

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 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

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Arr. Lee Evans

Welcome

Please rise in body or in spirit

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Merciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

L: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"What Is This Place"

ELW #524

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Page 227

This morning we celebrate the Holy Baptism of Marie Catherine Berg. Parents are Mason and Melissa Berg. Sponsors are Sam and Emma Rogers.

Welcome

P: Let us welcome this sibling 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.

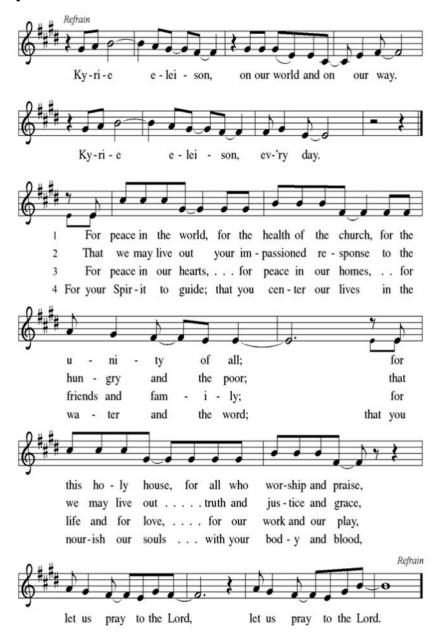
Gathering

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 lituray", which means literallv. 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. makina the Good News come alive in our midst.

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.

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: Let us pray,

C: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

Psalm 51:1-10

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ² Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.
- ⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord over-

Reading Notes

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because flowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Please rise in body or in spirit

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Acclamation

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the Fifteenth Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the nine-ty-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I

they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

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:

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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** "Founded on Faith" ACS #1048

verses 1–2: choir; verse 3: congregation & choir; verse 4: choir;

verse 5: congregation & choir

Prayers of the People

L: God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

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.

Please be seated

Announcements

Please rise in body or in spirit

Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray,

C: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

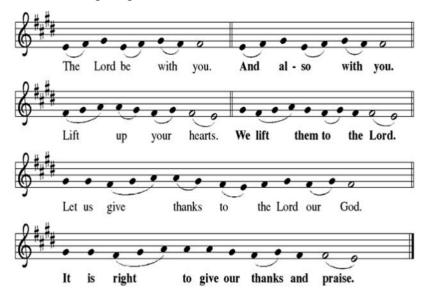
Prayers of the People: In the middle of worship, we pause to pray not only for ourselves and our loved ones and their needs, but for everyone: the whole church, the world. and its leaders, and the local community. This kind of allinclusive prayer is at the heart of Christian worship precisely because Jesus Christ died and rose again, not just for a few but for all people.

Offerina

As Lutherans, we believe that Christian giving is about worship AND action. As an option to the offering plate, scanthis QR code to access our secure digital offering plate.



Great Thanksgiving



Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy



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

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 praver 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 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.

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.

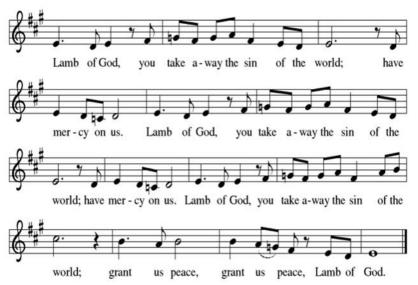
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

L: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Please be seated

Lamb of God



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

Please rise in body or in spirit

Prayer after Communion

L: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

"Send Me, Jesus"

ELW #549

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Arr. Anne Krentz Organ

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

Lotegeluaki Lengai.....lotegeluaki@gracedm.org (Loh-tay-gay-loo-wahk-ee Lain-guy)

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 – Chris and Dakota Johnson

Lector -

Communion Assistant – Carol Woodruff

Altar Guild – Jenny Rehder & Rita Stackhouse

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

Counters - Jon Rissman & Carter Woodruff

Coffee & Donuts -



Grace Lutheran Church

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