



Life

does not consist
in the abundance
of possessions

LUKE 12:15

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 31, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Liturgical worship with organ

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, 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 Mega-blocks! 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.

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

(based upon Tanzanian hymns and hymn tunes)

Prelude A response to feelings of despair and meaningless as expressed in scripture, consider the choral prelude on the hymn "I call on you, Lord Jesus Christ, grant me grace, let me not despair." - J. S. Bach

Welcome

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.
Leader Congregation
Hear the in - vi - ta - tion, sent forth to all.
Let us come and wor - ship; an - swer God's call.
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.

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.

*Text ©2000 James C. and Judith A. Bangsund, Makumira University College (www.bangsund.co.tz).
Tunes (and refrain from "Listen, Listen' God Is Calling") ©1987 Makumira University College of Tumaini University (Tanzania).*

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

L: Merciful God,

C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

L: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Blessed Assurance”

#638

Greeting

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

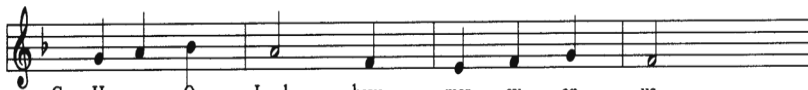
C: And also with you.

Kyrie (Prayerfully)

Mfurahini (T.M. 33)



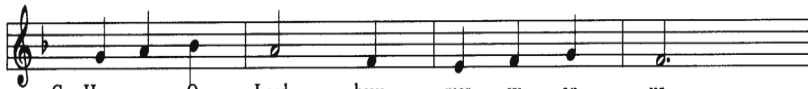
L. Let us now pray in peace to the Lord.



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.



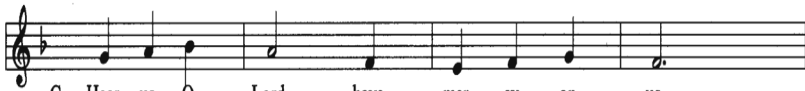
For the whole world, for the one Church of God;



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.

L: The Lord be with you.

5 C: And also with you.

Reading Notes:

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,

C: O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Please be seated

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

L: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 49:1-12

¹Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

²**you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.**

³My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴**I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶**the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?**

⁷One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another’s life;

⁸for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,

⁹in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.

¹⁰For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

¹²Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation



Reading Notes:

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

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 ac-

clamation, to hear the words of eternal life.

Gospel Notes:

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

Gospel Acclamation

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the Twelfth Chapter

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

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:

Musical notation for the acclamation. The first line of music is on a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Below the notes are the lyrics: "Praise be to Christ, who loved and for - gave;". The second line of music is on a treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Below the notes are the lyrics: "con - quer - ing death, he rose from the grave." The music ends with a double bar line.

Please be seated

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

#686

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: Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

L: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

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

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

Please be seated

Announcements

Please stand as you are able

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.

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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

L: In the night in which he was betrayed...

L: 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
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

L: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

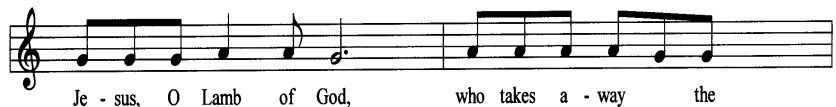
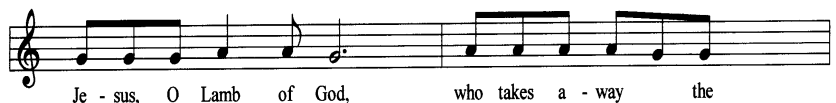
Please be seated

The Distribution

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

Prayerfully (free meter)

Engoipapayai Enamu (T.M.26)



Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Distribution

Please stand as you are able

Prayer after Communion

L: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

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!

Communion

Today we will re-ceive Holy Communion through wafers and pouring chalice.

The line forms from the front pews to the back, with the ambo side of the aisle going first followed by the organ side.

Please use the hand sanitizer provided before you receive the gluten free 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.

Refrain



So thank the Lord for such love - Give Thanks!



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



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



That all may wor - ship the Son.

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."

Blessing

L: 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.

Sending Hymn "Arise, Your Light Has Come!"

#314

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Continuing the theme of light from the sending hymn, hear a Fantasia on the hymn "I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light." - J. Behnke

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