

I was
hungry
and you
gave me
food

MATTHEW 25:35



Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship

Christ the King

November 26, 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
- 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, 515-276-6873.

Prelude Reflecting the Good Shepherd theme in the lessons, a setting of "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" - Irish Folk Tune arranged by C. Lang

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 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" #502

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
victorious Savior.
"Glory to God in the

Canticle of Praise

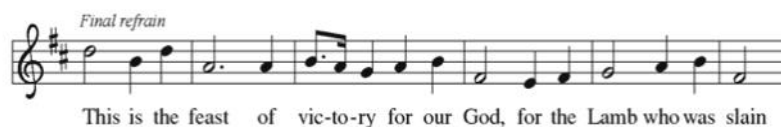
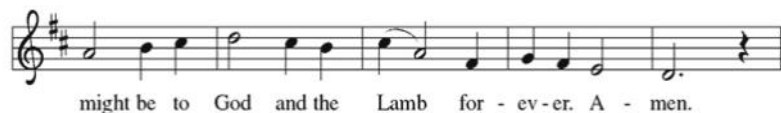
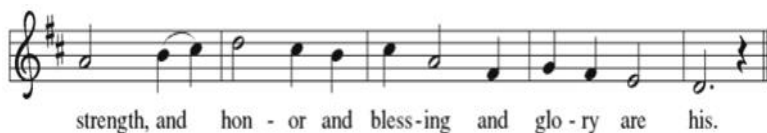
Assisting minister

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



L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,

C: O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, 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: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when

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

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad

shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalms 95:1-7a

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Reading notes

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so

that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a

from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

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 compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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 "Will You Come and Follow Me" #798

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***

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

Prayers of the People

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: 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

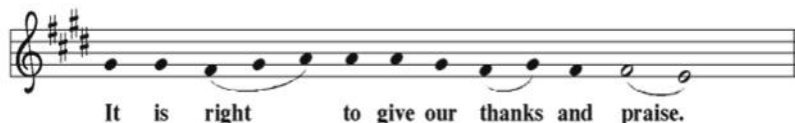
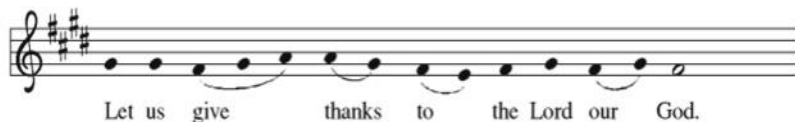
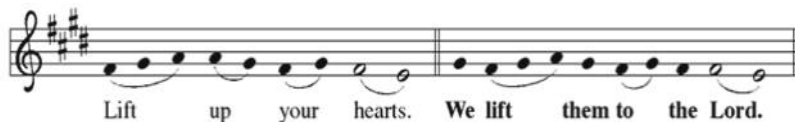
Please rise in body or in spirit

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

*people in the world,
and for people in our
congregation.*

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.

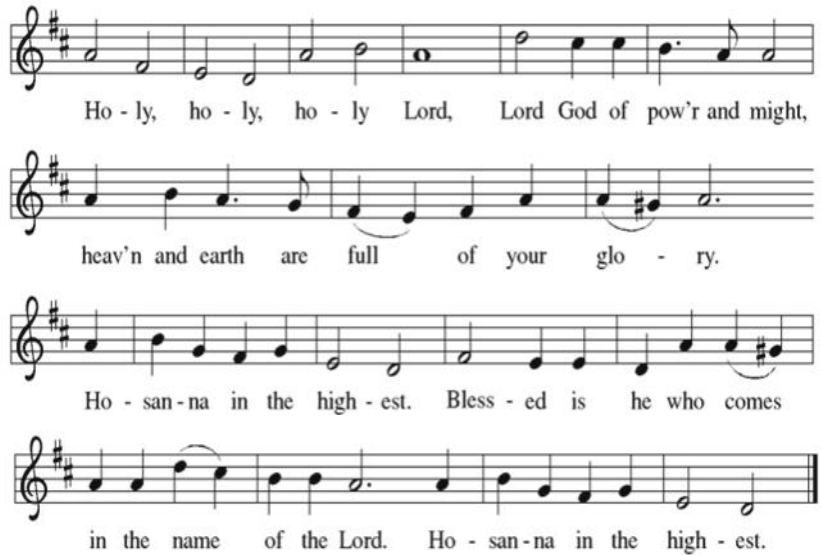
Preface:
We praise God for God's mighty acts. These words change with the seasons of the church year and serve as an invitation into the Sanctus.

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.**

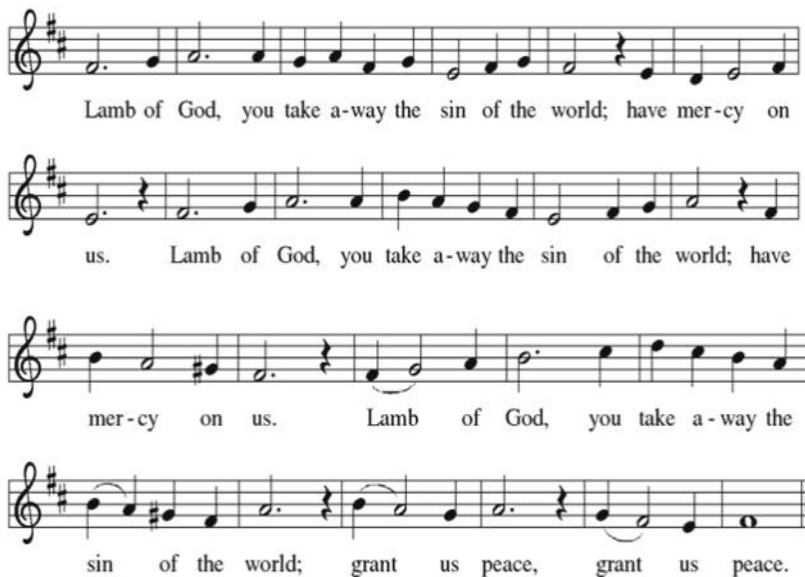
**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Please be seated

Lamb of God



Distribution Hymns: #472 (3x), #423, #464, #542

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 "Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen!" #548

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude For Christ the King Sunday, a setting of "Come, Thou Almighty King" - F. de Giardini arranged by T. Doran

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 Schmidtmike@gracedm.org

Vicar

Adam Bardenadam@gracedm.org

Organist –

Rich Snyder.....rich@gracedm.org

Minister for Communications –

Michelle Voelkermichelle@gracedm.org

Administrative Assistant –

Kami Chicas.....kami@gracedm.org

Bookkeeper

Mike Hilsabeck.....mike.h@gracedm.org

Office Assistant for Worship

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

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Usher – Aaron Bransfield

Greeter – Susanne Carney

Liturgist – Mary Freimuth Helt

Lector – Carol Woodruff

Communion Assistant –

Altar Guild – Jane Ridnour & Sue Anderson

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

Counters – Carter Woodruff & Mike Carney

Coffee & Donuts –



Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Schmidt

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