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Grace Lutheran Church & School

460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432
Email: jphein@clclutheran.com
Home Page: www.CLCClutheranChurch.org
Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635) Phone: 763-784-8784
School Phone: 763-784-6340 Grades: 1st-8th
Church Year: Pentecost 6 Date: July 24, 2011

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 65, p. 136*

Hymn: *TLH 16: Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word*

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

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

- P: Taste and see that the Lord is good;
- C: Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.**
- P: The Lord has chosen Zion, He has desired it for His dwelling;
- C: "This is My resting place forever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it —**
- P I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor will I satisfy with food.
- C: I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints will ever sing for joy."**

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 508, st. 1, 4*

- C: Thou whose almighty word Chaos and darkness heard
And took their flight, Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the Gospel day Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light!**
- Holy and blessed Three, Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might! Boundless as ocean's tide,
Rolling in fullest pride, Thro' the earth, far and wide,
Let there be light!**

First Reading: *Romans 8:18-25*
Creation even shares in the hope of deliverance from this world of bondage.

Gradual:
P: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
C: His greatness no one can fathom.
P I will meditate on Your wonderful works,
C: And I will proclaim Your great deeds.
P: Alleluia. Alleluia. The Word is very near you;
C: It is in your mouth and in your heart that you may do it. Alleluia.

Second Reading: *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*
The parable of the sower and the seed teaches us all that there are different situations that can happen to us as we hear the Word of God. May the Spirit give us hearts to receive His Word, hearing and understanding it for our benefit.

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

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

Sermon: *Isaiah 55:10-11*

(10) "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, (11) So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it." (NKJV™)



*BEFORE THE WORD OF GOD:
WHERE IT ALWAYS RAINS!*

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *WS 781: Preach You the Word*

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

Hymn: *TLH 46: On What Has Now Been Sown*

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!

AT WHAT ARE WE AIMING AND TO WHAT PURPOSE?

Those of us who watched the tapes on evolution saw a pictorial on the difference between evolutionists and Bible believers. The pictorial shows that the evolutionists have it right, and most often Bible believers have it wrong. Does that shock you?

The foundation of Christianity is Christ and His Word, the Bible. The picture shows the evolutionists from their tower training their cannons on the foundation of Christianity. They know that if they can destroy the foundation, the whole structure will fall. The same pictorial shows Bible believers from their castle shooting at the balloons of homosexuality, abortion, immorality, etc. In other words Bible believers too often shoot at the manifest sins, instead of at the ungodly foundation that spawns the sin.

The above named sins are abhorrent and are to be exposed. We too reject them as wicked and ungodly, deserving the wrath of God. But aiming our guns at the sins is like pulling off the top of weeds. They come back. The weeds have to be rooted out by the roots, eradicated, and killed. Sin and error has to be exposed and removed, but if we want to do it correctly we have to aim at the godless philosophy that spawns it. We have to be relentless in speaking the Truth of God's Word against the religious philosophy that evolution is. Evolutionists have no need for God. They reject the Triune God. They reject Christ. They are gods unto themselves. In a world and its philosophies that is without respect for the Triune God there are no absolutes, no standards of morality, and everyone is a free agent to do what he wants as he wants when he wants where he wants, and how he wants.

Unless we expose that philosophy through faithful preaching and adherence to the Word of God, we can keep on shooting at balloons to no avail. Satan just keeps on floating more! Only the truth of our Lord can destroy the foundation that spawns the evils in the world. Make no mistake about it. Evil must be exposed, and rejected, and removed. The problem is that it is not as flashy when it is done through preaching the Word and attacking the foundation, as it is when done by lambasting balloons. The fire and brimstone approach impresses more than the quiet preaching of the Word. Even at that, through no fault of the Word sin will continue; that is the curse of this sin-ridden world in which we live! So ask yourself, at what you are aiming, and at what the church in the world is aiming.

Most Christian churches and most fundamentalists today are confused as to the purpose of Christian preaching. When you go into a Bible bookstore you will find rows and rows of "How To" books. They are books that stress how the Christian is to live. They are heavy on what man should do for Christ. In other words they stress sanctification. But they have it backwards. Justification is to be preached before sanctification can bloom. The primary purpose of the Church in the world

is not to tell people how to live or what they can do for Christ. Sure, that is important and part of preaching. But the primary purpose is to tell people what Christ has done for man! Jesus said to preach repentance and remission of sins. He said to preach the Gospel, defined by Scripture itself as the power of God unto salvation. The Gospel mission is to declare the forgiveness of sins through and by our Lord Jesus Christ with the assurance that where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation. That is a foundation that Satan cannot bring down, no matter how often he tries. They who are built upon that foundation will endure unto salvation, where once and for all we shall be delivered from the godless philosophy of this world. Satan and his followers here hate the truth of the Gospel message. That is why they aim at it with vengeance.

One of the gross deceits of Satan is that while he knows he cannot win the battle, he does not tell his followers that they are fighting a losing cause. In the meantime in resisting the sins we ought be aiming at the godless foundations, which spawn them. That is done by proclaiming Christ without fear or favor!

Written by Pastor Daniel Fleischer (6/2/2002)

† *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* †

- ◆ **VBS:** This is scheduled for August 1-5. Registration signup is located by the guest book. We are still in need of a music teacher. Please speak with Pastor Hein if interested.
- ◆ **Among Us:** Earlier this week Sue Nelson had to have an appendectomy. She is recovering well after the surgery.
- ◆ **You can be a Lifesaver!** We will be holding a blood drive here at church on September 25th. The purpose of this drive is simply to raise awareness for the need for blood. Before Memorial Blood Center will commit to bringing their bus here, we have to verify that there is enough interest. We will have a sign-up sheet in the back of church (by the entrance). Please sign up if you are interested. This does not mean you are committed to that date. We are simply showing MBC that we have enough willing individuals. Please talk with Rick Nelson if you have any questions.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Prince of Peace in Hecla, SD, has accepted the call to Trinity in Spokane, WA. † Pastor Timothy Holland has resigned from his call to Rock of Ages in Grand Rapids, MI, for personal reasons. He will still be serving Our Savior in Cadillac, MI. † Holy Cross in Phoenix, AZ, has called Staci Sue Nieuwenhuis, a member of the congregation, to be their Kindergarten teacher.

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Ed Lentz

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel, Bob Vandever, Matthew Vandever

Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner

Church Cleaners: Fleischer

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel, Bob Vandever, Matthew Vandever

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow

Church Cleaners: ??

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Worship Service

Sun., July 31: 9:00 am – Worship Service

August 1-5: Vacation Bible School

August 29: First Day of School @ Grace

Last Week's Stats: July 17, 2011 Sun.: 115

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,037.69	CLC:	\$1,335.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,850.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-812.31	CLC:	+375.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$83,632.15	CLC:	\$25,696.50	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	82,650.00	CLC:	26,880.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+982.15	CLC:	-2,143.50	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	20.00	Tuition Aid:	70.00	
GLC Other:	72.00	MDF:	20.00	Kinship:	95.00
ILC Student Aid:	50.00	ILC Bldg.	55.00	IIF: 20.00	CEF: 20.00

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

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