



Jesus took her  
by the hand  
and lifted  
her up

MARK 1:31

## Grace Lutheran Church

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

### Welcome to Worship

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

February 4, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Liturgical worship with piano

Setting 2

## 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!*

*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 brief brochures from the Visitor Center in the Gathering Hall, or newsletters in the Entryway.*

*Worship Online: 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 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

“Day By Day”

arr. Tom Fettke

## Welcome

*Please rise in body or spirit*

### Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: God, our rock and refuge,

**C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

L: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

**C: Amen.**

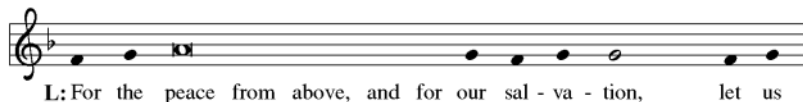
## Gathering Hymn “We Come to You for Healing Lord” #617

### 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



L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mer - cy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mer - cy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

C: A - men.

### 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

### Canticle of Praise

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

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

*hymn of praise with  
all the saints in heav-  
en.*

free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-  
lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, 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, hon-or, glo-ry, and  
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

*Final refrain*  
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, al-le-lu-ia.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

**Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray,

**Reading Notes:** *The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.*

**C: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31**

<sup>21</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? <sup>22</sup>It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; <sup>23</sup>who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

<sup>24</sup>Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. <sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. <sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; <sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Psalms 147:1-11, 20c**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

<sup>5</sup>Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to God's wisdom.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.**

<sup>7</sup>Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God,

<sup>8</sup>**who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains.**

<sup>9</sup>God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry.

<sup>10</sup>**God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

<sup>11</sup>but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD, in those who await God's steadfast love. <sup>20c1</sup> Hallelujah!

**Anthem** "For Where Love Is, There is God."

Douglas E. Wagner.

## **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23**

<sup>16</sup>If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*Please rise in body or spirit*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

C: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Repeat alleluia

L: Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the First Chapter.

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

**Reading Notes:** *God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.*

## **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 acclamation, to hear the words of eternal life.*

**Gospel Notes:** *Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.*

### **Creed**

*The Apostles' 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 Apostles' Creed at the bottom of the pot when you lifted the lid.*

### **Gospel: Mark 1:29-39**

<sup>29</sup>As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup>Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup>He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup>That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup>And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup>And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

*Please rise in body or spirit*

**Hymn of the Day** "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"  
#843

### **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: God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**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 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



## 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.*

**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.



### **Sanctus**

*As we draw close to God in this meal, we sing these words from the angels. The words hearken back to Isaiah's vision in the temple, where he hears the seraphim singing "Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory."*

### **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.*

## **Preface**

### **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.

### **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: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

*Please be seated*

## **Lamb of God**



*Distribution Hymns: #751 (3x), #474, #515, #488*

*Please rise in body or spirit*

## **Prayer after Communion**

L: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## **Blessing**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you... give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn**

"Rise, Shine, You People"

#665

## **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"

## **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)

**Piano Accompanist, Music Ensemble Coordinator** –

Kathy Bowermaster

**Minister for Communications** –

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

**Administrative Assistant** –

Kami Chicas.....[kami@gracedm.org](mailto:kami@gracedm.org)

**Bookkeeper**

Mike Hilsabeck.....[mike.h@gracedm.org](mailto:mike.h@gracedm.org)

**Office Assistant for Worship**

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

**Custodian** – Todd Haugen

**Usher** – Eric Weber

**Greeter** –

**Liturgist** – Jenny Rehder

**Lector** – Ro Zimany

**Communion Assistant** – Jessica Flannery

**Altar Guild** – Rita Stackhouse, & Carol Woodruff

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

**Counters** – Mark Stumme & Jason Galle

**Coffee & Donuts** –



## Grace Lutheran Church

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**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

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