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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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 Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org
 Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635) **Phone:** 763-784-8784
Principal: Ryan Libby (Ph. 763-784-6340) **Grades:** Kindergarten-8th
Church Year: Lent 5 **Date:** April 2, 2006

† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 143, TLH p. 155*

Hymn: *TLH 166: Savior, When in Dust to Thee*

Liturgy: *TLH, p. 15 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)*

Introit (*followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie*): *TLH, pp. 16-17*

- P: I love the Lord, for He heard my voice;
- C: He heard my cry for mercy.**
- P: Because He turned His ear to me,
- C: I will call upon Him as long as I live.**
- P: For You, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death,
- C: My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. Glory be to God!**

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 237, st. 1: All Glory Be to God on High*

- P: All glory be to God on high, who hath our race befriended!
- C: To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended.**
 God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!

First Reading: *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

The prophesy of the Lord's covenant being all about the forgiveness of sins.

Gradual:

- P: Oh, come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
- C: The author and finisher of our faith,**
- P: Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning the shame,
- C: And sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**
- P: The Son of Man did not come to be served,
- C: But to serve and give His life as a ransom for many.**

Choir & Children: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Second Reading: *Reading of the Passion History*

Jesus turns to Mary and John. Jesus announces that His work is done!

Confession of Faith: *Nicene Creed, TLH p. 22*

Hymn: *TLH 153: Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted*

Sermon: *Hebrews 5:7-9*

(7) [Christ], in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, (8) though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. (9) And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, ... (NKJV)

“LEARNING IN THE SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS”

Offertory: *TLH p. 22 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 159: Go To Dark Gethsemane*

Offering & Prayer:

Liturgy for the Lord's Supper: *TLH p. 24 ff.*

Distribution: *TLH 172; 151*

Note: In obedience to God's Word, and out of concern for the welfare of souls (1 Corinthians 11:29), and finally that we may honestly express the unity of faith and hope that binds us, we ask that only such as have identified with Grace through public confession of faith or another CLC congregation, approach the altar at the usher's direction.

Nunc Dimittis, Prayer, Benediction: *TLH 29 ff.*

Hymn: *TLH 309: O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee*

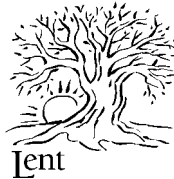
Welcome to our guests and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to share God's Word with you today. Please come again! Those interested in learning more about the Scriptures and our doctrinal position, please speak with Pastor Hein. He would be delighted to visit with you!

Last Week's Stats: Mar. 26, 2006 B.Cl.: 37 S.S.: 21 Sun.: 120 Wed: 65

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	3,565.82	CLC:	965.00
Wed. Offering	Grace:	380.25	CLC:	110.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,970.00	CLC:	850.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+976.07	CLC:	+225.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	40,044.51	CLC:	11,874.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	38,610.00	CLC:	11,050.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,434.51	CLC:	+824.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	1.74	Tuition:	60.00
GLC Other: 185.00	MDF:	56.00	Kinship:	100.00
ILC Student Aid.: 65.00	ILC Bldg.	7.00	IIF: 2.00	CEF: 250.00

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Midweek Lenten Services:** This Wed. is the final Midweek Lenten service. This week we will focus on the Glowing Warmth of Christ's Mercy. Please join your fellow Christians in fellowship with the soup supper preceding the worship service. Soup is served from 6:00 to 6:45 pm.



- ◆ **Easter Breakfast:** A sign-up list is located by the guest book for those volunteering to help out with the Easter breakfast. Please consider signing up as a way to inspire an enjoyable morning of fellowship!

- ◆ **Among Us:** Last Sunday Jessie Maestas' father, Myrland Lang, suffered a stroke. He was hospitalized for much of the week. He is now at the Edina Care & Rehabilitation Center; 6200 Xerxes Ave. S; Minneapolis, MN 55423. Also hospitalized this week was Erma Tiefel, mother of Peter Fleischer. She had a high fever. Please pray for these dear souls of our Savior who are struggling yet are nonetheless protected in the Refuge that never fails.
- ◆ **Rough Rider Camp:** Our Savior's in Jamestown, ND, is sponsoring the Roughrider camp this summer, June 25-30. The camp is limited to 80 campers and we are filling the camp on a first-come first-serve basis. In order to try to give everyone a fair chance at enrolling, we are providing the registration information now, but we will not be accepting any registration forms that are postmarked BEFORE April 3, 2006. Registration will then run for a month, ending on May 3, 2006. We are also seeking volunteers from outside of our congregation to help us staff the camp. Documents regarding the camp and camp registration are found by the guest book. Any questions or comments regarding the camp can be directed to: Clayton Hillstrom - Phone (701) 252-1202 Email - chillstrom@otpc.com; or Pastor Eric Libby - Phone (701) 952-2289 Email - ericlibby@hotmail.com
- ◆ **From ILC:** At Immanuel Lutheran College there is an excellent opportunity to use your talents, your time, and your energy to serve the children of God. The young men of Immanuel are in need of a dormitory supervisor. Here is the opportunity for a mature, sober-minded, spiritually solid man to be a very positive influence on the future leaders of our church. --- If you are interested, please speak to your pastor or contact President John K. Pfeiffer, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701 [e-mail: john.pfeiffer@ilc.edu; Phone: (715) 836-6621; Fax: (715) 836-6634].
- ◆ **Retreats:** Brochures are found by the guest book for the CLC Women's Retreat.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Easter Recitation

THE FAILED ROAD (Continued):

Last week we queried why we as a church or church body would want to go down a failed road. That road is the way of accommodation to the way of those churches that have sought to entice and/or keep people in the church through emphasizing programs and new worship forms to attract the popular masses. The attitude that drives such thinking frequently is willing to sacrifice the mention of sin because to do so is offensive. Consequently contemporary services that lack substance, and are more directed at entertainment are in vogue. The feeling is that the church of the 21st century has to move out of the past century in order to keep up with the desires and sophistication of this generation. Rather than trying to impress upon the people the beauty, substance and meaning of the old forms of worship, effort is directed at finding something that is new, attractive, and simple for this generation. But how do they keep it fresh for a generation that is raised on fast food, entertainment, and TV sound bites? In the process the message of the Gospel is lost, as indeed it must be when preaching the law of God is no longer considered pertinent? As a confessional Lutheran Church we cannot, we dare not, go down that road!

We are fully aware that language changes – we no longer conduct service in German. We are fully aware as well that our society is made up of people of different languages, cultures, customs, and tastes. We appreciate the fact that Scripture gives us freedom in form when it comes to our worship service. We also know that occasional variety keeps us alert and fresh, and may even give us deeper appreciation of our orderly, and respectful worship forms. Having attended worship services among the brethren in India and in Nigeria one recognizes that worship forms to which we are accustomed cannot simply be transferred to those churches, neither need they be. Yet within the exuberance of their worship activity there is form, and a deep appreciation for God's Word. Neither could we transfer their worship forms to our churches. One gets the impression that in the church after Pentecost there was freedom and spontaneity in worship.



We do not suggest that we all forever and ever use the same forms and same order of worship. Our concern is the **attitude** that drives the feeling that somehow or other we have to make our worship more attractive to gain more people, or to keep some of our own from being bored. The underlying enticement dare never depart from the faithful plying of the means of grace, and the substantive presentation of the law of God to uncover sin and smite the sinner, as well as the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ for the comfort of sinners, and the power unto godly living.

Whatever changes are made our worship services should be within the parameters of sound liturgical substance. Further, people do not want to come to church each Sunday and be surprised, and consequently be lost in the liturgy so that they cannot follow it, much less participate. There is some comfort, like wearing old shoes, in staying within the forms to which we have been accustomed. And no, the answer is not, "Well then we will have a service for those who like the old, and another service for those who like the new!" Worship should unite, not divide!

The Lutheran Church is a liturgical church. Historically, while there were differences in the liturgical services between Lutheran churches, they were minimal. The liturgies, unlike the modern, contemporary types were Christo-centric- Christ was at the center. That is what makes liturgy in our church so unique. It begins with witness to the Triune God, and it ends with the blessing of the Triune God. It is a reverential service with the confession of sins, absolution, Scripture readings, and the sermon at the center of it. In a Lutheran service the hymns should glorify God and not the choir! And yes, we appreciate a good choir! The Word of God is the foundation of our fellowship one with another; the liturgy in which we participate is an expression of that fellowship- an expression that is muted when no one knows when to sing, what to sing or if to sing. Worship is not to be a country hoedown. Sound Lutheran liturgy has a purpose and a focus, neither of which is to call attention to the preacher or speaker, or the choir, or the organist – but to glorify the Lord God, and our Savior Jesus Christ. A biblically sound, respectful, Christo-centric liturgy is distinctively Lutheran. Tweaks to the liturgy should nevertheless not diminish our distinctively Lutheran identification.



The challenge before us in our day is to stand fast in the truth, when there is so little appreciation of the inspired and inerrant Word of God. But it is also a challenge to us to maintain the casks in which this truth is found, and from which it is dispensed. So we are again back to sound liturgical substance and forms.

This week, this pastor was in court as an alternate juror. He was expected to dress appropriately and show proper respect to the court. When the judge or even the jury enters everyone rises out of respect. Should we not have at least as much respect for our Lord? Worship service should not be a party, or a gabfest, a stage for entertainment, or a free for all. Scripture says, "Keep thy foot when thou goes into the house of the Lord, and be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools" (Ecclesiastes 5:1). Our challenge is to instruct people on what our service means so that they will appreciate the richness and depth of it.

A trial lawyer, Craig Parton wrote a book entitled "*The Defense Never Rests*" (CPH, 2003). He "became a Christian" in 1974. He had been in the Christian Science Church. He was in campus groups in college. He became an evangelical. He was on the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ. But the emptiness of bland evangelicalism repelled him and his family. He eventually ended up in a Lutheran Church – the LC-MS – where he gained a deep appreciation for the liturgy of the Lutheran Church. He speaks of the necessity of the Lutheran Church remaining a church where the Word of God is preached in its truth and purity, and the sacraments administered according to their institution by Christ, as well as "a church where the historic liturgy is celebrated with gravity and joy, a church where theologically profound Lutheran hymns are sung, a church where the young are taught real doctrine ..." (p. 122).

God's Word is the foundation of the Church, and the life of the Church. In whatever language the Word of God is preached it remains the Word of God. And in whatever liturgical form the service of the Word is conducted, it is still the Word of God. Nevertheless, let us not have to learn the hard way that to change the Word or to adapt our worship or hymns to the least common denominator in order to satisfy itching ears will make us a church we do not want to be – a church where Christ is an after thought or a pretext, and from which those we sought to attract by accommodation eventually leave again in search of something newer!

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Sue Nelson *Elder:* Benno Sydow

Ushers: Michael Dick; Larry Nelson; Larry Brandt; Roger Brandt; Dale Enns; Scott Dauer; Lynn Sandhoefner

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales

Hospitality Team 5: Mark & Trudy Wales; Al Rosendahl; Karen Auel

Church Cleaners: M. Dick *School:* Davis

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Jeff Radichel; Gerald Anderson; Dan Degnan; Matt Dick; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow; Andrew Rosendahl

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Ole Olmanson

Hospitality Team 6: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel

Church Cleaners: M. Dick *School:* Hein

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper (Lent 5)
11:00 am – Hospitality

Wed., Apr. 5: 2:30 pm – Chiquetines (Little One's Story Hour)
4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Children
6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Supper
7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Worship Service

Sun., Apr. 9: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School
10:00 am – Palm Sunday Worship Service
11:00 am – Hospitality
11:15 – Boards; 12:00 – Council

Fri., Apr. 14: 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service w/ Lord's Supper

Sun., Apr. 16: 7:00 am – Easter Sunrise Service
Easter Breakfast (No Bible Cl. & Sun. School)
10:00 am – Easter Festival Service

Sun., Apr. 23: 11:30 am – Quarterly Voters Meeting

Fri., Apr. 28: ILC High School Visitors Day & Musical

Sat., Apr. 29: Work Day at Grace

Grace Lutheran Church & School



Take
this cup
from me.
Yet not what
I will, but
what you
will.

Mark 14:36