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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Home Page: www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org  
Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

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

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

Church Year: Pentecost 5

Date: June 23, 2013

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Worship Preparation:** ..... Psalm 22, TLH p. 127 f.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 658: Onward, Christian Soldiers

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

### Introit:

P: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek:

C: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.

P: For in the day of trouble He will keep me safe in His dwelling;

C: He will hide me in the shelter of His tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

P: Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me;

C: At His tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy;

P: I will sing and make music to the Lord.

C: The Lord is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear?  
Glory be to God!

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... TLH 9, st. 5

New graces ever gaining  
From this our day of rest,  
We reach the rest remaining  
To spirits of the blest.  
To Holy Ghost be praises,  
To Father, and to Son;  
The Church her voice upraises  
To Thee, blest Three in One.



Galatians 3:23-29

**First Reading:** ..... Galatians 3:23-29  
We have been made sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

### 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. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts,

C: The Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." Alleluia.

**Second Reading:** ..... Luke 9:18-24

Our Master, Christ, suffered many things and was killed on a cross. We, as His followers, are to expect a cross to bear as well.

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

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 263: O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe

**Sermon:** ..... Zechariah 13:7-9

<sup>7</sup> "Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, Against the Man who is My Companion," Says the Lord of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered; Then I will turn My hand against the little ones." <sup>8</sup> And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the Lord, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it: <sup>9</sup> I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The Lord is my God.'" (NKJV™)

## Emboldened to Stand Up for Jesus

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

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 451: Stand Up! Stand Up for Jesus

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

**Hymn:** ..... Tune of TLH 451

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, your Savior and your Friend**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, whose mercy has no end**

**He lived on earth to serve us, He died to set us free**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus, He stood for you and me**

(SueAnne Kirkham, 10/2009)

**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!

## **UNLESS YOU REPENT ...**

Much of the nation has been repulsed by the news that an abortion practitioner murdered children in the womb, as well as outside the womb. Even the abortionist community was muted by the horror of what transpired in the office of this man who interestingly plea bargained for life in prison instead of the death that he visited upon born and unborn children. The one positive of the plea bargain is that time in prison will give this individual time to repent of his sin and find peace in Christ Jesus.

While this was going on, Minnesota joined an increasing number of states which have officially sanctioned what the Lord God calls sin. With the signing by the governor of homosexual and lesbian "marriage" many at the capitol clapped and danced with glee at being on what some termed "the right side of history." Of course not all in the capitol were responsible for this travesty. One person for example said that rather than being on the right side of history, he preferred to be on the right side of eternity.

Homosexuality like every other manifestation of evil is a consequence of man's rebellion against God. Even if we allow the questionable assertion that homosexuality is a genetic condition, which most homosexuals deny, the *practice* of homosexuality is a manifestation of the depth to which sin has corrupted the human heart. That it is celebrated — "marriage" being one illustration — in spite of Scriptural condemnations of such practice only magnifies the depth of corruption in which the world is spiraling to its death.

We as children of God cannot cease in our condemnation of that which is evil. As children of God we will pray for those who practice this perversion, praying that the Lord will through His Word touch their heart that they may put away the practice of sin and be saved.

At the same time we will be ready to lend counsel and aid from the Word of God to those who struggle against this sin, and who foregoing such practice earnestly desire to be "healed." We condemn the practice of it. However, it is not for us to play God and take to ourselves the right of condemnation of an individual lest in such condemnation we turn away those who earnestly plead with the gracious Lord for forgiveness as well as strength to overcome. We want those who are overtaken by this perversion or who are tempted to it to come to us so that we can speak to them from the Word of God to their strengthening against sin as well as to their assurance of God's grace in Christ Who bore every sin of mankind to the cross, and died for every sinner.

We are rightly disturbed by the approval of that which is evil, as well as by the gloating over the practice of evil. But right here is a warning to us. What makes homosexuality or abortion more evil in the sight of God than the adulterous life, or the life of unrestrained drunkenness, or greed, or hatred, and even the spiritual neglect of our children, or any other sin that afflicts us? In our condemnation of homosexuality or abortion there is no room for self-righteousness on our part!

Scripture makes no distinction when it says simply, "The wages of sin is death ..." (Romans 6:23). It tells us, "Take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and cares of this life, that that Day come on you unexpectedly" (Luke 23:34). "Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy" (Romans 13:13). In Galatians 5 we read, "Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (9-21).

Lest we become smug in our condemnation of sins which particularly horrify and trouble us, remember Jesus' response to the report of those who "told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices." Jesus posed to them the question, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans ...? He reminded them also of the 18 killed when the tower of Siloam fell upon them. "Do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem?" Jesus set the record straight, "I tell you, no; but *unless you repent* you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:1-5).

Inasmuch as any sin is a rebellion against the holiness of God, there is no distinction. Beware lest Satan blind us to the reality that any sin, any rebellion against God, is equally as deserving of eternal death as those which are publicly repulsive. "I thank you, Lord, that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector" (Luke 18:11) will not cut it on the Day of Judgment.

The Spirit of God recorded through the pen of John, "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:5-8).

Jesus died to take away the sins of the world. In our place He suffered the punishment of being forsaken of God. He made perfect atonement for all sin and for every sinner as He bore our sins in His body upon the cross. He rose again as confirmation that the price is paid. Sin itself no longer can condemn or destroy us eternally! Only one thing can. Impenitence and unbelief! Impenitence and unbelief is the ultimate rebellion against the Lord God for it rejects the love of God, and the very will of God that all believe and have life!

As we recognize our sin and confess it from the heart, the Lord will comfort us with the Gospel, and with the assurance that we can indeed stand confidently in the presence of God. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). On the great day being washed from sin we can confidently stand before our Lord adorned in the cloak of righteousness cast upon us through the grace and merit of our dear Savior.

That promise is finally our only strength against the sins that tempt us. Therefore let us be open to share it with others who are caught in the throes of unrepented sin. Let us examine ourselves daily on one hand, and on the other faithfully and without fear call to repentance those caught in the throes of sin, ready always to speak the Lord's promise to all who confess their sin.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 5/2013

## † THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

♦ **Memorial Service:** 1 Corinthians 3:10-11: "According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." As announced last Sunday, Donald Dahlin's soul was transferred to heavenly glory on June 15. Here's information about the victory service:

- When: Saturday, June 29, 2 pm
- Where: Grace Lutheran Church - Fridley, MN
- Visitation: 1 pm (Prior to service)
- Luncheon following the worship service. Dorcas Guild Committee #3 will serve, Karen Gilberg, Chris Lentz, and Jenny Kleifgen as committee heads. All members are asked to bring salads and desserts.

Correspondence to Judy may be sent to: Judy Dahlin; 2505 South Heights Dr.; Coon Rapids, MN 55433.

♦ **Among Us:** This past Wednesday Dean Enns was in a car accident and ended up having a double heart attack. He is in a coma at Unity Hospital's ICU unit. Please keep him in your prayers as he faces an obviously serious and life-threatening situation. Also, members may remember to correspond with Ryan Oman who is currently serving our country in Afghanistan. Here is his address: PFC Oman, Ryan; 850<sup>th</sup> En. Co.; Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan; APO-AE 09354.

♦ **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.

♦ **Fire Alarm Update:** The voters selected a contractor after reviewing 3 proposals at our special voters' meeting. This contractor's proposal to update our fire alarm system is a total of \$12,000 - \$14,000 when factoring in some optional monitoring equipment which the Fire Marshall may/may not require. The voters also approved seeding the fund for this project with \$2,500 from the Projects Undesignated Fund. The next step is for the contractor to design a system that is approved by the Fire Marshall. Installation is expected to be completed by early August.

♦ **CLC New User:** A website has been created which is very useful at explaining the CLC: [www.CLCutheran.org/clcnewuser/](http://www.CLCutheran.org/clcnewuser/). Among other things, it has a short history, organizational chart, missions overview, important web links, and info. about publications.

♦ **Mission Helper Trip:** The following individuals will be departing from Chicago, O'Hare airport on their way to India this evening:

- Team #1 - CLCI (Jyothi and Nireekshana)  
David Lueck, Nathan Noeldner, Jennifer Grabow, Becky Haddad  
Team #2 - BELC (Moses and Victor)  
Todd Ohlmann, Lucas Brown, Melanie Hallstein, Katherine Kazemba  
Team #3 - BELC (D. Paul and Deepak)  
Matt Ude, Andrew Roehl, Vanessa Ude, Becky McKenney

Your prayers for God's blessings, wisdom, love, patience, success, good health, and protection are requested on behalf of the Mission Helpers, those we will work with in the BELC and CLCI, and those we go to serve with the Gospel in South India. Their trip blog is available at: <http://2013clcmhtindia.blogspot.com/> and the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CLCMissionHelperProgram>

♦ **Youth Conference:** Immanuel Lutheran Church-Mankato is sponsoring a Youth Conference in Divide, CO, this August 13-18. Group transportation will leave Mankato on August 12 and return on August 19. Youth Conference is an opportunity for young Christians (age 14-20) to study and apply God's Word together, enjoy mutual recreation, whitewater rafting, and more! Find "Youth Conference" on Facebook and/or visit Youth Conference's registration site: <http://goo.gl/Uuqg7>. If you have any questions please speak to Pastor Hein.

♦ **CLC News:** Teacher Paul Tiefel III of Messiah in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to teach at Peace Thru Christ in Middleton, WI. He has now received the call to teach in the high school at Immanuel in Mankato, MN. † Former teacher, Jonathan (JD) Sydow, has received the call to teach K-8 at Peace Thru Christ in Middleton, WI.

## † TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Maureen Ochsner    Elder: Brandt Wendland  
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 Sandhoefer  
Church Cleaners: Welker

## † NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales, Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland  
Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow  
Church Cleaners: Welker

## † OUR SCHEDULE †

Sun., June 23: 9:00 am – Worship Service  
Sat., June 29: 9:00 am – Grace Work Day  
1:00 pm – Visitation  
2:00 pm – Memorial Service: Donald Dahlin  
Luncheon Following  
Sun., June 30: 9:00 am – Worship Service  
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 16, 2013 Sun.: 96

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,604.78	CLC:	\$955.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,000.00	CLC:	960.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-395.22	CLC:	-5.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$71,900.96	CLC:	\$24,575.50
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	72,000.00	CLC:	23,040.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-99.04	CLC:	+1,535.50
GLC Other:	752.66*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid: 45.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	5.00	Kinship: 50.00
ILC Student Aid:	2.00	ILC Bldg.	245.00	IIF: 5.00 CEF: 5.00

\*\$465 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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