

Click here to open service web page for: 2014/08/31/

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Maureen Ochsner      Elder: Phil Radichel  
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: Fleischer      School: A. Baker

## ✠ 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  
Hospitality Team 2: Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Jenny Kleifgen  
Church Cleaners: ???      School: A. Baker

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., Aug. 31:** 9:00 am –Worship Service  
**Mon., Sept. 1:** Labor Day – No School  
**Wed., Sept. 3:** 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
**Sun. Sept. 7:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School Begin  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper  
11:15 am – Hospitality  
12:00 pm – Council Meeting (a week early due to picnic)  
**Mon. Sept. 8:** MN Pastoral Study Club (Mankato, MN)  
7:00 pm – Grace School Open House  
**Wed., Sept. 10:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes  
**Sun., Sept. 14:** 11:15 am – Grace Church Picnic  
**Sun., Sept. 21:** 4:00 pm – Pastor Maas Installation (Mapleton, ND)  
**Wed., Sept. 24:** CLC Coordinating Council  
**Sun., Sept. 28:** 4:00 pm – Pastor J. Fleischer Installation (Sioux Falls, SD)  
**Oct. 7-8:** MN Pastoral Conference (Morris, MN)  
**Sun., Oct. 12** Mission Festival  
**Sun., Oct. 19:** 8:30 am – Dr. Menton Seminar

**Last Week's Stats:** August 24, 2014      Sun.: 106

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,022.77	CLC:	\$790.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,200.00	CLC:	1,040.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-177.23	CLC:	-250.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$107,673.36	CLC:	\$33,440.65
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	108,800.00	CLC:	35,360.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,126.64	CLC:	-1,919.35
GLC Other: 2.00	Living Faith: 1.00	Tuition Aid: 402.00		
SAF Endowment: 100.00	MDF: 40.00	Kinship: 50.00		
ILC Student Aid: 0.00	ILC Bldg. 145.00	IIF: 2.00	CEF: 3.00	
Current Balances:	Projection:	-439.67	Tuition Aid:	+6,992.12

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# Grace Lutheran Church & School

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## Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432



Email: [jphein@clclutheran.com](mailto:jphein@clclutheran.com)

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 12

Date: August 31, 2014

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 5: Lord, Open Thou My Heart to Hear  
TLH 296: Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth  
TLH 473: The Church's One Foundation  
TLH 49: Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast

### Worship Prep:

Psalm 16, TLH p. 125

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)  
Gloria: TLH 39:1,5

### Scripture Readings:

Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:22-33

### Sermon: 1 Kings 19:9-18

<sup>9</sup> And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup> So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." <sup>11</sup> Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup> and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. <sup>13</sup> So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup> And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." <sup>15</sup> Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria. <sup>16</sup> Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup> It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. <sup>18</sup> Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

**God Works Through A Still, Small Voice**

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Service Schedule:** Please keep in mind that the service schedule will be changing NEXT SUNDAY, **September 7**. Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9:00 am with regular morning worship at 10:00 am. Please keep in mind that the Council meeting will also be held next Sunday due to the church picnic being held on September 14.
- ◆ **Church Picnic:** On Sunday, September 14 there will be a church picnic here on the church grounds following our regular church service. Plans are to have some organized games for the children. Grilled meat will be provided. Members are asked to bring a dish to share, including things like salads, chips, and/or desserts. Folks may help out as needed with serving and cleanup.
- ◆ **Church Cleaning:** We are in need of cleaning volunteers for September.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Andrew Schaller of Trinity/Zion, Watertown/Hidewood Twp., SD, has returned the call to St. Paul in Lakewood, CO (Denver area). Pastor Thomas Schuetze of Faith in Coloma, MI, now has this call. ✠ Pastor Timothy Wheaton of Mt. Olive in Lamar, CO, has accepted the call to Living Word in Blue Springs, MO (Kansas City area).

### Check out these online devotional materials:

- Weekly video of the Grace Lutheran Church sermon: [www.clcgracelutheranchurch.org/category/sermons/](http://www.clcgracelutheranchurch.org/category/sermons/)
- Weekly CLC "Ministry by Mail" sermon: [www.clclutheran.org/ministrybymail](http://www.clclutheran.org/ministrybymail)
- Daily email devotions from The Bread of Life (The Lutheran Spokesman): [www.glcdailydevotion.wordpress.com](http://www.glcdailydevotion.wordpress.com)
- Daily email devotions from CLC pastors: [www.redeemerclc.info/devotional.html](http://www.redeemerclc.info/devotional.html)
- Daily email for a CLC Three-Year Bible reading program: [www.threeyearbiblereadingplan.wordpress.com/](http://www.threeyearbiblereadingplan.wordpress.com/)
- Daily audio of the chapel address from our Immanuel campus: [www.ilc.edu/chapel.htm](http://www.ilc.edu/chapel.htm)

Also, check out the Grace Lutheran Church android app on Google Play.

## OUR LORD SHALL DELIVER US:

Is evil greater today than in the past? Not according to Scripture. Whether the judgment in time will be more severe for the existing nations of the earth we leave to the Lord, Who we do know will deliver the ultimate judgment upon His return.

The history of our own country, so richly blessed by the Lord in many ways, is also a story of sin and perversion not unlike the unfolding evil of these latter days. We are constantly bombarded with news stories of rape and murder, hatred and hypocrisy, greed and self-interest, open war and not so subtle terror activity. Immorality oozes from the pores of our nation, as activities people were ashamed to speak of in the past, have now attained political approval, and to a great extent ecclesiastical sanction.

Those who continue to claim that this nation is a Christian nation have to be finding it more and more difficult to support that claim. We are not judging the intent of the founders who claimed to establish this country on Christian principles though we suspect not all understood the real essence of Christianity whose foundation is Jesus Christ, and the immutable Word of God. Giving them the benefit of the doubt, and that this is a nation in which Christians have lived and by the grace of God have been able to practice their faith in relative freedom and peace is true. But even that freedom is now diminishing. Sin has always been among us because it is part and parcel of the corrupted human heart and flesh. What is different perhaps is the sanctioned practice by state and church of sin. What is Christian about the practice of homosexuality, or abortion, idolatry, and other perversions as described by Paul in 2 Timothy 3?

We cannot equate our country with Israel and Judah, the Old Testament people of God who were precious in His sight as the people from whom would be born our Savior Jesus Christ Who should take away the sins of the world. Nevertheless there are among us some similarities in the life of the nation. Solomon wrote "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34). Against that backdrop consider what Jeremiah wrote (Jeremiah 25:1-14) as you view the unsettling scene that describes our national landscape today. Take careful note of what is the root cause of all sin and practice of evil. These words were warning of impending captivity in Babylon.

"The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah...which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying: "From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, even to this day, this is the twenty-third year in which the word of the LORD has come to me; and I have spoken to you, rising early and speaking, but you have not listened. And the LORD has sent to you all His servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, but you have not listened nor inclined your ear to hear. They said, 'Repent now every one of his evil way and his evil doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD has given to you and your fathers forever and ever. Do not go after other gods to serve them and worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands; and I will not harm you.' "Yet you have not listened to Me," says the LORD, "that you might provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt." Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words, behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the LORD, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations. Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. And this whole land shall be a

desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. 'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the LORD; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation. So I will bring on that land all My words which I have pronounced against it, all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah has prophesied concerning all the nations. (For many nations and great kings shall be served by them also; and I will repay them according to their deeds and according to the works of their own hands.)' "

There are consequences in time and eternity for refusing to hear the Lord. A nation that has no respect for the Lord of the nations, for the God of heaven, and for the Word of instruction as well as comfort, but chooses to go its own way in the imagination of its own heart will suffer the consequence, as will the heathen nations whom the Lord uses for a scourge according to God's own purpose.

As Christians who through faith in Christ are members of a "holy nation, a special people" (1 Peter 2:9), we have a concern for the nation in which we now live, even if only because we too are subject in time to the suffering and sorrow that is visited upon it. Our first response should be to hear the Word of the Lord, and repent. As part of repentance we will turn to the Lord Jesus Christ and His cross to find the assurance of forgiveness, and the confidence of life and salvation in the home above where there is no sin or suffering, only joy in the presence of the Lord. Finally, we will pray for our nation and its people that they will be brought to their senses; to that end we will want to be faithful in our witness to the Truth and to the Lord and His Word through which the Spirit works repentance and faith. It is the Lord's will for He does not desire the death of the sinner, but that the sinner turn from his way and live (Ezekiel 18:32). It is not our task to redeem or save the existing society. It is our task to share the Gospel with the confidence that God will snatch from the fire souls precious to Him who without Christ will go the way of the world when the Lord comes in judgment.

We will want to practice our faith, and hold fast to sound doctrine. It is not our business to determine who wants the Truth of God's Word. It is our responsibility to hold fast to it and to proclaim it! The prophet spoke severe words worthy of reading in Jeremiah 25. Yet there was also assurance given by the prophet of a return from captivity. Judah would return that the Lord might redeem His promise that from Judah should come the Savior. So as Christ-believers struggle, and lament in the midst of the evil and the unknown and uncertain events as they unfold, we can also read the history of our Father's faithfulness to His promise. Even as He returned Judah to its land and sent the Savior, we who believe in the Savior shall according to divine promise come to the better land and to the mansion which the Lord has prepared for us where we shall be with Him (John 14:1-3).

Even at this writing the news carried a story which demonstrated how deep into the abyss our society has fallen. We slip into useless anger and frustration, but more so because of the loss of freedom (as was also demonstrated) for people of faith and morals to stand on principle without fear of repercussion. According to Scripture we should not expect less. But we live in hope established on Christ Who is greater than the evil, "and Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen"(Galatians 1:4).

In the midst of evil, chaos, and pending judgment we have hope!

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 8/2014