

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 2025 9:00 a.m. Liturgical worship with piano Setting 8

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: 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 Megablocks! 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.

Prelude "I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light"

K. Thomerson, arr. Mark Sedio, David M. Cherwien

Welcome

Please rise in body or in spirit Confession and Forgiveness

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

Pause for silence and reflection.

L: God of light,

C: You reveal yourself to us, but we do not see. You call to us, but we do not hear. You reach out to us, but we do not feel. Instead we live as though you are not our God. We act in ways that bring disunity, oppression, and pain to ourselves, our neighbors, and the world. Forgive us for our constant wandering. Draw us back into your loving arms and re-direct our steps onto your path of love, justice, and healing, for the sake of all that you have made.

L: Children of light, God will always find us where we wander, and carry us safely home. Receive now the entire forgiveness of all your sins, for the sake of Jesus Christ, whose sacrificial selflessness has redeemed you and all of creation.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn "How Great Thou Art" #856

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.

Gathering

We come to worship from different places. Some directly from work, others out of weekend activities. Some live around the corner and others from another county. We gather to "do liturgy", which means literally, the "work of the people". We gather to do the work of hearing the Scriptures read and proclaimed. We gather to act out the Gospel in the ritual drama of the meal. As we gather, God is at work also, making the Good News come alive in our midst.

Kvrie

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 dependent upon God, so we pray for mercy in every aspect of life.

Kyrie





Canticle of Praise



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 hymn of praise with all the saints in heaven.



L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

L: Gracious God,

C: Help us to recognize your presence both on the mountains and in the valleys of life. May we know and trust that you are with us in every joyful moment and in every difficult challenge. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Please be seated

Anthem

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" (All Creation Sings #954) Chancel Choir

Reading: Luke 9:28-45

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. 34While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It

Reading Notes:

Jesus was transfigured on the mountaintop, then healed a child who had been possessed by a demon. In both instances those who witnessed what happened were left speechless. convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ⁴³And all were astounded at the greatness of God. While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples, ⁴⁴"Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands." ⁴⁵But they did not understand this saying; its meaning was concealed from them, so that they could not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

L: The Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Please rise in body or in spirit **Hymn of the Day** "How Good, Lord, to Be Here"

#315

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,

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, draw near, C: Receive our prayer.

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.

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.



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. L: Trusting in your mercy and grace, we lift up all of our prayers to you.

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

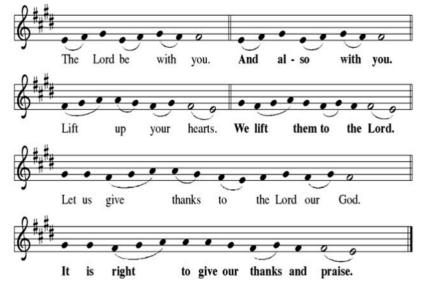
Please rise in body or in spirit

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray,

C: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



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.

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.

Communion

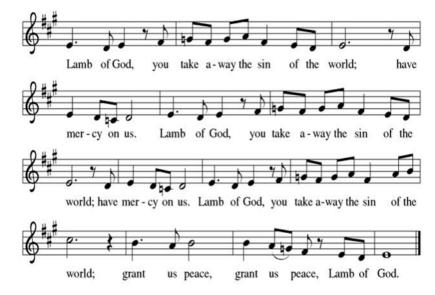
Today we will receive Holy Communion through wafers and pouring chalice. The line forms from the front pews to the back, with the ambo side of the aisle going first followed by the organ side. Please use the hand sanitizer provided and take a cup from the tray. Then proceed to receive the aluten-free 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.

Invitation to Communion

L: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Please be seated

Lamb of God



Distribution Hymns: #642 (3x), #518, #777, #522

Please rise in body or in spirit

Prayer after Communion

L: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

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

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

#671

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"O God Beyond All Praising"
Gustav T. Holst, arr. by Lloyd Larson

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

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

Bookkeeper

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

Office Assistant for Worship

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

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Usher – Carter Woodruff

Greeter - Slade Irwin

Lector – Roland Zimany

Communion Assistant - Cherie Rissman

Altar Guild – Sue Anderson & Jane Ridnour

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

Counters - Carter Woodruff & Jason Galle

Coffee & Donuts -



Grace Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Schmidt 515-276-6873

www.gracedm.org