

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025 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
- •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 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 Raindrops - F. Chopin, Opus 28, number 15

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 new life,

C: We live as though you are still in the grave. We do not rejoice in the good news of liberation for all people without exception. We continue to sin against you and our neighbors by our actions and our failure to act. Shake us out of our complacency, cleanse our hearts of selfishness, and make us joyful participants in the work of bringing about your reign in the world today.

L: We are an Easter people! Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has redeemed all of creation. Know that you are made whole, forgiven of all your sins, and empowered to live out the gospel in joy.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn "We Walk By Faith"

ELW #635

Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Welcoming New Members

Page 227 This morning we celebrate the Holy Baptism of Dakota Everett Johnson. Parents are Chris and Nicole Johnson. Sponsors are Verlyn and Pat Johnson.

Welcome

P: Let us welcome these siblings in Christ. C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Passing of the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all, C: And also with you!

Greeting

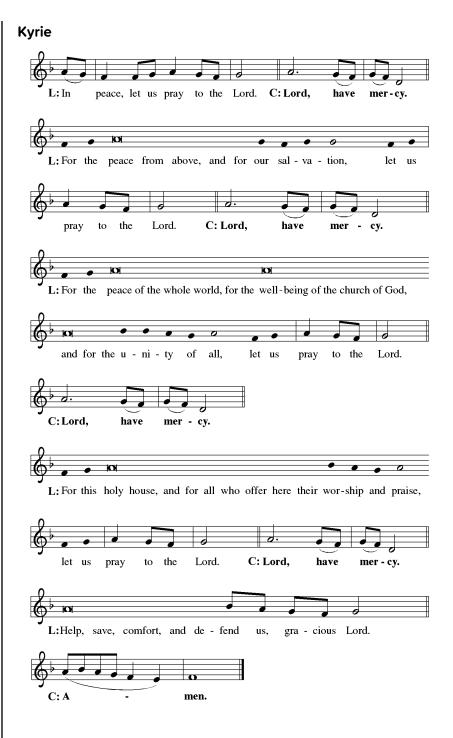
L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

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



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: We are all, at the same time, saint and sinner. Forgive us when we act on the temptation to place ourselves above others, and transform us by your love, that we might always turn to you for the new life you give. Amen.

Please be seated

Reading: Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21

¹³Paul condemned Peter for separating himself from the Gentiles for political reasons. Paul taught that justification came only by one putting faith in Christ, not by the works of the law.

¹³You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. ¹⁴I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. ¹⁵But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased ¹⁶to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, ¹⁷nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.

¹¹But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned; ¹²for until certain people came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But after they came, he drew back and kept himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction. ¹³And the other Jews joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴But when I saw that they were not acting consistently with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?" ¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we

Reading Notes:

Paul condemned Peter for separating himself from the Gentiles for political reasons. Paul taught that justification came only by one putting faith in Christ, not by the works of the law. might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. ¹⁹For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; ²⁰and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

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

Sermon

Please rise in body or in spirit Hymn of the Day "The Church of Christ in Every Age"

ELW #729

Prayers of the People L: Holy and wonderful God, C: Receive our prayer.

L: These and the prayers of all creation we lift to you in Jesus' name. 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' holv name. Amen.

Please be seated Announcements

Please rise in body or in spirit

Offering Prayer L: Let us pray,

C: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

Prayers of the Peo-

ple 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.

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

Preface means "introduction." The pastor and people get ready to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as how to celebrate the meal. These words state why we should give thanks using words and ideas appropriate for the season of the church year.

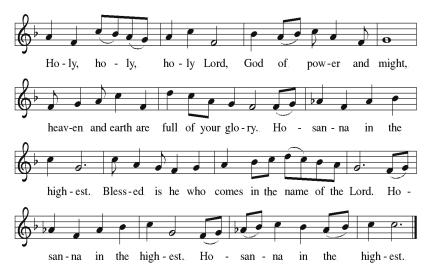
Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus is a Latin word meaning "Holy." The Sanctus contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem. We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.

Great Thanksgiving L:The Lord be with you. C: And al - so with you. L:Lift your hearts. C:We lift them to the Lord. up . 0 L:Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C:It right to give our thanks and praise. is

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy



Thanksgiving at the Table

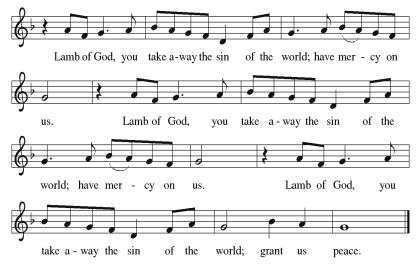
L: In the night in which he was betrayed...

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: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. *Please be seated*

Lamb of God



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

Please rise in body or in spirit

Prayer after Communion

L: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **C: Amen**

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 oraan 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 vour cup in the bas*ket by the side aisle* as you return to the pew.

continue our journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land, God uses the pastor to say words that were said first through Aaron in the wilderness more than 3,000 years ago.

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 "Leaning On the Everlasting Arms" ELW #774

Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Partita (Suite) on the sending hymn "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" - A. Showalter, arranged by J. Spong

Welcome to Grace!	
Ministers —the people of Grace	
Pastor –	
The Rev. Michael Schmidt	<u>mike@gracedm.org</u>
Vicar	
Jesse Hershberger	j <u>esse@gracedm.org</u>
Organist –	
Rich Snyder	
Piano Accompanist, Music Ensemble Coordinator – Kathy Bowermaster	
Minister for Communications –	
Michelle Voelker	<u>michelle@gracedm.org</u>
Bookkeeper	
Mike Hilsabeck	<u>mike.h@gracedm.org</u>
Office Assistant for Worship	
Jessica Flannery	<u>jessica@gracedm.org</u>
Custodian – Todd Haugen	
Usher – Tom McCleary	
Greeter – Liturgist – Paul Kallenbach	
Lector – Ro Zimany	
Communion Assistant – Carol Woodruff	
Altar Guild – Kathy Bowermaster & Jenny Rehder	
Tech Crew – Greg Boeschen, Jamie Briggs, Chuck Denton, Paul Nelson,	
Jon Rissman, & Amy Schmelzer	
Counters – Tom McCleary & Aaron Brandsfield	
Coffee & Donuts – Marilyn Nizzi	



Grace Lutheran Church

5201 Urbandale Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50310 **Pastor Michael Schmidt** 515-276-6873 <u>www.gracedm.org</u>