



## **Grace Lutheran Church**

*Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania*

### **Welcome to Worship**

**Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**

October 18, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Liturgical worship with piano  
Tanzanian

## 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](http://www.gracedm.org)*
- *by asking a greeter or other members of the congregation*
- *picking up one of our brochures or newsletters from the display in the Entryway.*

**Worship Online:** *During times when you cannot be with us in person, you can participate in worship on our website or Facebook page at [facebook.com/gracelutherandm](https://facebook.com/gracelutherandm). You do not need a facebook account to watch.*

*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.***

**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 more. 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.*

- *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.*
- *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 interested in finding out more about membership at Grace, please contact Pastor Mike at [Mike@gracedm.org](mailto:Mike@gracedm.org), 515-276-6873.*

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*Listen! God Is Calling!* An East African Worship Service  
(based upon Tanzanian hymns and hymn tunes)

**Prelude** Setting of the hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees" (ELW 471) - African American Spiritual arranged by Martha Sobaje

**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.  
1. 2.  
Hear the in - vi - ta - tion, sent forth to all.  
Leader Congregation  
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.  
1. 2.

**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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

**C: Amen.**

L: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Compassionate God,

**C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

L: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

**C: Amen.**

### **Gathering Hymn “All My Hope On God is Founded” ELW #757**

#### **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.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,

**C: Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### Reading Notes:

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian

Please be seated

### Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip

kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: <sup>2</sup> I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; <sup>3</sup> I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup> For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup> I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup> so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup> I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** “Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”  
*Chancel Choir*

### **Psalm 96:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**<sup>2</sup> Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare God’s glory among the nations and God’s wonders among all peoples.

**<sup>4</sup> For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

**<sup>6</sup> Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

**<sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.**

<sup>9</sup> Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

*emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel’s exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.*

## **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.*

<sup>10</sup> **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

<sup>12</sup> **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup> You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

*Please stand as you are able*

### **Gospel Acclamation**



L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the Fourth Chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel: John 4:7-29**

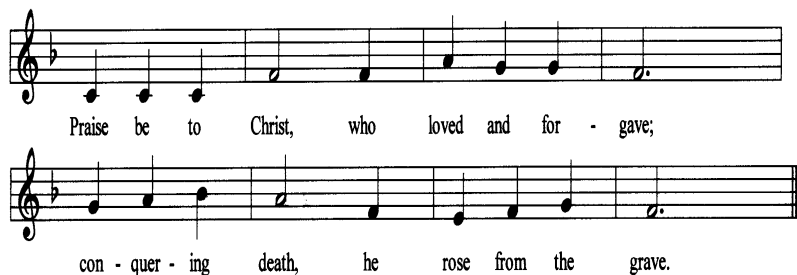
<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>His disciples had gone to the city to buy food. <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans. <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"

<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be

thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’;<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.”<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.”<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.”<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming.” “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



**Apostles' 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 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.*

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Hymn of the Day** "Commonwealth is Our Commandment"

ACS #1036

**Apostles' 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:** Hear us, O God.

**C:** Your mercy is great.

**L:** Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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: God of creation,

**C: you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. 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: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

## **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.*



## **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.*

*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 Enanu (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  
 sin of the world, grant us your peace.

*Distribution Hymns: ELW #528, ELW #592, ACS #967, ELW #518*

*Please stand as you are able*

**Prayer after Communion**

L: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

**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.*

*Joyfully*

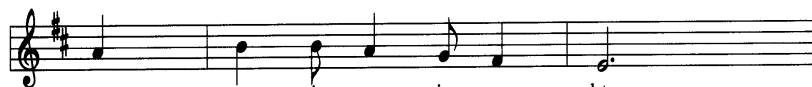
*Kwa Neema na Pendo (T.M.64)*



1. Lord, send your ser - vants in peace.  
2. God's sav - ing work has been shown:



Ac - cord - ing to your good word.  
A light all na - tions may see.



Your pro - mise now is com - plete:  
To Is - rael glo - ry has come;



Sal - va - tion for the whole world.  
God's peo - ple now are set free!

Refrain



So thank the Lord for such love - Give Thanks!



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



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



That all may wor - ship the Son.

**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."*

### **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** "When Our Song Says Peace" ELW #709

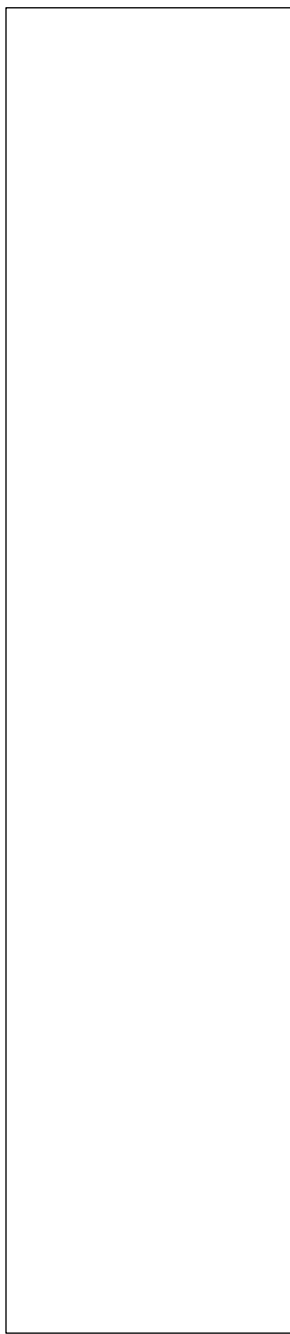
### **Dismissal**

L: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** From "Three Global Songs," "Let Us Talents And Tongues Employ" (ELW 674) - Jamaican Folk Tune arranged by J. Behnke

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



## Welcome to Grace!

### **Pastor –**

The Rev. Michael Schmidt .....[mike@gracedm.org](mailto:mike@gracedm.org)

### **Vicar**

Apou Aderbuk.....[apou@gracedm.org](mailto:apou@gracedm.org)  
(Apo- Ader-book)

### **Organist –**

Rich Snyder.....[rich@gracedm.org](mailto:rich@gracedm.org)

### **Piano Accompanist, Music Ensemble Coordinator –**

Kathy Bowermaster

### **Minister for Communications –**

Michelle Voelker .....[michelle@gracedm.org](mailto:michelle@gracedm.org)

### **Bookkeeper –**

Mike Hilsabeck.....[mike.h@gracedm.org](mailto:mike.h@gracedm.org)

### **Office Assistant for Worship –**

Jessica Flannery.....[jessica@gracedm.org](mailto:jessica@gracedm.org)

### **Property Manager –**

Brian Gerling.....[brian@gracedm.org](mailto:brian@gracedm.org)

### **Custodian –** Todd Haugen

### **Usher –** Larry Cramer

### **Greeter –** Linda Biegger

### **Liturgist –** Jenny Rehder

### **Lector –** Carol Woodruff

### **Communion Assistants –**

### **Altar Guild –** Kathy Bowermaster & Mary Jo McCleary

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

### **Counters –** Aaron Brandsfield & Carter Woodruff

### **Coffee & Donuts –**



### **Grace Lutheran Church**

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**Pastor Michael Schmidt**

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