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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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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: Lent 4 Date: March 18, 2012

✠ **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** ✠

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 38, TLH p. 132*

Hymn: *TLH 354: In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

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

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

- P: The Lord is my strength and my shield;
 - C: My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped.**
 - P: The Lord is the strength of His people,
 - C: A fortress of salvation for His anointed one.**
 - P: Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;
 - C: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**
- Glory be to God!**

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 246, st. 1,4: Holy, Holy, Holy*

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 All Thy works shall praise Thy name
 in earth and sky and sea.
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

First Reading: *Numbers 21:4-9*
 God's people are instructed to look upon a bronze serpent to rescue them from the fatal bites of the fiery serpents.

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: *Ephesians 2:4-10*
 We do good works not in order to be saved, but because we are saved.

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

Hymn: *WS 760: Oh, Love, How Deep*

Sermon: *John 3:14-21*
 (14) "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, (15) "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. (16) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (17) "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (18) "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (19) "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. (20) "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. (21) "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God." (NKJVTM)

Christ is Lifted up as the Curse

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 245: God Loved the World So that He Gave*

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

Hymn: *TLH 175: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

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 ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Midweek Lenten Worship:** Our Midweek Lenten worship services are held on Wednesdays at 7 pm. The devotions this year are based upon the Seven Words of Christ. The words spoken by Jesus from the cross were profound in their spiritual meaning and application. Let us take the opportunity to meditate on the grace and love of our Savior God this Lenten season! Lenten soup suppers are held before every Lenten service starting at 6 pm.
- ◆ **Easter Lilies:** There is a sign-up sheet for Easter Lilies or plants on the counter by the guest book in the narthex. Please direct any questions and payments to Jackie Radichel.
- ◆ **Easter:** Our schedule for Easter (April 8) includes a breakfast served at 7:30 am followed by our Easter worship service at 9:00 am.
- ◆ **Liberian Collection:** Alvin Jask has shared a list of items he would like to send over to Liberia for aid in his effort to share the Gospel with children. These will be collected in the blue barrel in the fellowship hall. Here are some examples of what he says he would like to collect: casual & light weight clothing for people of all ages; bedding, black low heel shoes for school children, socks, hair grease, used clippers for hair cuts, disposable razors, mosquito repellent, over-the-counter pain relief.
- ◆ **Arise & Shine:** The 20's and 30's retreat is scheduled for June 7-10, 2012 at Camp JIM, Pillager, MN. For more info & to register go to the website: www.AriseAndShineRetreat.com Costs: \$125 per adult (ages 7 and up), \$50 (ages 4-6), FREE (ages 0-3). Child Care is provided at no additional cost to families. We ask that families attending the retreat register by May 18th to enable child care arrangements to be made. Questions: Feel free to contact: Pastor Luke Bernthal - lbernthal@live.com 402.389.2147 -or- Alana Ahrens - alanaahrens@yahoo.com 402.322.9064
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Easter Recitation & Hymn

Last Week's Stats: Mar. 11, 2012 Sun.: 87 S.S.: 13 B.Cl.: 28 Wed.: 66

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,550.25	CLC:	\$545.00	
Wed. Offering:	Grace:	\$462.25	CLC:	\$125.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,030.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-1,017.50	CLC:	-290.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$30,448.67	CLC:	\$10,786.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	33,330.00	CLC:	10,560.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-2,841.33	CLC:	+226.00	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	175.00	
GLC Other:	1.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	280.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

SALVATION BY GRACE ALONE:

Good works, fruits of faith, are important in the Christian life. The believer in Christ cannot be a barren tree. Good works are necessary as testimony to the faith we hold and the believers we are, but they are not the cause of our salvation! Many years ago an old preacher spoke of Matthew 5:16. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

"It is one of the most essential doctrines of the Holy Scriptures that man's own good works are not necessary unto salvation. The Scriptures teach us to do good works, but at the same time they teach us that we are not justified and saved by our works. Hence, according to Scriptures, our good works are not necessary unto salvation.

"There are a great many passages of Scripture which *seem* to ascribe salvation to man's own good works, but on a closer inspection of these passages we invariably find that this is by no means their *actual* import. Such a passage is found in the 6th chapter of Galatians, where Paul says, 'Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.' From these words a superficial reader might conclude, from his well doing a man should reap everlasting life. But the text only says "we shall reap" and does not say, we shall reap eternal life. And in the same connection the apostle says: 'He that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.' Eternal life is of the Spirit, and not of man's well doing. Well doing has its promise of reward. It is rewarded both in this world and in that which is to come, but this reward is not eternal life itself.

"On the other hand, the Holy Scriptures very emphatically teach justification and salvation without man's works. 'By the works of the law shall no flesh be justified' (Galatians 2:16). 'We conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law' (Romans 3:28). 'By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works' (Ephesians 2:8). That is certainly excluding man's works in a very pronounced manner from contributing even the very least unto his justification and salvation...

"The Scriptures also assign the reason why man cannot be saved by his own works, when they say, 'There is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not' (Ecclesiastes 7:20). Now to be saved by works man must have done only good, and must never have sinned. Such an one is not on earth; hence, no man can be saved by his works ...

"Our works are not necessary unto salvation, because Jesus Christ has prepared salvation for us and has finished the work... We must not plead our own good works before God, but alone Christ and His ransom; this alone will hold good in the judgment." – Kuegele, *Country Sermons*

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Maureen Ochsner Elder: Ed Lentz

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Gary Gunther, Larry Nelson, Jacob Rhinesmith, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales

Hospitality Team 1: Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner

Church Cleaners: Hein School: Baker

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Gary Gunther, Larry Nelson, Jacob Rhinesmith, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland

Hospitality Team 2: Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Jenny Kleifgen

Church Cleaners: Hein School: Cook

† OUR SCHEDULE †

- Today:** 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality
- Wed., Mar. 21:** 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Supper
7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Worship
- Sun., Mar. 25:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality
6:30 pm – Immanuel Tour Choir @ Messiah in Eau Claire
- Sun., Apr. 1:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Palm Sunday Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality
12:00 pm – Council Meeting
- Fri., Apr. 6:** 7:00 pm – Good Friday Worship
- Sun., Apr. 8:** 7:30 am – Easter Breakfast
9:00 am – Easter Worship
- Sun., Apr. 15:** 11:30 am – Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings
- Fri., Apr. 27:** Immanuel High School Visitors Day

Grace Lutheran Church & School



For God so loved
the world that he
gave his one and
only Son....

JOHN 3:16, NIV