

Here is the  
bridegroom!  
Come out  
to meet him

MATTHEW 25:6



## **Grace Lutheran Church**

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

### **Welcome to Worship**

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

November 12, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Liturgical worship with piano

Setting 4

## 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!*

*You can learn more about our congregation*

- on our website at [www.gracedm.org](http://www.gracedm.org)
- by asking a greeter or other members of the congregation
- picking up one of our newsletters in the Entryway.

*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 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](mailto:Mike@gracedm.org), 515-276-6873.**

**Prelude**                    “My Lord, What a Morning”  
arr. Anne Krentz Organ

**Welcome**

*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**C: Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Holy One,

**C: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

L: Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**            “Come, We that Love the Lord”            #625

**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**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

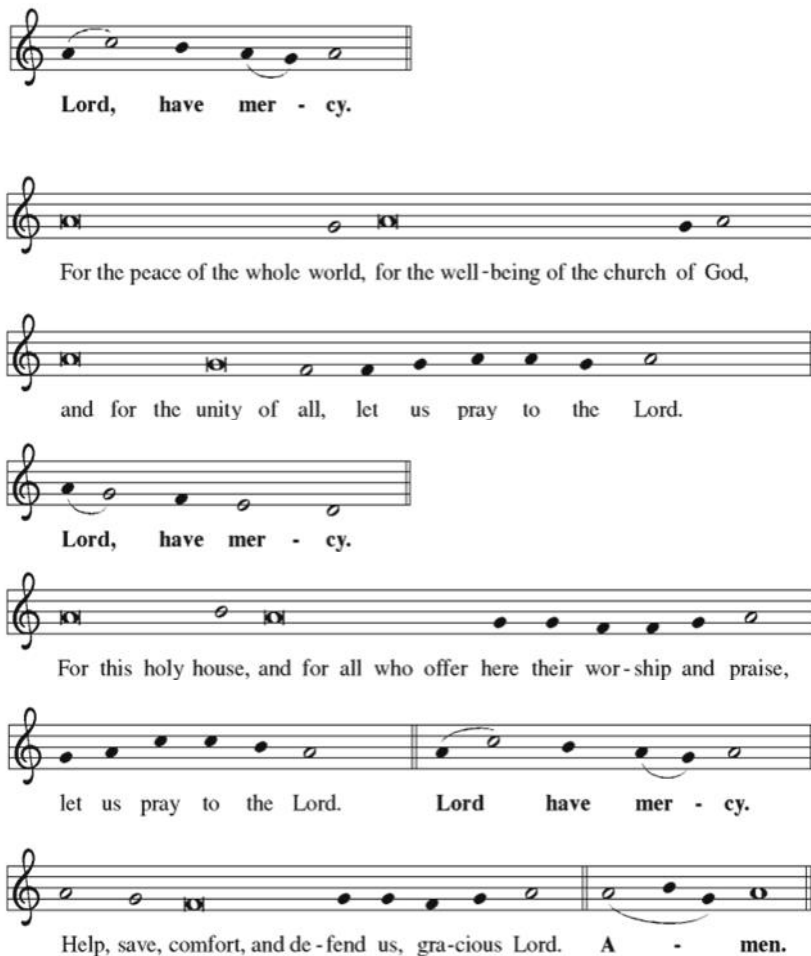


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Kyrie**

*"Lord have mercy" is a translation of the ancient Greek "Kyrie Eleison" (pronounced KEE-ree-yay e-LAY-son) which is an ancient prayer sung in response to the forgiveness of sins. The Kyrie is not*

asking forgiveness:  
rather it is sung in  
awe of Christ Jesus  
who has overcome  
sin and death.



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 wor-ship and praise,

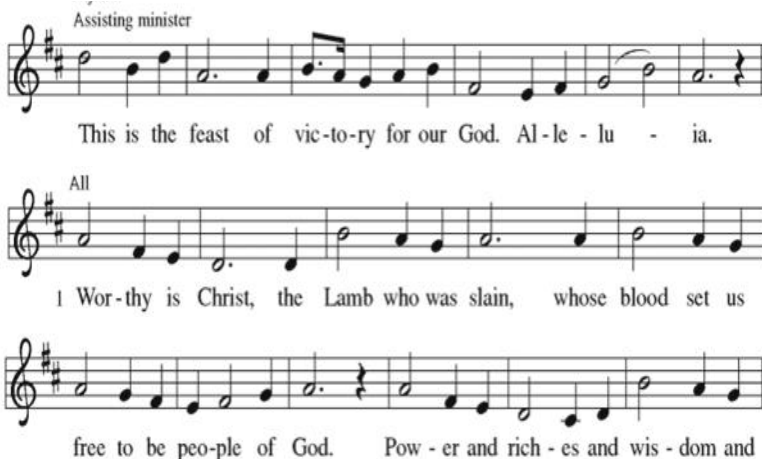
let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

### **The Hymn of Praise**

One of two hymns of  
praise are generally  
sung after the Kyrie.  
The hymns, "Glory to  
God in the highest"  
and "This is the feast  
of victory," give the  
congregation the  
opportunity to praise  
God and express joy  
because Jesus is our

### **Canticle of Praise**



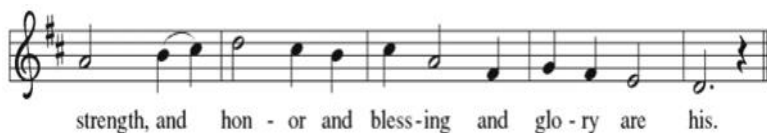
Assisting minister

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All

I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

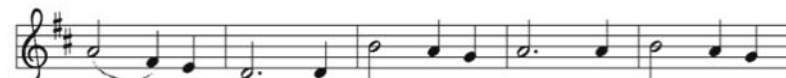
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,

**C: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

<sup>18</sup>Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; <sup>19</sup>as if some-one fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the

victorious Savior.

"Glory to God in the highest," Luke

2:14; "This is the feast of victory," Revelation. 5:12

### Prayer of the Day

*This prayer is a bridge to the next part of the service. It also sets the tone for the day. It is related to the prescribed lectionary readings for the day.*

### Reading notes

*In the days of Amos, people thought that*

*the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.*

### **Reading notes**

*Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.*

house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 70**

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

<sup>2</sup>**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

<sup>3</sup>Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

<sup>4</sup>**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**

<sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## Gospel Acclamation



L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the Twenty-Fifth Chapter.

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

### Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord

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

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**Hymn of the Day** “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness” #488

**Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*We stand for the reading of the Gospel as a way to show respect. The Gospels share with us the story of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

## Gospel Notes

*Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.*

***Prayers of the People***

*We respond to God's love by speaking to God, and expressing our concern for the whole church, for all people in the world, and for people in our congregation.*

**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:** Hear us, O God.

**C:** Your mercy is great.

**P:** We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and 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**

**L:** The peace of the Lord be with you all,

**C: And also with you!**

*Please be seated*

**Announcements**

*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**Litany and Blessing of Commitment Cards**

**P:** Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We pray your blessings be upon these commitments and pledges, an opportunity to give back from the abundance that you have first given us.

**C: Into your hands, almighty God, we place ourselves: our minds to know you, our hearts to love you, our wills to serve you, for we are yours. Into your hands, incarnate Savior, we place ourselves: receive us and draw us after you, that we may**



follow your steps; abide in us and enliven us by the power of your indwelling. Into your hands, O hovering Spirit, we place ourselves: take us and fashion us after your image; let your comfort strengthen, your grace renew, and your fire cleanse us, soul and body, in life and in death, in this world of shadows and in your changeless world of light eternal, now and forever.

P: We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving from ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all worship and praise, now and forever.

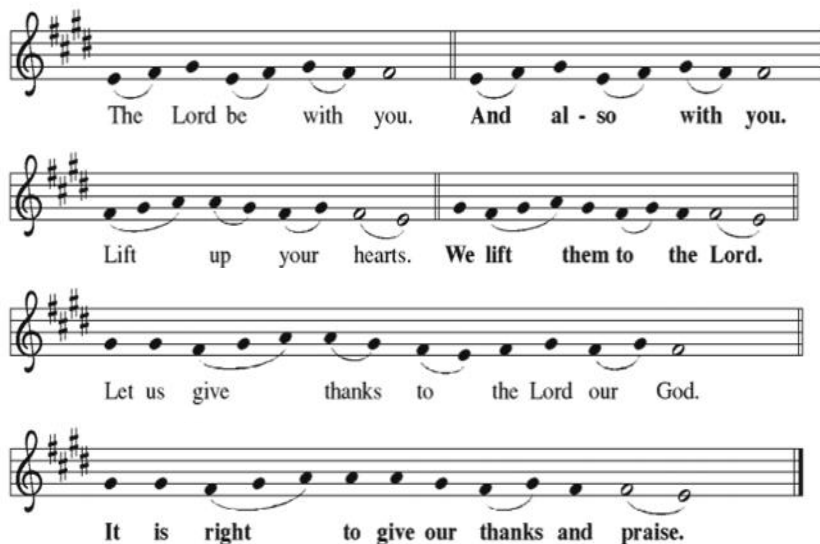
**C: Amen**

### Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray,

**C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving



### Preface

### Offering

*As Lutherans, we believe that Christian giving is about worship AND action. As an option to the offering plate, scan this QR code to access our secure digital offering plate.*



### The Great

**Thanksgiving:** *These are among the oldest words in the liturgy. We lift our hearts to give attention to God.*

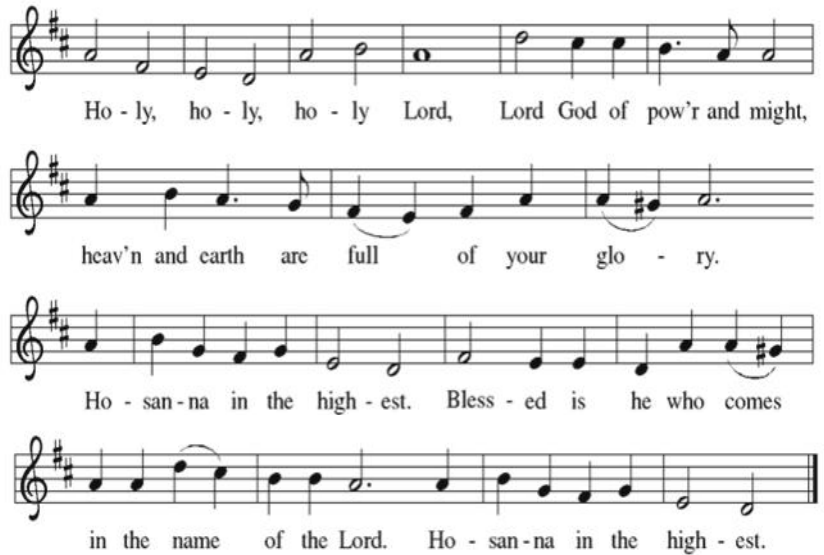
### Preface:

*We praise God for God's mighty acts. These words change with the seasons of the church year and serve as an invitation into the Sanctus.*

**Sanctus:**

Latin for "Holy." The congregation responds to hearing of God's mighty acts by singing Holy, Holy, Holy which Isaiah and Revelation say is sung by all the angels in heaven and will be also sung by all creatures and people here on earth.

**The Lord's Prayer**  
is, in a way, our table grace before the meal. As we gather in this meal, the table, or altar, becomes the collection of all of our tables for meals at home.

**Holy, Holy, Holy****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.

**The 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.**

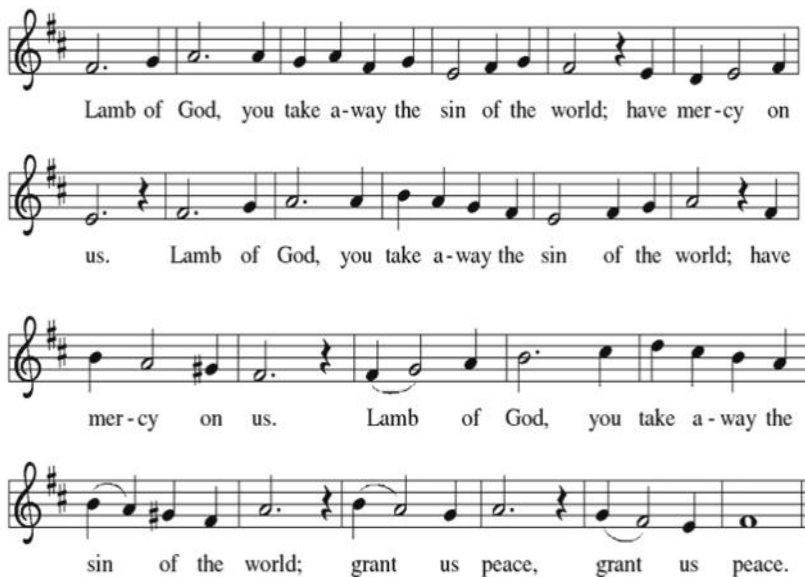
**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Invitation to Communion**

P: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

*Please be seated*

## Lamb of God



*Distribution Hymns: #752 (3x), #466, #479, #471*

*Please rise in body or in spirit*

### **Prayer after Communion**

L: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**C: Amen**

### **Blessing**

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. 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**

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

#244

### **Dismissal**

L: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

setting, Anne Krentz Organ

## **Communion**

*Today we will receive 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.*

### **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."*

## Welcome to Grace!

**Ministers** —the people of Grace

**Pastor** –

The Rev. Michael Schmidt .....[mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org)

**Vicar**

Adam Barden .....[adam@gracedm.org](mailto:adam@gracedm.org)

**Organist** –

Rich Snyder.....[rich@gracedm.org](mailto:rich@gracedm.org)

**Pianist**

Kathy Bowermaster

**Minister for Communications** –

Michelle Voelker .....[michelle@gracedm.org](mailto:michelle@gracedm.org)

**Office Assistant for Worship**

Jessica Flannery.....[jessica@gracedm.org](mailto:jessica@gracedm.org)

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

**Usher** – Aaron Bransfield

**Greeter** – Richard Snyder

**Liturgist** – Jenny Rehder

**Lector** – Jenny Rehder

**Communion Assistant** – Carol Woodruff

**Altar Guild** – Jane Ridnour & Sue Anderson

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

**Counters** – Mark Stumme & Mike Carney

**Coffee & Donuts** – Tammy Denton



### Grace Lutheran Church

5201 Urbandale Avenue  
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**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

515-276-6873

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