explore"

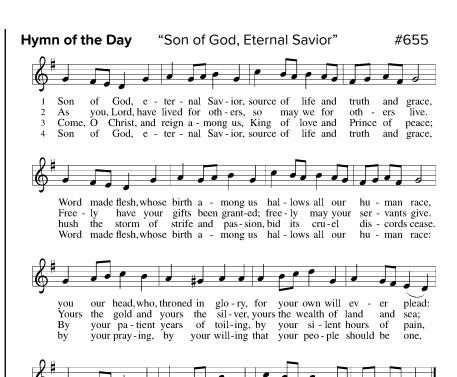
Please stand as you are able

## 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 responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.



us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.

quench our fe-vered thirst of plea-sure, stem our self-ish greed of gain. grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

your boun-ty held in sol - emn trust will be.

#### 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!"

#### 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,

but stew-ards of

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People**

P: God, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.** 

P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.** 

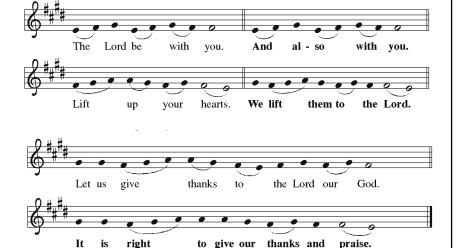
All: God of love, have mercy on us. Pour out your Spirit upon us. Center us in worship. Hold us in grace. Strengthen us in love. Send us forth in mission. In Jesus' holy name. Amen.

#### **Passing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all, C: And also with you!

Please be seated **Announcements** 

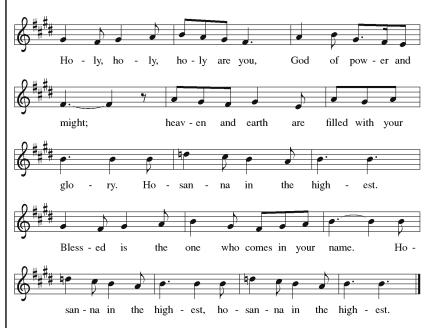
## **Great Thanksgiving**



**Preface** 

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 thanksaiving 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."

### 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 in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

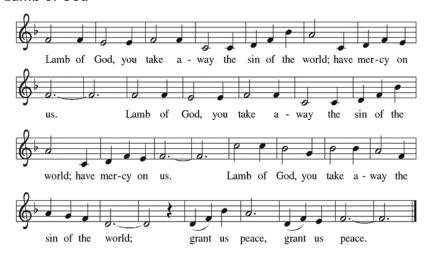
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

Please be seated

#### Lamb of God



#### Distribution

Please stand as you are able

#### **Prayer after Communion**

P: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

#### 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.

#### Communion

Today we will receive Holy Communion through wafers and pouring chalice. If you require aluten free, this will be available in prepackaged form. The line forms from the front pews to the back, with the ambo side of the aisle go*ing first followed by* the organ side. Please use the Hand sanitizer provided before you receive the wafer. Then proceed to the tray of cups. Both wine and grape juice will be available. Please place your cup in the basket by the side aisle as you return to the pew.

### 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.



#### **Dismissal**

- P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
- C: Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

#### Welcome to Grace!

Ministers —the people of Grace

Pastor -

The Rev. Michael Schmidt .....mike@gracedm.org

Minister for Worship and Music -

Emma Stammer .....<u>emma@gracedm.org</u>

Organist -

Rich Snyder.....<u>rich@gracedm.org</u>

Minister for Administration -

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

Minister for Communications -

Michelle Voelker .....<u>michelle@gracedm.org</u>

Office Assistant for Worship

Jessica Flannery.....jessica@gracedm.org

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

Usher - Larry Nordeen

**Greeter** – Cathy Watson

**Liturgist** – Jenny Rehder

**Lector** – Felicia Adams

**Communion Assistants** – Carol Woodruff, Tammy Denton

**Tech Crew** – Greg Boeschen, Jamie Briggs, Chuck Denton, Paul Nelson, Jon Rissman, & Amy Schmelzer

**Counters** – Jon Rissman & Mike Carney



# **Grace Lutheran Church**

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# **Pastor Michael Schmidt**

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