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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Home Page: [www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org](http://www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org)

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635)

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Grades: Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

Church Year: Pentecost 24

Date: November 7, 2010

## † THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... *Psalm 150, TLH p. 157*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 200, st. 1-2, 7-8: I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

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

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

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 14, st. 5*

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

To God whom heaven and earth adore,

From men and from the angel host

Be praise and glory evermore.

**First Reading:** ..... *Isaiah 65:17-25*

A description of the new Jerusalem, the Church living in splendor.

**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.

**C: To Him be the glory forever! Amen.**

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:** ..... *2 Thessalonians 2:13-17*

The Apostle Paul gives thanks to God for the Christians in Thessalonica, for He led them to faith. He now bids them to stand fast on the Word and that God would continue to comfort them through it.

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 656: Behold a Host, Arrayed in White*

**Sermon:** ..... *Luke 20:27-38*

(27) Then some of the Sadducees, who deny that there is a resurrection, came to Him and asked Him, (28) saying: "Teacher, Moses wrote to us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife, and he dies without children, his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother. (29) "Now there were seven brothers. And the first took a wife, and died without children. (30) "And the second took her as wife, and he died childless. (31) "Then the third took her, and in like manner the seven also; and they left no children, and died. (32) "Last of all the woman died also. (33) "Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife does she become? For all seven had her as wife." (34) And Jesus answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. (35) "But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; (36) "nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. (37) "But even Moses showed in the *burning bush passage* that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' (38) "For He is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## RESURRECTED TO BE AS THE ANGELS OF GOD

**Offertory:** ..... *TLH p. 22 f.*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 463, st. 1-6: For All the Saints*

**Offering & Prayer:**

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

**Distribution:** ..... *TLH 206: Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*

**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 463, st. 7-8: For All the Saints*

## THE INFLUENCE OF POLITICAL CORRECTNESS IN THE CHURCH

As citizens of this heretofore free country, we appreciate the right to speak our heart and mind freely. We cherish the freedom of speech, even if in the exercise of it we must tolerate foolishness that frequently passes for such speech. We suspect that we have all been guilty of inanities and foolishness that both offends and abuses the proper exercise and right of free speech. Nevertheless, as children of God we should recognize the responsibility attached to exercising the right of free speech! Therefore as Christians we should surely guard our tongue to avoid using our freedom of speech to offend, hurt, slander, defame or in some fashion harm our neighbor (8th Commandment). When we speak the truth, and speak it we must, our speech is to be "with grace, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6). Such speech is "speech marked by Christian taste and tact" (Franzmann).

Observers of the daily life in America recognize that this country is being strangled with the rope of political correctness. The only ones who do not agree with that assessment are the promoters of it. They, who cry loudest when in their mind their right to free speech is violated, are the same ones who are killing the freedom of speech by the promotion of political correctness. Political correctness has become a tool through which opposite opinions are suppressed and a tool through which freedoms are being lost. Even the weight of the law has been marshaled in favor of political correctness. We suspect that political correctness cops monitor what is spoken in the church. For example, to speak about the sin of homosexuality is now looked upon as hate speech. The church that promotes the Scriptural teaching of marriage as one man and one woman is the object of scorn and ridicule. Even as sin and evil can be propagated in the name of free speech, so suppression and evil lurks under cover of political correctness.

As the church is less and less influential in the world, it is more and more being influenced by the world. The underlying reason is the lack of respect in the church for the God of Scripture as well as the Word which the Lord God has recorded in Scripture. Whether the departure from the Word has opened the door to political correctness in the church, or political correctness has infiltrated the church so that it has given up the Word, the result is devastatingly the same. Within much of Christendom it is considered extreme and unloving (politically incorrect) to teach what Scripture teaches concerning sin: churches countenance abortion, promote homosexuality, accept living in (playing house) outside of marriage. Even many who still profess to be Lutheran have in weakness or with intention cast aside the divinely established principle that the exercise of the pastoral ministry and authority is restricted to men. To a great extent the church has adopted the principle that if you can't beat them, then join them. Call it political correctness or whatever you will; they are guilty of false doctrine well as of misleading precious souls.

Further, to a great extent the church in the world has scuttled its divinely appointed responsibility to preach the Word of God in truth and purity and to share the unadulterated Gospel, with Christ and the means of grace at the core of it. The vacuum has been filled with more and more social orientation. The church in the world has become more politically involved in society itself, as well as political in the administration of its own affairs. If we are fearful of the consequences because we dare to speak against what one has called, "the world in the church," we are in danger of becoming one with the apostate church.

Is one of the reasons that we might shrink from straight talk about what is happening in the world and in the church this ... that we do not want to be looked on as Pharisees or as ones who present ourselves as "holier-than-thou"? We should expect that! But are we not called upon to tell the truth and bear the consequence? We know full well what Scripture says about taking the beam out of our own eye before removing the splint out of another's (Matthew 7:4). So let us acknowledge here and now that in our own lives and in our own church the world has succeeded all too often to bend our thoughts to reflect the sinful nature rather than the mind of our Redeemer God. As we repent of our sins, we should not shrink from inviting scrutiny of our personal life and the life of our church! We ask only that they who would judge us for calling sin what it is, measure our teaching, practice, and life in the light of God's Word.

Satan wins when we speak from a heart of rancor or from a heart of pharisaical pride. But he also wins when he succeeds in "shutting us up" because, from an attitude of political correctness or out of fear of how we will be perceived, we fail to speak the truth! If what is taught is contrary to God's Word and what is practiced is against God's Word we must speak the truth.! How we speak is important--remember "with grace, seasoned with salt"-- but to speak the truth is not hate speech!

The apostle Paul spoke plainly of those who preached another gospel. He said, "For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a servant of Christ" (Galatians 1:6-10). Paul was not uncaring about his neighbor (Roman 9:1-5). But if a choice had to be made between pleasing men or pleasing God, he had no choice. He had to speak the truth!

We reflect love of God and hallow His name "When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead a holy life according to it." We pray, "This grant us, dear Father in Heaven." Political correctness in society is dishonest. Political correctness in the church begets false doctrine! "He that teaches and lives otherwise than God's Word teaches, profanes the name of God among us." To that we can only add, "From this preserve us, Heavenly Father" (First Petition).

May the God of peace, and the God of truth, Who has fulfilled every promise to us in Christ Jesus, keep us strong in faith unto eternal life, honest in word and deed, ready to speak the truth in love, and on guard against the influences of the world and the apostate church, to the glory of His name and the welfare of ourselves and our neighbor. "To this, Gracious Father, help us." (Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 10/2010)

## † THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Lillian Nelson was able to go home this week with Rick and Heidi! We thank the Lord for granting her sound health!
- ◆ **Poinsettia Signup:** The signup sheet for Poinsettia's is on the cabinet by the guest book at the church entry. It will be there for the month of Nov. If anyone has any questions, please contact Jackie Radichel.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Jay Hartmann of Resurrection in Corpus Christi, TX, has received the call to serve as interim pastor at Shepherd of the Valley in Weslaco, TX. He has accepted and is serving them weekly.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #9 – 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment.

## † TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Maureen Ochsner    Elder: Ed Lentz  
Ushers: Pat Paplow, Gerald Anderson, Dan Degnan, Ryan Oman, Brandon Paplow, Andrew Rosendahl  
Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Michael Ude  
Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel  
Church Cleaners: Sandhoefner    School: Sandhoefner

## † NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Roger Ochsner, Don Dahlin, Jeremiah Boe, Bob Maki, Joel Stifter, Arnold Gehrls  
Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner  
Hospitality Team 6: Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt Wendland  
Church Cleaners: A. Radichel    School: Sandhoefner

## † OUR SCHEDULE †

**Today:** 9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class  
 10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper  
 11:15 am – Hospitality

**Wed., Nov. 10:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

**Sun., Nov. 14:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
 9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class  
 10:00 am – Worship Service  
 11:15 am – Hospitality  
 12:00 pm – Council Meeting

**Wed., Nov. 24:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
 7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Eve Worship

**Sun., Dec. 5, 12:** 12-2 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsals  
**Sun., Dec. 19:** 9:00 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal

**Last Week's Stats:** Oct. 31, 2010 Sun.: 105 S.S.: ?? B.Cl.: ?? Wed. 20

Week's Offering:	Grace:	\$3,089.75	CLC:	\$698.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,015.00	CLC:	960.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+74.75	CLC:	-262.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$129,011.24	CLC:	\$38,794.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	132,660.00	CLC:	42,240.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,648.76	CLC:	-3,446.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	100.00	Tuition:	128.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	2.00
ILC Student Aid:	ILC Bldg.	25.00	IIF:	41.00
			CEF:	3.00

# Grace Lutheran Church & School



**...before me was a great multitude...  
 from every nation...  
 standing before the throne.**

Revelation 7:9