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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)

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Principal: Ryan Libby (Ph. 763-784-6340)

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 19

Date: October 15, 2006

Welcome today as we tune our tongues for worship of our Savior God. It is a gift from Him to be able to speak. With it we are to bless and curse not. May we seek the words of kindness and forgiveness that our Savior speaks to us, enabling us to express our forgiving love toward others in our lives. The LORD bless your hearing of His Word.

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 66, TLH p. 136 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 360: Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Liturgy: *TLH, p. 5 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)*

Introit (*followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie*): *TLH, pp. 6-7*

P: Your name, O LORD, endures forever,

C: Your renown, O LORD, through all generations.

P: Praise the name of the LORD; Praise Him, you servants of the LORD, ...

C: You who minister in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God.

P: Praise the Lord, for the LORD is good;

C: Sing praise to His name, for that is pleasant. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 250, st. 1,4*

**C: Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heaven above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.**

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;
Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.

First Reading: *Romans 12:10-18*

All words which we speak are to be spoken in kindness, even toward enemies.

Gradual:

P: Oh the depths of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

C: How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!

P: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

C: And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia.

Second Reading: *John 12:42-50*

Jesus' words which He spoke were spoken with grace.

Confession of Faith: *Apostolic Creed, TLH p. 12*

Hymn: *TLH 363: To Our Redeemer's Glorious Name*

Sermon: *Ephesians 4:29-32*

(29) Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. (30) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (31) Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. (32) And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you. (NKJV™)

"Words of Kindness"

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 30: Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices*

Offering, Prayers, Benediction: *TLH p. 14*

Hymn: *WS 792: Let All Things Now Living*

Silent Prayer:

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!

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Today:** Please stay for both the Voters and Dorcas Guild meetings.
- ◆ **Among Us:** Allyson Benzer, one of the 4 month-old twins, has been rediagnosed with her condition. It is still very rare, but this condition has a steroid treatment that has been successful in other children. She is still at the Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. Annette Kuehne was able to return home with her baby, Evan early this week. Mindy Kitzman returned home last Sunday. She has a spot on her kidney which is of concern. May the Lord tenderly care for His children.
- ◆ **Cleaning List:** There are just a couple of weeks needed to be filled.
- ◆ **Thanks:** Marion Schwieger extends a word of thanks to those who have contributed to Cliff's memorial.
- ◆ **MN Pastoral Conf.:** This past week the regional Minnesota pastoral conference was held at Inver Grove Hts. These papers were presented: 1) a study of 1 Timothy 1:1-11; 2) a study of Isaiah 49:1-13; 3) an overview of Revelation; 4) Copyright Law in Churches; 5) Differences between a Weakness of Faith and Despising the Means of Grace; 6) Excommunication and Termination of Membership in Regard to the Appeal Process; 7) "Living God" in the OT; 8) A Synopsis on CLC Material Regarding the Roles of Man and Woman. Please speak with Pastor if you are interesting in any of these.
- ◆ **Reminder:** for Campbell's Labels for Education Program. Submission guidelines are changed this year. Fronts of labels are not being accepted – only the UPC's. Many label "fronts only" submissions had to be discarded recently. Complete label submission is fine so long as the entire UPC is attached. Also, some jar lids, rather than the UPC, are required for other products. Please take a reference sheet (found by the collection bin) home with you. Our goal is 1,000 UPC's for each month.
- ◆ **Reformation Service:** This year Berea of Inver Grove Hts. will be hosting the MN Area Reformation Service on Sunday, October 29, at 3:30 pm. A luncheon will be held following the service. Any who are attending are welcome to bring a dessert plate. All else will be provided by Berea. To help with planning, please sign up if you think you might go.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Third Commandment

Last Week's Stats: Oct. 8, 2006 B.Cl.: 42 S.S.: 23 Sun.: 145 Wed: 20

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	3,363.52	CLC:	1,890.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,970.00	CLC:	850.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+393.52	CLC:	+1,040.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	117,490.19	CLC:	37,092.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	121,770.00	CLC:	34,850.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-4,279.81	CLC:	+2,242.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	12.00	Tuition:	67.00
GLC Other: 376.00*	MDF:	18.00	Kinship:	67.00
ILC Student Aid: 0.00	ILC Bldg.	12.00	IIF: 13.00	CEF: 38.00
Schwieger Memorial: \$52				

Let All Things Now Living



Let all things now liv-ing A song of thanks-giv-ing To
 God the Cre-a-tor tri-um-phant-ly raise, Who
 fash-ioned and made us, Pro-tect-ed and stayed us, Who
 still guides us on to the end of our days.
 God's ban-ners are o'er us; His light goes be-
 fore us, A pil-lar of fire shin-ing forth in the
 night, Till shad-ows have van-ished And dark-ness is
 ban-ish-ed, As for-ward we trav-el from light in-to light.

WAR ON TWO FRONTS:

The threat of Mohammedanism (Islam) was great at the time of the Reformation. Luther minced no words about what we today call radical Islam. Though Luther saw the Turks, followers of Mohammed, both as a religious and a political threat, he did not promote a religious war (a religion that has to promote itself by arms and violence is bankrupt). The weapons against false doctrine are not carnal, but spiritual (2 Corinthians 10:4). But there was also a political component to the threat from the Muslim Turks. As citizens, albeit Christian citizens of the nation, Luther considered it the Christian's patriotic duty to engage in warfare against the threat.

Today as a nation we are engaged in what has the markings of a third world war, as the enemy is scattered across the globe and is bent on destroying our culture, our economy, our way of life. His intent is to bring our nation to its knees. And the enemy? It is the same as confronted Europe at the time of the Reformation. The destruction of our nation and its way of life is the expressed goal of extremists who claim Allah as their god, and Mohammed as their prophet. The cruelty of the radical practitioners of this religion knows no bounds. As it is a threat to our nation and our people, the government has the authority (Romans 13) to engage in warfare in defense of our nation. As Christians it is our patriotic duty to serve in the armed forces if called to do so. Since they are entrusted with an awesome authority and responsibility, we will want to pray the Lord for wise and balanced leaders.

People of all political persuasions have debated and will continue to debate if, when, and how to defend our nation. As Christians we have an interest in this war not to defend our religion as such, but to defend the right to practice our religion according to the dictates of God's Word and our conscience. Islam would deprive us of that right! This war is fought on the political front with all its ramifications, as well as its all too frequent self-serving, hypocritical, political ranting and maneuvering by politicians. This war is also being fought on the field with loss of life as well as physical and mental scars a sad result. War is not pretty! But it is a reality of life so long as radicals and other evil men unable to win in the arena of ideas resort to weapons, armed conflict, and destruction in order to promote their ends. We as a nation must be ready to defend ourselves.

However, there is another more serious war in which Christ believers must be engaged. The enemy is the devil. The manifestation is the moral rot within the human heart, which translates into the moral stench that is engulfing this country. This is not a war in which carnal weapons serve. This war is has to do with the spirit – it is spiritual. Only the Word of God can overcome this enemy. But just as there is a reticence on the part of some within our country to fight the physical war against the enemy there is a reticence to fight against the devil and all his manifestations. The reason that many do not want to fight the war against the physical enemy aka terrorism, is that they are in a state of denial. They do not understand the threat. They minimize the danger we face from those who want to destroy us. They prefer to negotiate with evil. In the same manner the war against immorality that is engulfing this nation and inviting divine judgment is lagging because people are in a state of denial. They do not understand the satanic threat and they minimize the ill effect. Having forsaken the Lord they love evil. They do not care because they do not

believe that as a nation evil invites the judgment of God! They are ready to accommodate evil, as in "We enjoy it," or "If you can't fight it, join it."

Scripture says, "Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). The immorality and pharisaical hypocrisy of Hollywood, the immorality manifest in defending actions and life styles that are contrary to God's Word (even in the church), the political correctness of our social do-gooders, the foulness of speech so evident, the misuse of our Lord's name, the culture of drugs, crime and mayhem that infect our society, these and more in the world threaten to seduce also us into "misbelief, despair, and other great shame and vice" (Expl to 7th Petition). Against this evil that threatens us and the church there is no weapon or defense but the Word of God. We must individualize this war against evil by rooting out the sin within our own hearts, and fighting against it.

Our warfare as children of God begins by recognizing the reality of sin in our own lives. We address it when we acknowledge with penitent hearts our own sins and weaknesses. Strength to overcome lies not in some personal resolve or resolution, which we break every day. It lies in the goodness and grace of God which has forgiven us our sin, and which in turn energizes a regenerate heart to say "yes" to God, and "no" to sin! It serves no purpose to lament the ills of society unless we personally recognize and acknowledge sin in us and about us, and trust in Christ for forgiveness and relief. This is a war that we can win because all we need is to seize in faith the victory, which Christ has already won. On the other hand, an attitude of indifference toward, and neglect of, God's Word, as well as toward sin and our eternal salvation seriously endangers one's soul eternally.

The two wars are fought against enemies that seek to destroy. One would destroy our nation; the other would destroy our soul. One is fought with armaments, the other is fought with the Word of God. There is one over which we as individuals have little influence. The other is one in which the Lord Himself calls us –His redeemed children - to be involved. He says: "Repent and believe." "Be strong in the Lord...Put on the whole armor of God...Put on the breastplate of righteousness...Take the shield of faith and the helmet of salvation," as well "as the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6). Believe the Gospel and be busy in word and deed declaring and living the Gospel.

Two wars! The only winners in time and eternity will be those who, confident in the Lord Jesus Christ, heed His warning and call: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith...But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you" (1 Peter 5:8-10).

Do you care about this nation? Repent, pray (Genesis 18), and live unto God. Do you care about your salvation? Repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. While you wait for your deliverance, let the light of Christ be seen in and through your life. Let the world know that you are a winner – in Christ! And be ready to fight on, because the devil and his minions hate a winner!

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer (8/13/2006)

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Janelle Hein

Elder: Al Rosendahl

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

Counting Team 5: Mike Dick; Brad Kitzman; Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner

Hospitality Team 3: Dan & Cindy Degnan; Ed & Verona Lentz; Angela Valley

Church Cleaners: Olmanson

School: Hein

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

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

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Ryan Libby

Hospitality Team 4: Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Fred, Pal, & Scott Dauer

Church Cleaners: No Volunteers

School: Maki

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today:

9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class

10:00 am – Worship Service

11:00 am – Hospitality

11:30 am – Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings

Mon., Oct. 16:

Parent Teacher Conf. (No School)

7:00 pm – CEA Meeting

Oct. 18-20:

CLC Teachers Conference @ Mankato, MN (No School)

Wed., Oct. 18:

4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

Sun., Oct. 22:

8:30 am – Choir Practice

9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class

10:00 am – Worship Service; 11:00 am – Hospitality

Sat., Oct. 28:

9:00 am – Congregational Work Day

Sun., Oct. 29:

3:30 pm – MN Reformation Service @ Inver Grove Hts.

GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church & School



Be kind and compassionate

*to one another;
forgiving each other,
just as in Christ
God forgave you.*

Ephesians 4:32