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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)

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

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

Church Year: Pentecost 3

Date: June 9, 2013

## ✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

**Worship Preparation:** .....Psalm 100, TLH p. 144 f.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 571: What Our Father Does Is Well

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

### Introit:

P: Sing to the Lord a new song;

**C: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

P It is we who extol the Lord, both now and forevermore.

**C: Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol Him all you peoples.**

P: For great is His love toward us,

**C: And the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Glory be to God!**

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... TLH 249: Isaiah, Mighty Seer

All: Isaiah, mighty seer, in days of old

All: The Lord of all in spirit did behold

Women: High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,

All: With flowing train that filled the Temple quite.

Men: Above the throne were stately seraphim;

Men: Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.

Women: With twain they veiled their faces, as was meet,

All: With twain in rev'rent awe they hid their feet,

Men: And with the other twain aloft they soared,

Women: One to the other called and praised the Lord:

All: "Holy is God, the Lord of Sab-ā-ōth!

All: Holy is God, the Lord of Sab-ā-ōth!

All: Holy is God, the Lord of Sab-ā-ōth!

All: Behold, His glory filleth all the earth!"

Women: The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,

Men: And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.

**First Reading:** ..... Galatians 1:11-24

The power of the Gospel drastically changes Paul's life.

### 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. God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself,

**C: Not imputing their trespasses to them. Alleluia.**

**Second Reading:** ..... Luke 7:11-17

Jesus raises the youth of Nain back to life.

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

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 518: If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

**Sermon:** ..... 1 Kings 17:17-24

<sup>17</sup> Now it happened after these things *that* the son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him. <sup>18</sup> So she said to Elijah, "What have I to do with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?" <sup>19</sup> And he said to her, "Give me your son." So he took him out of her arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed. <sup>20</sup> Then he cried out to the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow with whom I lodge, by killing her son?" <sup>21</sup> And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him." <sup>22</sup> Then the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived. <sup>23</sup> And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives!" <sup>24</sup> Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now by this I know that you *are* a man of God, *and* that the word of the Lord in your mouth *is* the truth." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## Dealing with Personal Tragedy

1. Do you blame God Himself for what's happening?

2. Do you pray to God, trusting in His Word of promise?

**Offertory:** ..... TLH, p. 12 f.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 427: How Firm a Foundation

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

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 649: Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

## ✠ *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* ✠

- ◆ **Projection:** Four years ago the order of worship was projected on the screen in front of the church for a few weeks. At the time, it was well-received, helping elderly worshippers see better, helping parents with small children, and helping new worshippers to follow better. Unfortunately the projector was inconveniently located, was rather loud, and also had a double image. Finances limited the purchase of a new projector. The Voters have been discussing a plan to implement this in an on-going way, temporarily for a few weeks with the new fellowship hall projector. The long-term plan is to either use a large-screen LED flat-screen monitor or to project with a long-throw lens. The Voters will likely discuss this at the July Voters meeting.
- ◆ **Among Us:** Pat Paplow's mother, Ruth Sievert from Berea in Inver Grove Hts., has been deteriorating with her health. It appears that she is waiting for the Lord to call her to her eternal home. Also, Viola Schweikert's health is failing and it appears that she also is eager to be home with her Lord. Her 104<sup>th</sup> birthday would be on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Something to also keep in mind, Frieda Aden (member from Okabena who Pastor ministers to) will be 100 this next February. Larry and Sue Nelson were blessed with a baby granddaughter on Friday, Katrina Esther, 7 lb., 11 oz., 19", born to Teresa and Neil Bernthal.
- ◆ **VBS:** This is scheduled for August 5-9. Registration signup is located by the guest book. Those willing to volunteer for teaching, music, and/or crafts may speak with Pastor Hein.
- ◆ **Parade:** Thanks to all those who participated in the Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade this past Thursday evening. 28 people helped out, including nearly all the school children, some future students from the congregation (young children), alumni, parents, and grandparents. It was a great way to show support of the school, to get a large number of people from the congregation involved in outreach, and to have a face-to-face, non-confrontational opportunity to talk to many parents and children about our school! Many flyers were distributed during the parade. During the parade several comments were made about not realizing our school was here. While we leave it in the Lord's hands as to whether or not new students will be enrolled, the success in the endeavor was our grateful opportunity to witness and to promote the valuable Christian Education we have at Grace!
- ◆ **Labels for Education:** Now is the time to bring in all those proofs that you have been saving. Those proofs would be from Campbell's, Prego, Post cereals, Pepperidge Farms, Bic products, Emerald nuts, Glad products, Swanson, Wolfgang Puck, Pop Secret, V8, Dannon yogurt, and People magazine. This year's program is coming to a close and we want to submit as many proofs as we can by June 30.
- ◆ **Lutheran Spokesman & Branches:** Signup sheets for these publications are found by the guest book.

- ◆ **Fire Alarm Project:** The fire alarm in the school needs to be updated to bring it up to code. Please mark your offering envelope with "Fire Alarm" if you want your offering directed towards this project.
- ◆ **Immanuel Boosters Club:** Volunteers for low-profile ushering/security are being sought for working the Country Jam near Eau Claire, WI, in order to raise money for some extra athletic projects at Immanuel. If you are willing to help on July 18-20, please email Tom Beekman (Thomas.Beekman@dot.wi.gov).
- ◆ **ILC Tour Choir Concert:** By special arrangement with copyright holders, permission has been obtained to view the ILC Tour Choir concert that was presented at Messiah, Eau Claire, on April 7, 2013. You may view it online, or download it for later viewing. However, please respect the license arrangement by not making a "hard copy" of a CD or DVD. The concert link is – [http://youtu.be/or15nAS\\_7h8](http://youtu.be/or15nAS_7h8)
- ◆ **Dorm Supervisor Needed at ILC:** ILC is in need of a boys' dormitory supervisor. Men who are CLC members in good standing and are able and willing to fill this position should ask the pastor for more information about the responsibilities and compensation for this position. Those who are interested in applying should contact the ILC president, Prof. Steve Sippert (steve.sippert@ilc.edu, 715-831-9104), for an application or for more information.
- ◆ **Bible Seminar:** Critics reject its authenticity. Skeptics question its authority. Yet God declares it to be His power unto salvation. Ascension Lutheran in Batavia is hosting a free seminar on the authority and reliability of the Bible, Saturday July 13, 1–4p. The seminar will feature guest speakers from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran Seminary and is being held at the Batavia Public Library: 10 S Batavia Ave, Batavia, IL 60510. Join us for fellowship, refreshments, and education. Learn more to confirm and defend your faith in the reliable testimony of Scripture. "The Word of the LORD endures forever." Here is the seminar platform:
  - The Bible – Divine Revelation or Human Speculation?
  - 1. Where did it come from? Professor John Ude
  - 2. How did we get it? Professor John Pfeiffer
  - 3. What do we do with it? President Steven SippertFor more information go to [www.ascensionbatavia.org](http://www.ascensionbatavia.org). You may also contact Pastor David Pfeiffer by email: [ascensionbatavia@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionbatavia@gmail.com) or phone: 630-879-9455.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Teacher Jeff Karnitz of St. Stephen in Mountain View, CA, has returned the call from Immanuel in Mankato, MN, to teach at its high school. ✠ Pastor Mark Gurath of Berea in Sioux Falls, SD, suffered a heart attack this past week. President Eichstadt writes, "We thank the Lord for graciously preserving the life of Pastor Mark Gurath after his heart attack earlier this week. May our Good Shepherd grant him a quick and complete recovery that he may soon resume his many roles in his congregation and family."

## **OVERCOMING BOLDNESS WITH BOLDNESS:**

In a recent discussion the subject arose as to why it appears there is so much more evil in the world today.

We commented that there is no more evil in the world today than there ever has been. Since the fall from creation perfection, sin has reigned in the unregenerate human heart. At the time of Noah “the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” (Genesis 6:5). Suffice it to say that it boggles the mind that evil was so great that “The Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart” (6:6). The flood to eradicate the wicked from the earth followed. Only the righteous Noah and his family survived. Yet even within the righteous the root of sin dwells. It showed itself in Noah’s drunkenness and in the conduct of his sons. Then came Babel (Genesis 11), followed by Sodom. The gravity of its wickedness (Genesis 18:20) incurred the wrath of God. Scripture tells us that evil is the result of rejecting the word of the Lord and going one’s own way. Consequently Israel was carried away into captivity and Judah was exiled to Babylon. Only because God is gracious did Judah return to its land. Out of faithfulness to His promise God had promised the Savior from sin, and this Savior would come from Judah. The New Testament also records the sins of men, sins of which the apostles spoke and against which they warned. We will not belabor the point except to reiterate that the evil is no greater today than it ever was.

We suggest that the evil of our day seems to have increased because of the boldness with which it is practiced, promoted, and defended. To a large extent the church in the world has compromised the Word of God and become apostate. As an apostate church has lost its moral authority, society itself has fractured and lost its way. As evidence we submit the deterioration of the home and morals. Further, the government has legalized sin and hints at criminalizing any testimony against the sins it approves. Ungodliness delights in sin and practices it with an “in your face” attitude with impunity and without shame, so that people of faith and conscience are troubled and can hardly believe that there was a time worse or, at least, as bad as today.

Ought we to not be as bold and even bolder in confessing and living our faith in the world?” Such boldness will manifest itself by first of all coming before the throne of God in penitent sorrow over personal sin, and in confidence that God for Jesus’ sake has forgiven us all our sins. As dear children through faith we will “come boldly before the throne of grace, that we may find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16). The specific need in our context is strength to be honest in calling sin sin, in turn being bold in speaking truth about sin and its consequence. By the grace of God we will speak the truth in love, praying for further grace always to speak boldly as we ought to speak (Ephesians 6:20). Hardly can we love our neighbor if we are silent about sin that destroys the soul! Speaking the truth means that we cannot remain silent in the face of the promotion and defense of sin.

But lamenting the evil in the world and warning against it serves the ultimate purpose of our witness before the world only if we “outbold” the wicked by proclaiming the Gospel. To this end we will want to pray for the faith of the apostles, people of our own nature, who for the joy they knew in the Lord boldly preached all that the Lord commanded them (Matthew 28:20). Rather than hiding

the light of the divine Word under a bushel for fear of offending someone we need the boldness of Peter and John who said, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:19-20). Enduring further threats they prayed, “Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word ...” (Acts 4:29).

“Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord ...” (Psalm 86:8). Therefore, with boldness it is our call to proclaim the nature of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. He is our Creator God, our Savior God, and the God of our sanctification. There is no god like unto our God whose judgment against sin is revealed in Scripture, and whose grace, kindness and love shines upon us.

But how shall people ignorant of the true God and of the Gospel hear “without a preacher” and how shall they believe in our God of whom they have not heard (Romans 10)? In this context recognize that we are all preachers, men and women, young and old. All of us are called upon to proclaim the message of grace and forgiveness in Christ Who died in our place bearing the just punishment for our sin, and rising again to give life in heaven.

The purpose of our messaging is not to “save society” from itself. Our primary purpose is to be instruments in the Lord’s hand to save souls. Therefore we should not fear the opposition or shrink from fear of failure. The Lord has promised that His Word will bear fruit (Isaiah 55:11). Our blessed Savior will garner the fruit of His travails as His atoning work is proclaimed. As souls are won for heaven, by his Spirit He will rescue some from the boldness of wickedness and make them bold confessors in word and deed. Only the Spirit of God working through the Gospel can change hearts from death to life, from wickedness to a life of sanctification! Speak it boldly!

Boldness is not defined by who can shout the loudest. Boldness is holding fast to the Word, and sharing the still small voice of the Gospel without fear. Paul said, “I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes ...” (Romans 1:16). To the wicked boldness is a cover for ignorance and fear. For the Christ believer whose purpose is to glorify God before a fallen world, boldness is born of love ... God’s love for us, and our love for the neighbor! Boldness is the opposite of timidity. If purely out of love God the Father has redeemed us freely through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ, hardly will love permit us to be timid in calling the sinner to repentance and proclaiming the Lord Jesus and His love to the world!

Can we who are inclined to timidity find the boldness that outmatches that of the wicked that are not shy in exercise and promotion of their wickedness? Indeed it is possible. Perhaps one of the best examples of the boldness we need is found in Joseph who “taking courage, went into Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus” (Mark 15:43). With him was Nicodemus “who first came to Jesus by night” (John 19:39). In His death Jesus emboldened these men to act. Surely by the death and resurrection unto life of our Savior, we will find the boldness to “outbold” the wicked.

We may be outshouted, but armed with Truth and in the might of the victory of our Lord over Satan we cannot be overcome. As Paul who had suffered and was spitefully treated, may we be bold to speak the Gospel of God in conflict (1 Thessalonians 2:2), not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts (2:4). God, help us!  
Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 6/2013

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

*Organist:* Janelle Hein      *Elder:* Brandt Wendland  
*Ushers:* Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales,  
 Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland  
*Counting Team 2:* Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales  
*Church Cleaners:* Hein

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

*Ushers:* Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales,  
 Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland  
*Counting Team 3:* Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland  
*Church Cleaners:* Hein

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., June 9:** 9:00 am – Worship Service  
 11:00 am – Council Meeting  
**June 11-13:** CLC Pastoral Conference @ Eau Claire, WI  
**Sun., June 16:** 9:00 am – Worship Service  
 3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference @ Mankato, MN  
**Sat., June 29:** 9:00 am – Grace Work Day  
**August 5-9:** Vacation Bible School  
**August 26:** Grace School Begins  
**August 28:** Catechism for Public School Students Begins (Grades 6-8)

**Last Week's Stats:** June 2, 2013 Sun.: 104

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,464.27	CLC:	\$807.25	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,000.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+464.27	CLC:	-117.25	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$66,906.77	CLC:	\$22,700.50	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	66,000.00	CLC:	21,120.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+906.77	CLC:	+1,580.50	
GLC Other:	190.00*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	0.00
SAF Endowment:	65.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	84.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	104.00	IIF: 10.00	CEF: 0.00

\*\$190 Fire Alarm

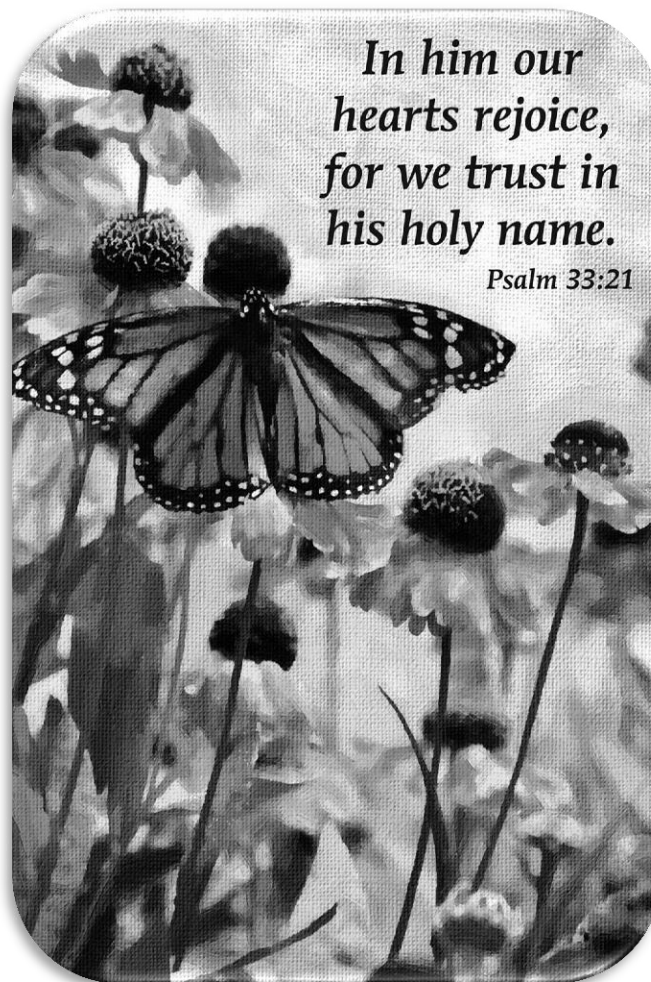
For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9

**GRACE**

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*Grace Lutheran  
 Church & School*

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In him our hearts rejoice,  
 for we trust in his holy name.

Psalm 33:21