

**WHOEVER
WELCOMES YOU
WELCOMES ME**



MATTHEW 10:40

Grace Lutheran Church

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

Welcome to Worship

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Liturgical worship with piano

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.

Grace Lutheran Church commits to welcoming and celebrating all people; those in the LGBTQIA+ community, Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and their allies.

We commit to the work of anti-racism, liberation, social and environmental justice for all of God's creation. We affirm the sacredness of all people, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

We affirm the sacredness of all those who have experienced exclusion because of race, ability, age, culture, or nationality. We affirm the sacredness of those who wrestle with addiction, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.

No matter the labels others may place upon you, or the labels you may place upon yourself, here at Grace you will find a home among friends in need of a Savior. You are welcome here.

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

Listen! God Is Calling! *An East African Worship Service*

(based upon Tanzanian hymns and hymn tunes)

Prelude Variations on the sending hymn "Build a Longer Table" (ACS 1062) - French carol arranged by E. Beals

Welcome

Please stand as you are able

"Listen God is Calling!"

Brightly *Neno lake Mungu (T.M. 112)*

Leader Congregation

Lis - ten lis - ten God is call - ing through the Word in - vit - ing,

of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. joy.

Leader Congregation

Hear the in - vi - ta - tion, sent forth to all.

Let us come and wor - ship; an - swer God's call.

Leader Congregation

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing through the Word in - vit - ing,

of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. joy.

Tanzanian Liturgy
 As we worship today, we celebrate the ways that we walk with our brothers and sisters in Christ from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, especially those of the Msindo and Mararo parishes with whom we share a Companion Congregation relationship. At Grace Lutheran Church, we set aside one Sunday of each month to share in a worship setting with a Tanzanian liturgy and altar decorations. This serves as a reminder of our journey with these siblings, and others throughout the world.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

L: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn "All Are Welcome"

ELW #641

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 (Prayerfully)

Mfurahini (T.M. 33)



L. Let us now pray in peace to the Lord.



C. Hear us O Lord, have mer - cy on us.



L. For peace and sal - va - tion we pray to the Lord.



C. Hear us O Lord, have mer - cy on us.



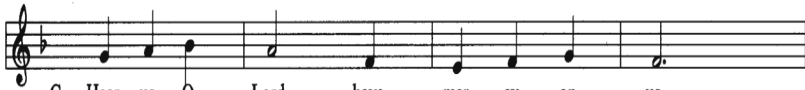
For the whole world, for the one Church of God;



for Chris-tian u-ni-ty here and a-broad.



L. Help and de-fend us; com-fort and save.



C. Hear us O Lord, have mer-cy on us.

Hymn of Praise (Joyfully)

Kule Mbinguni (T. M. 62 arr.)



Leader

1. Praise God the Fa-ther; praise God the Son;

Congregation

2. On-ly be-got-ten Son of the Fa-ther

3. Now let our voi-ces join as we sing;



with Ho-ly Spir-it all three in one.
you are the Sav-ior; there is no o-ther.
praise and thanks-giv-ing glad-ly we bring.



Refrain (All)

Lord now we praise you for your sal-va-tion,



your grace ex-tends to each land and na-tion.

Reading Notes:

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,

C: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

³"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴**'I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.'**"

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

¹⁶**They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

¹⁷For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

¹⁸**Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

Please stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation



Glo - ry to you, Lord, mas - ter and king;
Words of sal - va - tion you came to bring.

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the Tenth Chapter

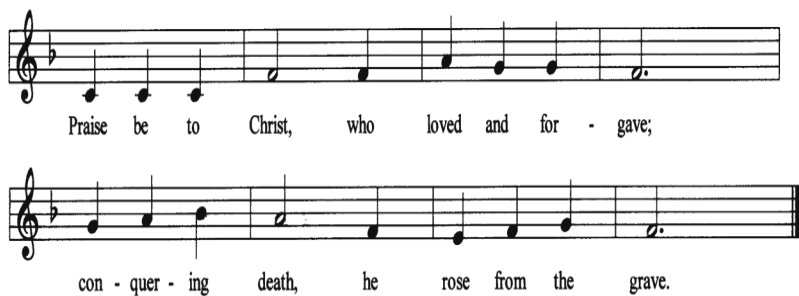
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

[Jesus said to the twelve:]⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



Praise be to Christ, who loved and for - gave;
con - quer - ing death, he rose from the grave.

Please be seated

Sermon

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day “God, We Gather as Your People” ACS #1038

Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth**

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:

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

Apostles’ Creed :

The Apostle’s 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 Apostle’s 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.



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: hear our prayer.

L: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

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 stand as you are able

Offering Prayer

L: Loving God,

C: we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

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: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Please be seated
The Distribution

"Jesus, O Lamb of God" is a haunting tune that comes from a traditional Maasai cry for help.

Prayerfully (free meter)

Engoipapayai Enamu (T.M.26,

Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
 sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
 Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
 sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
 Je - sus, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the

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. Two lines will form from the front pews to the back. 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.



Distribution Hymns: #472 (3x), #423, #464, #542

Please stand as you are able

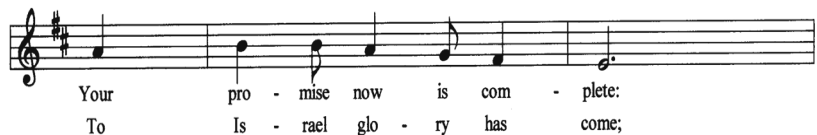
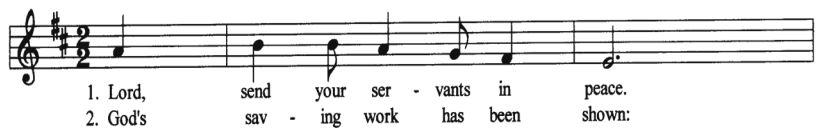
Prayer after Communion

L: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

Joyfully

Kwa Neema na Pendo (T.M.64)



Refrain



Tell ev' - ry - one what he's done.

Re - joice and car - ry his name - Go Forth!

That all may wor - ship the Son.

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

“Build a Longer Table”

ACS #1062

Dismissal

L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Simple Gifts”

American Shaker hymn tune arranged by J. Carter

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.”*

Text ©2000 James C. and Judith A. Bangsund, Makumira University College (www.bangsund.co.tz). Tunes (and refrain from "Listen, Listen' God Is Calling") ©1987 Makumira University College of Tumaini University (Tanzania).

Welcome to Grace!

Ministers —the people of Grace

Pastor –

The Rev. Michael Schmidtmike@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

Property Manager –

Nichole Aubert.....nichole@gracedm.org

Custodian – Todd Haugen

Usher – Bruce Bergman

Greeter –

Liturgist – Mary Freimuth Helt

Lector – Carol Woodruff

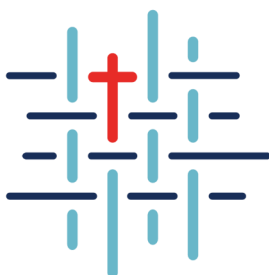
Communion Assistants – Cherie Rissman, Tammy Denton, Linda Morevec

Altar Guild – Karri Brandsfield, Mary Jo McCleary, & Carol Woodruff

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

Counters – Jon Rissman & Aaron Brandsfield

Coffee & Donuts – Cheryl & Ernie Weatherington



GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Grace Lutheran Church

5201 Urbandale Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50310

Pastor Michael Schmidt

515-276-6873

www.gracedm.org