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Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432



Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

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 3

Date: February 24, 2008

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

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

Hymn: *TLH 284: Father of Mercies, in Thy Word*

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

Introit: *TLH, pp. 6-7*

P: My eyes are ever on the Lord,

C: For only He will release my feet from the snare.

P: I cry aloud to the Lord; I lift up my voice to the Lord for mercy.

C: I say, "You are my Refuge, my Portion in the land of the living."

P: Listen to my cry, for I am in desperate need;

C: Rescue me from those who pursue me, for they are too strong for me.

P: Set me free from my prison that I may praise Your name.

C: Then the righteous will gather about me because of Your goodness to me. Glory be to God!

Sunday School: *TLH 342: Chief of Sinners, Though I Be*

First Reading: *Romans 5:8-14*

Though we were enemies with God, we've been reconciled through Christ.

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: Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

C: That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Second Reading: *Harmony of the Passion*

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

Hymn: *TLH 347, st. 1-2, 5-6: Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

Sermon: *John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39*

(1) Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. (2) And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" (3) Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. (4) "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. (5) "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (6) When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. (7) And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. ... (13) They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. (14) Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. (15) Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." (16) Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. (17) They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." ... (34) They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. (35) Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" (36) He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" (37) And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." (38) Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him. (39) And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind." (NKJV™)

"See the Works of God"

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *WS 777: Amazing Grace*

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

Hymn: *TLH 45: Now, the Hour of Worship O'er*

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 †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Gil Maestas was released from the hospital early this past week. This past Wednesday, Feb. 20, Jeff and Heidi Auel were blessed with a baby boy, Avery Drake. He was 9 lb., 13 oz, 21 inches. We thank the Lord for this little blessing!
- ◆ **Lenten Worship:** We will be continuing our midweek services on Wednesday at 7 pm, with the theme "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus." The service will be preceded by a soup supper beginning at 6 pm.
- ◆ **Easter:** This year there will be one Easter service instead of two. The service will be at 9:00 am. The breakfast will be served from 7:30-8:30 am.
- ◆ **ILC Tour Choir:** On Easter afternoon, at 3 pm, the ILC Tour Choir will be coming to Grace Lutheran for a concert of sacred music.
- ◆ **Video Projection Fund:** Recently the Voters established a new project fund called the "Video Projection Fund." This fund is intended to be used to install an updated projector and screen for use in the sanctuary. Donations may be labeled on your offering envelopes.
- ◆ **Invitation:** The installation of Lawrence Bade at Trinity, Millston, is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. this afternoon with a meal to follow.
- ◆ **CLC Missions:** Some recent updates have been added to the CLC Missions website: (1) The 2007 CLCI Vacation Bible School Program, report and photos, with more than 1,100 children served; (2) New entries and photos in Missionary Ude's blog (personal journal), "Paroikos." Please see these items under "What's New," at www.cldlutheran.org/missions
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #21– Third Article, Part 3.

ILC PRESIDENT JOHN PFEIFFER TO STUDENTS AT CHAPEL:

John McCain, Barack Obama, Mike Huckabee, Hillary Clinton, Ron Paul: all of these presidential candidates have a common theme for their campaigns. What is it? It can be summed up with one word. There was a picture taken during Senator Obama's speech at UWEC Behind him was a sign with this one word. The sign said, "Eau Claire for change."

"Change" is the common theme. All the candidates claim that they will bring change to the White House. And, of course, they claim that their changes will make everyone happier and richer and safer and healthier. This is the kind of thing that the voters want to hear. People long for change because they are never quite happy enough nor rich enough nor safe enough nor healthy enough.

How about you? Do you want change? Sure you do. Not everything in your life is the way you want it to be. Some things are okay, but others are not. What about your religion? Do you want that to change? Do you want God to change His teachings and His way of doing things? In the book of Malachi (3:6), God declares: *"I am Jehovah, I do not change..."*

A FIRST GRADE THEOLOGIAN-NOT QUITE:

The Immanuel Lutheran College daily bulletin on its website (Check it out) is currently printing parts of famous sayings to be completed. A first grader completed the saying "Love All, Trust..." by saying, "Love all, trust... me." Cute! We may excuse a first grader. Unfortunately it is a sentiment deeply ingrained in the natural flesh. Only in a *secondary* sense do we trust one another. Scripture says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." Luther's simple explanation is, "We should fear, love and *trust in God* above all things."



The first commandment recognizes that natural man creates within the mind and promotes "other gods." Gods of wood and stone and of man's imagination are idols. Anything, any man, that humans worship (including self) in addition to, beside, in place of the Triune God is an idol. Furthermore, he, who denies Christ, is an idolater! Scripture says, "All men should honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He that honors not the Son honors not the Father, which has sent Him" (John 5:23). Any effort at inclusiveness that suggests that everybody believes in God, or that all gods are the same as the true God only with different names, or that it makes no difference in which god one believes promotes idolatry. "There is none other God but one" (1 Corinthians 8:4)

The God of heaven and earth lives. He alone- Father, Son, and Holy Ghost- is God. God the Father loves all. From His heart He promised and sent Jesus into the world as the Savior from sin. God the Holy Ghost works faith through which the child of God loves Him above all things and creates in the heart trust and confidence in God's promises. Our love for God is not the cause of His love to us, but is a fruit for Scripture clearly says, "We love Him because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another" (1 John 4:10, 11). Manifestations of love for God exude from the regenerate heart also love for the neighbor.

"Love all..." indeed. Love your neighbor but *love God above all things*. However *trust in God* above all things for everyday we are reminded of the divine wisdom: "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in men" (Psalm 118:8). *Trust in the living God above all things!* He does not change but "is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8)!

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 2/24/2008

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Al Rosendahl

Ushers: Benno Sydow; Brian Eichstadt; Gary Gunther; Richard Rhinesmith; Jeff Stifter; Josh Stifter; Bob Vandever

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

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

Church Cleaners: Maki/Stifter *School Cleaners:* ??

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Benno Sydow; Brian Eichstadt; Gary Gunther; Richard Rhinesmith; Jeff Stifter; Josh Stifter; Bob Vandever

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 Cleaners:* Sandhoefner

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Lent 3)
 11:00 am – Hospitality
 4:00 pm – Pastor Bade Installation @ Millston, WI

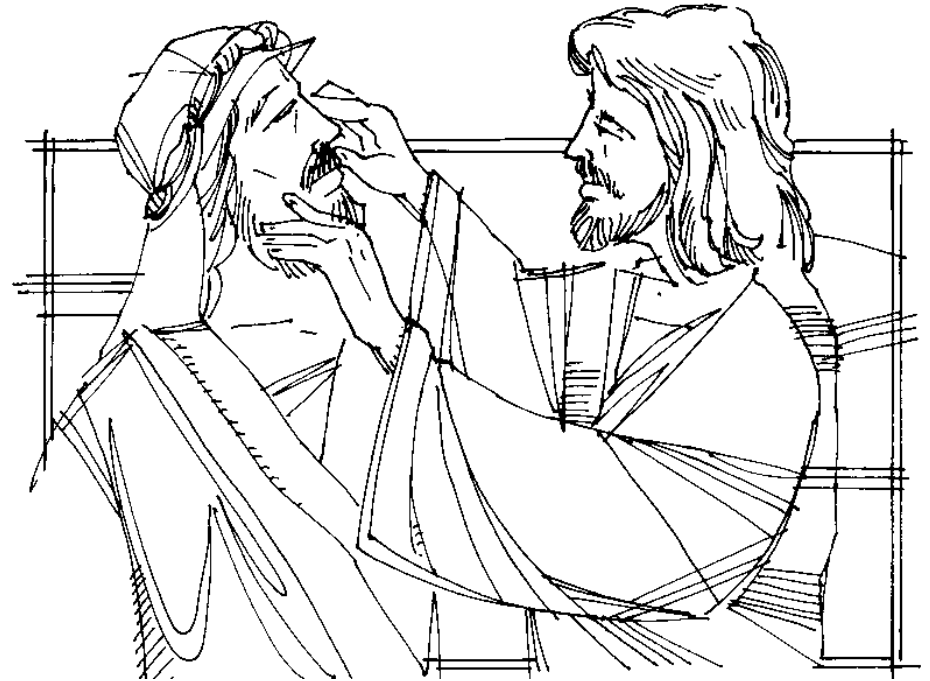
Wed., Feb. 27: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Supper
 7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Service

Sun., Mar. 2: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper (Lent 4)
 11:00 am – Hospitality

Last Week's Stats: Feb. 17, 2008 Sun.: 112 S.S.: 17 B.Cl.: 36 Wed.: 70

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	2,344.70	CLC:	705.10	
Wed. Offering:	Grace:	359.45	CLC:	150.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,225.00	CLC:	1,000.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-520.85	CLC:	-144.90	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	18,625.67	CLC:	6,532.35	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	22,575.00	CLC:	7,000.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,949.33	CLC:	-467.65	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	30.00	Tuition:	30.00	
GLC Other:	0.00	MDF:	2.00	Kinship:	75.00
ILC Student Aid:	11.00	ILC Bldg.	50.00	IIF: 30.00	CEF: 25.00

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“For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.”

John 9:39