

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Liturgical worship with organ

Setting 3

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*
- *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 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 An arrangement of the hymn "Lord, Take My Hand
And Lead Me" - F. Silcher arranged by J. Behnke

Welcome

Please rise in body or in spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Merciful God,

C: We confess that from the beginning of time we have failed to understand your call to us. We have acted as though we are gods in our own lives. We have acted or failed to act in ways that have led to injustice and oppression. We have turned away from you and sought after other gods—possessions, people, media, and other distractions. Forgive us for all the ways in which we have failed you and our neighbors. Call us back into the abundant life of loving service that you offer us in your holy name.

L: Beloved of God, hear these words of hope. God who created you in God's image has redeemed you in Christ Jesus, and for his sake forgives you for all the ways you have sinned and fallen short. Receive this forgiveness with joy, in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

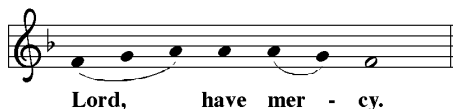
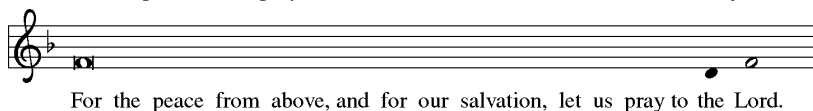
Gathering Hymn "O Blessed Spring" #447

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



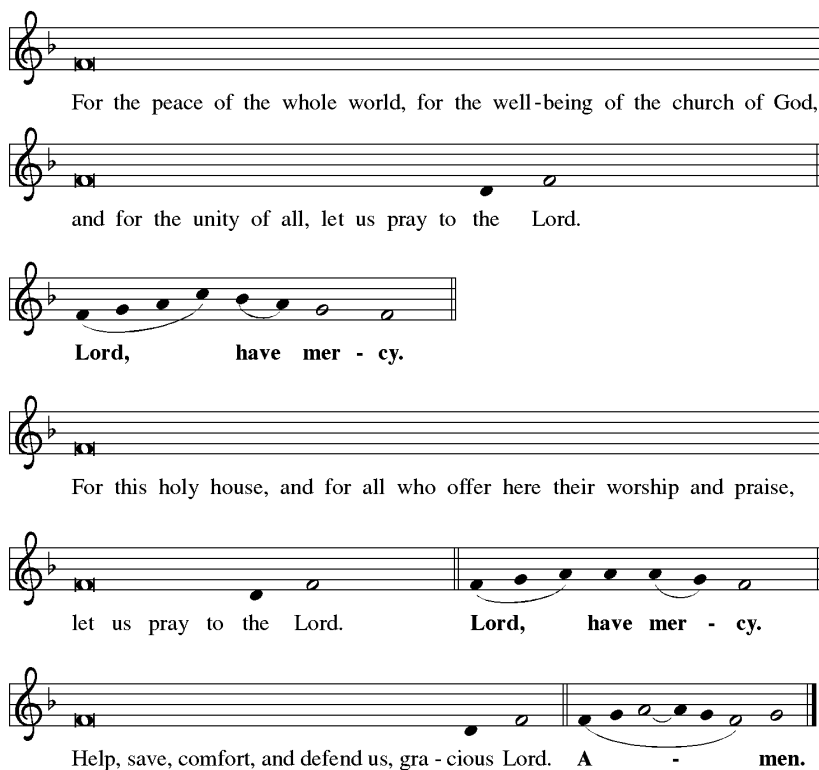
Gathering Hymn

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).

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 depend-
 ent upon God, so we
 pray for mercy in
 every aspect of life.



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 worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

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. | Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
 who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

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 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. 3 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.

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Reading Notes

God promises Abram that even though he has no children at the present time, his descendants will number as many as the stars in the sky.

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!"

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Holy God,

C: Still our hearts and calm our minds. Remind us of your steadfast love, and teach us to trust in your promises, for you keep your word. Amen.

Please be seated

Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

¹⁵After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Please rise in body or in spirit

Hymn of the Day "Just As I Am, without One Plea" #592

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, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: These and all our prayers we lift up to you, O God.

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

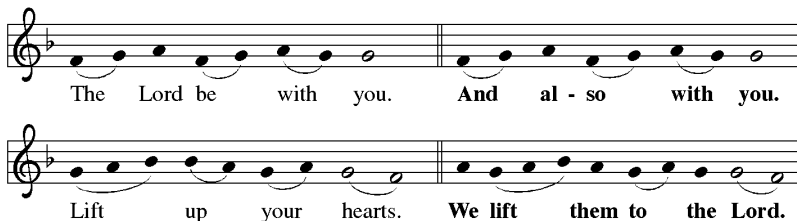
Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray,

C: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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 thanksgiving 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."

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 harken 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.




Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.




It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface


Holy, Holy, Holy




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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.**

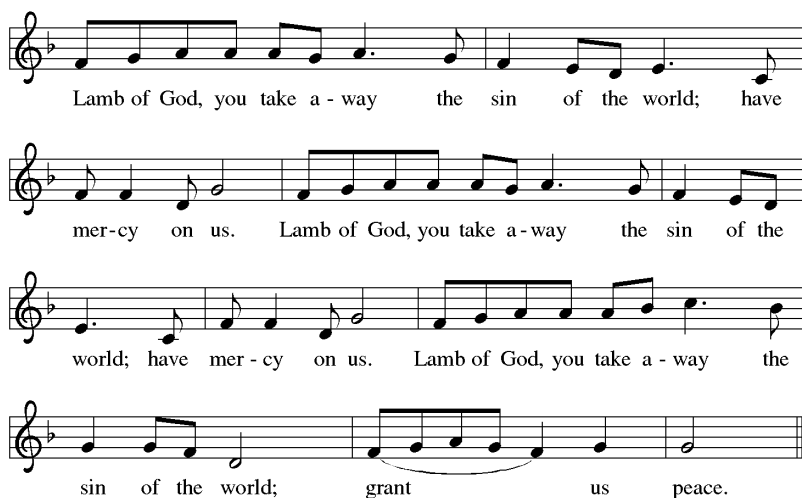
**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

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

Invitation to Communion

L: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.
Please be seated

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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

Please rise in body or in spirit

Prayer after Communion

L: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen

Blessing

L: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” #543

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 and take a cup from the tray. Then proceed to receive the gluten-free wafer. 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

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

An arrangement of the hymn "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

G. Boltze arranged by D. Freudenburg

Welcome to Grace!

Ministers —the people of Grace

Pastor –

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

Vicar

Jesse Hershberger.....jesse@gracedm.org

Organist –

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

Piano Accompanist, Music Ensemble Coordinator –

Kathy Bowermaster

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 – Carter Woodruff

Greeter –

Liturgist – Emma Stammer

Lector – Roland Zimany

Communion Assistant – Carol Woodruff

Altar Guild – Rita Stackhouse & Amy Schmelzer

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

Counters – Jon Rissman & Carter Woodruff

Coffee & Donuts – Tammy Denton



GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Pastor Michael Schmidt

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