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Grace Lutheran Church & School

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Fridley, MN 55432
Email: jphein@clclutheran.com
Home Page: www.CLCCGraceLutheranChurch.org
Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635) Phone: 763-784-8784
School Phone: 763-784-6340 Grades: Kindergarten-8th
Church Year: Epiphany 5 Date: February 5, 2012

† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 103, TLH p. 145 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 26: Praise the Almighty*

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

Introit (followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie): *TLH, pp. 16-17*
P: Even in the darkness light dawns for the upright,
C: For the gracious and compassionate and righteous man.
P: Praise the Lord. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in His commands.
C: Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.
P: He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
C: His heart is secure, he will have no fear; in the end he will look in triumph on his foes. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 466, st. 4*
Praise and honor to the Father, Praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One,
One in might and one in glory, While unending ages run.

First Reading: *Job 7:1-7*
Without Christ, one's life becomes meaningless.

Gradual:
P: Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol Him, all you peoples.
C: For great is His love toward us; and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
P: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;
C: Bring an offering and come into His courts.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the Light of the world ..."
C: "Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Alleluia.

Choir: *Jubilate Deo*

Second Reading: *Mark 1:29-39*
Christ declares His purpose is to preach the Gospel to a lost world.

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

Hymn: *TLH 349, st. 1-4: Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

Sermon: *Selected*
Job 7:6: [Job said], "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and are spent without hope."
Mark 1:35-38: Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, [Jesus] went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him. When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You." But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth."
1 Corinthians 9:16-17, 22b: For if I preach the Gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the Gospel! For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship... I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. (NKJVTM)

A Life with Purpose!

Offertory: *TLH p. 22 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 27: Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul*

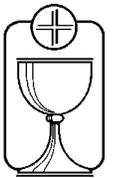
Offering & Prayer:

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

Distribution: *Meditative Music*
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.*

Closing Hymn: *TLH 207, st. 6: Like the Golden Sun Ascending*



† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Tournament Band:** The 9th Annual Grade School Tournament Band will be performing at the Grade School Basketball Tournament in Eau Claire, WI on Friday, March 9. Please note the change of day for this year. Practice and performance will be held Friday afternoon. Music is now available at cclutheran.net/tourney/band/tourney_band.htm. This group is open to all CLC musicians in grades 5-8. The band will have it's own timeslot, so those playing basketball will not miss any games. Please join us! It's a lot of fun to play in a large group of other CLC band players! If you have any questions, please email laurie@thelaus.com.
- ◆ **Call for Nomination at ILC:** The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor John Pfeiffer expires June 30, 2012. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2012. Nominations must be written or E-mailed no later than midnight April 15, 2012, to Mr. Craig Ryan; 499 Country Lane; Fulda, MN 56131; E-Mail: cryan@page1printers.com.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Kevin McKenney of Faith in Cambridge, WI, who has been struggling with many health issues, found out last weekend that he also has abdominal hematoma. Prayers are requested for him. Cindy Hartmann, wife of Pastor Jay Hartman serving at Resurrection in Corpus Christi, TX, has been suffering with agonizing migraines. She has been seeing one of the foremost specialists in the world with regard to this, and the problem is getting worse. Prayers are requested for Cindy. Pastor Steven Karp of St. Stephen in Hayward, CA (Oakland area) announced that he has been cancer free. It's been nearly two years since he was diagnosed. Correspondence from these issues are posted on the bulletin board.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #18, Second Article, Part 3

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 speak with you!

THE FUTURE OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

The title of this article may seem ominous to some. It may seem to be unnecessarily frightening to others. Nevertheless, we believe it is something that cannot be ignored.

We know that the future of God's children is safe and secure in the hand of the Lord. We trust the gracious love of God in all things for He loves us in Christ Jesus. We have his promise that He will preserve His Word till the end of time. He will see to it that the light of the Gospel shines until He comes again. He has promised that no foe shall be able to pluck His children out of His hand. But that confidence in the Heavenly Father's faithfulness and kindness does not excuse us from reading His Word, standing fast in Scripture, and penitently clinging to the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no promise in Scripture that guarantees our eternal future if we become indifferent, neglectful, and lackadaisical toward Him, His Word, or the faith. While we are in the church militant we are to "hold fast what you have, that no man take your crown" (Revelation 3:11). We are told, "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). To the church in Ephesus the Spirit said, "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lamp stand from its place—unless you repent" (Revelation 2:5). The whole point is that while the Lord Jesus has won our future and the Spirit of God guarantees it, we are not free to take it for granted!

The establishment of Immanuel Lutheran High School (ILHS), College, and Seminary years ago, was a pure miracle of God as the Lord inspired laymen at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato as well as the congregation itself to step out boldly because there was a need. From its humble beginnings in a transplanted country school house on the prairie in Mankato to its present pleasant campus in Eau Claire the school has been blessed and been a blessing to many. For a history of Immanuel Lutheran College see *Throughout All Generations* by Eunice Roehl. (Order through the CLC Book House, phone 715-836-6623, email clcbookhouse@ilc.edu or direct email to the author. The cost for the history is \$15.00 with all profits going to the Academic and Administration Center building project fund).

The future of our school lies in the hands of the Lord God Who has a vital interest in the welfare of lambs for which He died and rose again. But as we perused the most recent CLC school statistics, we noted that the enrollment in our elementary schools is decreasing. Further, we



recognized that the elementary school population is bloated to a certain extent by a good number of non-CLC students who are enrolled, but not likely to utilize ILHS. We are pleased that we can serve others with the Word of God, and the way of salvation. But to the extent that the Christian Day Schools are the main feeders into Immanuel the decrease in enrollment in our elementary schools is a matter of concern.

Nevertheless, as surely as our congregations cannot have a ministry and/or a school in communities where we live without the active support of members, neither can ILHS continue to exist without the prayerful, active, and financial support of CLC congregations! The CLC does not receive government aid for the education of its students. The CLC does not want such support. ILHS and the other departments on campus are supported solely by the gifts of faith—money, time, and volunteer help—of members of the CLC. The other stream of support comes from the room and board and tuition payments of the students. (For the cost of an education at ILHS see the ILC catalog or go on line —www.ilc.edu).

The benefit of our school accrues to the students as they are trained in the Word through which they are prepared to take their place and live and function as well mannered and trust worthy citizens in society.

It was recognized from the beginning of the CLC that if we believed what we said we believed, and if we believed that it was important that sound Lutheran teaching continue among us, we needed to have such a school as ILHS, as well as the college and seminary. That need is no less important today! Further, if our congregations are to have pastors and teachers of our Lutheran faith and confession, we need to train them in our own educational environment. That training begins with a sound education at the secondary level. Hence ILHS is essential to the life of our church! The future of the CLC to a certain extent depends on the faithful training of our youth in “the one thing needful.”

Likely for many parents it may call for sacrifice to send their children to ILHS. It is also not easy for many parents to send their children off from home at the age of 14 or 15. We are confident however that parents will not regret having sent their children to ILHS as they observe the growth in faith, as well as the maturity level that is attained by young people who have been committed to the hand of the Lord during their formative educational years.

Assuming that our concern is legitimate, there are no easy answers. We certainly are not going to give up our educational philosophy, and the foundational source of our education—Scripture—to entice more to attend ILHS by becoming a quasi-public school. As surely as we promote our school, we must guard against “losing” by promoting ill-advised efforts to save it!

So then how shall we conclude? As parents, let us train up our children in the Word at home. To the extent that it is possible, let congregations establish and maintain Christian Day Schools in their midst first of all for the benefit of the children as well as the future of ILHS. Let parents and congregations expose the children to the campus, the academic setting, the concerts, and other campus activities. Let us implant in young minds the idea of enjoying the educational experience at ILHS when the time comes. That early preparation prepares both the children and the parent. Let us compare an education rooted in Scripture and given by committed Christian teachers at ILHS to the education that is of this world and which in fact undermines the Christian faith. Let us appreciate that in all our mission work, there is no greater mission that parents have than to give their children the wisdom that makes wise unto salvation. Let no parent simply dismiss the idea of an education at ILHS as foolish or impossible, but rather carefully consider it and pray over the matter. Yes, let the welfare of all of our youth as well as ILHS be the subject of our prayers before the throne of God.

Finally, let the teachers and administrators of our school recognize the great responsibility and privilege they have faithfully to use their gifts as the Lord gives the talent so that the youth in their care benefit to the fullest—spiritually and academically. Let us all receive with thanksgiving the gift we have in Immanuel Lutheran High School, College and Seminary, and recognize that *what serves the educational experience of our children best also serves Immanuel*, and what serves Immanuel best serves the children as well as the CLC.

Having done what we can do, we commend the school to the Lord Who gave it to us in the first place. He knows whether our concern is legitimate, and He knows the answers to our questions. As we appreciate with thanksgiving His blessing upon our school through the generations, we wait on Him with hope.

PRAYER: “Heavenly Father, by your Spirit strengthen us in faith and in confidence of your loving kindness. As You have redeemed us and made us your children through the Lord Jesus, and in Him given us the certain hope of an inheritance in heaven, help us to appreciate the nurseries of education You have established among us. Cause your Word to be proclaimed in them to the strengthening of succeeding generations in the same hope. Let us see them as gracious gifts from your hand.

We commend our congregations and our Christian schools to your care. As the future is not hidden to You who has ordained it to our benefit, help us to pursue it with confidence that our future is secure here in time and hereafter in eternity. Amen.”

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 1/2012

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: Sue Nelson Elder: Larry Nelson
Ushers: Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Don Dahlin, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter
Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner
Hospitality Team 1: Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner
Church Cleaners: Lentz School: Hein

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel, Bob Vandever, Bobby Vandever, Matt Vandever
Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow
Hospitality Team 2: Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Jenny Kleifgen
Church Cleaners: M & T Wales School: Hein

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

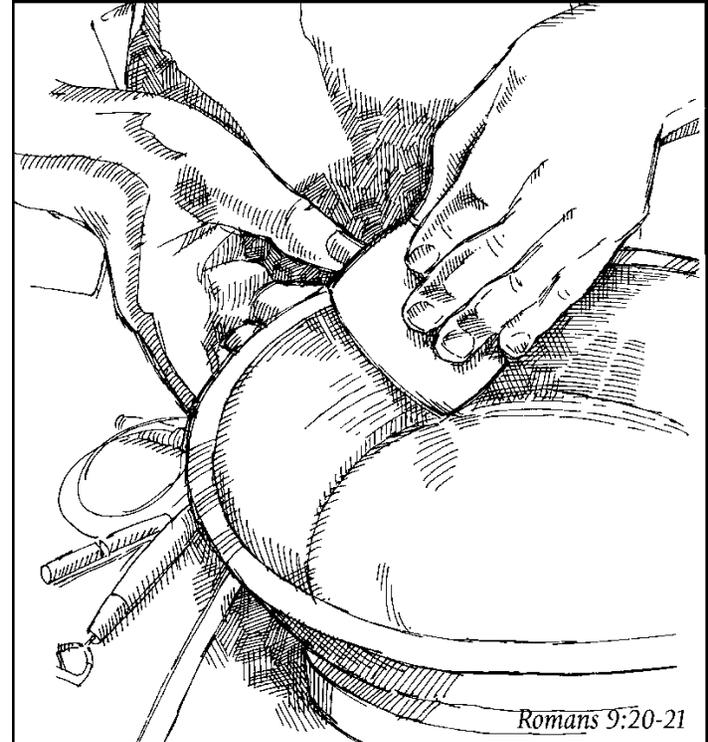
Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Feb. 8: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sun., Feb. 12: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
 12:00 pm – Council Meeting
Wed., Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday

Last Week's Stats: Jan. 29, 2012 Sun.: 111 S.S.: 12 B.Cl.: 39 Wed.: 26

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|-------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Sun. Offering: | Grace: | \$2,638.26 | CLC: | \$878.00 | |
| Weekly Need: | Grace: | 3,030.00 | CLC: | 960.00 | |
| -Under / +Over: | Grace: | -391.74 | CLC: | -82.00 | |
| Year-to-Date Offering:: | Grace: | \$12,212.03 | CLC: | \$4,818.00 | |
| Year-to-Date Need: | Grace: | 15,150.00 | CLC: | 4,800.00 | |
| Year-to-Date (+/-) | Grace: | -2,937.97 | CLC: | +18.00 | |
| Other Offerings: | Living Faith: | 0.00 | Tuition Aid: | 175.00 | |
| GLC Other: | 2.50 | MDF: | 0.00 | Kinship: | 50.00 |
| ILC Student Aid: | 0.00 | ILC Bldg. | 400.00 | IIF: 4.00 | CEF: 0.00 |

*Grace Lutheran
Church & School*

*Shall what is formed say to him who formed it,
"Why did you make me like this?"*



*Does not the potter have the right to
make out of the same lump of clay some pottery
for noble purposes and some for common use?*