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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432



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Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

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

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Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 4

Date: June 16, 2013

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation:Psalm 32, TLH p. 130 f.

Hymn: TLH 394: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

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

Introit:

P: Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

C: Shout for joy to the Lord, come before Him with joyful songs.

P Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His;

C: We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

P: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise;

C: Give thanks to Him and praise His name. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: TLH 36, st. 3

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,

The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven:

The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore!

For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

First Reading: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:15

The Prophet Nathan confronts David with his sin of adultery and murder. May the Lord give us the same repentant heart as David.

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. May Your priests be clothed with righteousness;

C: May your saints sing for joy. Alleluia.

Second Reading: Galatians 2:11-21

Paul confronts Peter with his hypocrisy. Peter was eating only with the Jews, giving the impression that a wall of separation still existed between the Gentiles and the Jews. He then explains that we are justified ("declared innocent before God") by faith in Christ Jesus, not by the works of the Law.

Confession of Faith: Apostolic Creed, TLH p. 12

Hymn: TLH 390: Drawn to the Cross

Sermon: Luke 7:36-50

(36) Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. (37) And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, (38) and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. (39) Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." (40) And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." (41) "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. (42) "And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" (43) Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." (44) Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. (45) "You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. (46) "You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. (47) "Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for [literally - "so that"] she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." (48) Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." (49) And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" (50) Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Responding with a Forgiven Heart

1. Contrition 2. Affection 3. Contribution

Offertory: TLH, p. 12 f.

Hymn: TLH 403: Savior, Thy Dying Love

Offering, Prayers, Benediction: TLH p. 14

Hymn: TLH 412: May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

✠ *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* ✠

- ◆ **Among Us:** This past week Don Dahlin was hospitalized at Mercy in Coon Rapids due to complications with his liver cancer. It appears that the Lord will soon be calling Don to his eternal home. We commend him to the Lord's everlasting care and pray that Judy may be comforted with the certain hope that we have through Christ! Viola Schweikert has also been going through ups and downs with her health. Also, Christian Wendland had an emergency appendectomy yesterday. Please keep the Lord's people in your prayers!
- ◆ **Thanks:** Many thanks to my dear friends for the prayers, cards, and well wishes. Also the hospital visits from Pastor, they were much appreciated. What a blessing and comfort I have received from them!! I am recuperating, but it is a slow process. May Jesus grant me a complete recovery, even if it is slow. God Bless you! In Jesus Love, Joyce Stiffer
- ◆ **VBS:** This is scheduled for August 5-9. Registration signup is located by the guest book. Those willing to volunteer for music and/or crafts may speak with Pastor Hein.
- ◆ **Android App:** Frank Radichel has provided a Grace Lutheran Church app that works with android devices (cell phones and tablets). This tool features links that members can use to stay connected with the congregation and the CLC. There is a devotional section that provides Bible readings and devotions from CLC resources. Find this by searching for "Grace Lutheran" on Google Play. Just as a reminder, Grace's website has a lot of valuable resources!
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **90th Anniversary Service:** Zion Ev. Lutheran Church in Ipswich, SD, invites you to join them in celebrating its 90th Anniversary at a special worship service next Sunday, June 23, at 5:00 p.m. The guest preacher is Pastor Mark Tiefel of Bethel Lutheran Church in Morris, MN. Pastor Tiefel is the grandson of Pastor Leland Grams who served Zion for over 30 years. You are also invited to the meal served by ladies of the congregation following the service at the 4-H building on 5th Street in Ipswich. If you are unable to join Zion for this special service, please remember the congregation by offering a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord for blessing Zion with 90 years of grace.

STRICT, or FAITHFUL?

In course of our history as a church body, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, or of our individual congregations, it has been suggested by some from the outside that we are too strict. In the context of this characterization the meaning is that we are a church that is against everything. At the risk of sounding presumptuous to some, we emphatically declare that if we are "against" something, it is because we are "for" Christ. The fact is that if we say what we are for it is implicit that we are against the opposite. In response to those who think we are too strict we are not going to apologize for what we are and what we teach. Nevertheless, we are ourselves going to ask a few questions.

- If God says that He is triune, and we insist on confessing that to the exclusion of identifying with those who deny the Trinity, are we too strict?
- If the Bible is the Word of God, and we believe the Bible are we too strict if we will not identify with those who do not know what the Bible is, or even worse, who reject its claim for itself?
- If we believe that the Word is eternal and is therefore timely in every age, are we too strict when we reject the idea that God's word changes with the times?
- If we believe that going beyond Scripture is as wicked as denying any part of Scripture, is that being too strict?
- If the Bible says that God created the world in 6 days, are we being too strict when we deny evolution in whole or in part?
- If God calls a certain thought, word, or deed, sin are we too strict to call sin what God calls sin?
- If we believe from Scripture that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, miraculously conceived by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, are we being too strict when we insist on believing and teaching what Scripture teaches?
- If we believe that all people are born in sin and are under the wrath of God unless delivered from death by the merits and substitutionary atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, are we too strict?
- If we believe that we are saved by grace alone through faith in Christ without works as Scripture teaches, are we too strict in calling the teaching of salvation by grace through faith plus works contrary to Scripture?
- If we believe that he who believes and is baptized shall be saved and he who does not believe shall be damned, are we beyond Scripture?

CLC E-Devotion

Friday, September 25, 2009

- If we believe what Scripture teaches when we believe that there will be one judgment at the end, at which time God will separate the believers in Christ from the unbelievers, are we too strict?
- If we believe that we are to live as people transformed by the Gospel rather than being conformed to the world are we too strict?
- If we believe that we are not to sit at the feet of false teachers, or that we are not to join in worship with, study with, or prayer with those who teach contrary to Scripture whether in the church or outside of it, in other words if we believe that we are to "avoid" false teachers and that we are not to lend credence or support to those who teach falsely, are we too strict?
- If we believe that we cannot be neutral in what we believe as compared to those who believe that compromise of faith is an acceptable way of life, are we too strict?

We will not be dissuaded by what people think. Rather, let those who think we are too strict prove their assertion from Scripture! We maintain and shall continue to do so that as Christ believers it is our duty, yea, our privilege to speak up in defense of what we believe. With the exception of those who know nothing for sure, no one is to be pitied more than those who, once knowing the truth, have lost it, and who in their loss equate faithfulness to the Word with being too strict!

For our part God help us to stay in the faith against every accusation or temptation to compromise. C. P. Krauth wrote (if only his heirs still believed it), "Faith makes men Christians; but Confession alone marks them as Christians. The Rule of Faith is God's voice to us; faith is the hearing of that voice, and the Confession, our reply of assent to it. By our faith, we are known to the Lord as His; by our Confession, we are known to each other as His children. Confession of faith, in some form is imperative. To confess Christ, is to confess what is our faith in Him" (Conservative Reformation, page 166).

We cannot confess the truth and confess Christ by speaking out of both sides of our mouth. It is not "strict" to stand in the truth and confess it against everything contrary to it. It is called being faithful! Scripture tells us, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 6/2013

Luke 7:37-38 And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume, and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume.

A FORGIVEN SINNER THANKS HER SAVIOR

Finding the Pharisee's house, she entered in. And finding where Jesus was reclining, she stood at His feet. It was there at the feet of her Savior that the magnitude of the forgiveness she had been given, rushed over her. And the tears began to flow.

Had she intended to wash the Master's feet with her tears? We don't know. But when those tears fell, she washed. And wiping away those tears with her own hair, she prepared His feet for the perfume, that she had brought as a thank offering.

Did Jesus look into her heart to see if she had faith? He didn't need to. She was showing her faith by her actions. And that faith is what pleased Jesus. Hebrews 11:6 says, "Without faith it is impossible to please God . . ."

It was not just her courage in entering a Pharisee's house that made Jesus happy.

It was not just her tears of joyful thanksgiving that pleased Him.

It was not her humble use of her own hair to dry his tear wetted feet that was so remarkable to Jesus.

It wasn't the kisses on His toes.

It wasn't the perfume on His feet.

All of these things were important to Jesus, not because tears and kisses somehow pay for sins. All of these outward tokens of her love were pleasing to Jesus because they were signs of her inward trust in Him. In saying these words, Jesus was announcing to her, and the rest of those present, what was already true: "Then He said to her, 'Your sins have been forgiven.'"

"And He said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'" (Luke 7:48, 50 NASB)

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Brandt Wendland

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

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales, Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland

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

Church Cleaners: Welker

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., June 16: 9:00 am – Worship Service
3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference @ Mankato, MN
- Sun., June 23: 9:00 am – Worship Service
- 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 9, 2013 Sun.: 95

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,389.41	CLC:	\$920.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,000.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-610.59	CLC:	-40.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$69,296.18	CLC:	\$23,620.50	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	69,000.00	CLC:	22,080.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+296.18	CLC:	+1,540.50	
GLC Other:	470.00*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	0.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	195.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	50.00	ILC Bldg.	50.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

*\$470 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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Jesus Anointed