

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Benno Sydow

Ushers: Brian Eichstadt; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Pat Paplow; Phil Radichel

Church Cleaners: Fleischer

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Brian Eichstadt; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Rick Nelson; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker

Church Cleaners: Fleischer

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Aug. 21: 9:00 am – Worship Service
3:00 pm – Immanuel Opening Worship Service

Sun., Aug. 28: 9:00 am – Worship Service

Mon., Aug. 29: 8:00 am – Grace School Opening

Wed., Aug. 31: 4:30 pm – Catechism Begins for Public School Students

Sun., Sept. 4: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper

Mon. Sept. 5: Labor Day – No School

Sun. Sept. 11: Return to Regular Sunday Schedule
8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:00 am – Hospitality Begins
12:00 pm – Council Meeting

Mon. Sept. 12: 10:00 am – MN Pastoral Study (Mankato, MN)

Wed., Sept. 14: 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes

Sun., Sept. 18: Grace Church Picnic

Oct. 4-5: Minnesota Pastoral Conference (Okabena, MN)

Sun., Oct. 9: Mission Festival (w/ Pastor Paul Tiefel/Potluck/Blood Drive)

Oct. 12-14: CLC Teachers Conference (Valentine, NE)

Last Week's Stats: Aug. 14, 2016 Sun.: 81

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,261.05	CLC:	\$605.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-38.95	CLC:	-395.00
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$93,378.34	CLC:	\$28,734.15
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	108,900.00	CLC:	33,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-15,521.66	CLC:	-4,265.85
GLC Other: 415.00	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	305.00
SAF Endowment: 100.00	MDF:	50.00	Kinship:	150.00
ILC Student Aid: 25.00	ILC Bldg.	0.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	17,555.25	Tuition Aid:	3,343.12
* Wagner Memorial: \$110 Parking Lot; \$100 Tuition Aid; \$20 Undesignated				

Grace Lutheran Church & School



But you have come
to Mount Zion and
to the city of the
living God, the
heavenly Jerusalem

Hebrews 12:24

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: www.JustifiedByGrace.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Church Year: Pentecost 14

Phone: 763-784-8784

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Date: August 21, 2016

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 469: Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

TLH 158: Glory Be to Jesus

TLH 460: Behold the Sure Foundation-Stone

WS 779: Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

Worship Prep:

Psalms 72, TLH p. 138

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)

Gloria: TLH 466, st. 4

Scripture Reading:

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Luke 13:22-30

Sermon: Hebrews 12:18-24

¹⁸For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. ²⁰(For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." ²¹And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, ²³to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, ²⁴to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel. (NKJVTM)

"Do Not Depart Mount Zion for Mount Sinai!"

1. Woe *to* those who approach by Works through the Law
2. Glory *for* those who approach by Grace through Faith

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ♦ **Immanuel's Opening Service:** The opening worship service for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will be today, 3 pm, at the campus fieldhouse. This will also be the installation service for Professor Paul Naumann. It is hoped that this change of time and date will help improve attendance which has diminished in recent years as many of the parents tend to leave on Sunday late afternoon. Please continue to pray for the success of Immanuel's ministry as God's enduring Word of truth is passed down to the next generation.
- ♦ **Service Schedule:** Please remember that the service schedule will be changing on Sept. 11. Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9:00 am with regular morning worship at 10:00 am.
- ♦ **Sunday School Teachers:** We are looking for teacher substitutes. If you are interested, please let Superintendent Michael Ude know so he can hopefully find a place for you on staff.
- ♦ **Collection:** A purse is being collected for Vicar Rodebaugh. If you wish to contribute, please mark "Vicar" on your offering envelope.
- ♦ **Golf Outing:** The 9th Annual Snell Open benefitting the Josh Snell Memorial Scholarship Fund is set for Sat., Sept. 24, at Hidden Greens in Hastings, MN. Registration forms are by the guest book.
- ♦ **Installation:** The installation/ordination service for Pastor-elect Ben Libby (Ascension Lutheran in Tacoma, WA) has been set for Sun., Sept. 11, 5:30 pm. A supper will follow the service. Email marktiefel@hotmail.com if you plan to come.
- ♦ **CLC News:** Pastor Terrel Kesterson of St. Stephen Lutheran in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco area), has accepted the call to Ascension Lutheran in Batavia, IL (Chicago area). ✠ Pastor Delwyn Maas of Gift of God Lutheran in Mapleton, ND, has returned the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran in Madison Heights, MI (Detroit area). ✠ Pastor Ed Starkey of Resurrection Lutheran in Corpus Christi, TX, has returned the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran in Grand Rapids, MI. Pastor Joel Fleischer of Berea Lutheran in Sioux Falls, SD, has now received this call. ✠ Teacher Kirsten Gullerud has accepted the call to become principal at St. Stephen Lutheran school in Mountain View, CA; whereas Carly Meyer and Rebecca McKenney have each returned the call to become their third teacher. ✠ Pastor Earnest Bernet has resigned his call to Zion Lutheran in Atlanta, GA. He and his family are moving back to Mineral Springs, TX.

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!

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Bible is Our Basis ...

... for a foundation	<i>For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:11</i>
... for strength	<i>God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1</i>
... for guidance	<i>Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. Psalm 119:105</i>
... for salvation	<i>Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12</i>
... for eternal life	<i>And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. John 17:3</i>
... for doctrine	<i>All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16</i>
... for fellowship	<i>Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. Romans 16:17</i>
... for forgiveness	<i>In [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:14</i>
... for love	<i>In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:10</i>
... for wisdom	<i>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Proverbs 9:10</i>
... for truth	<i>Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. John 17:17</i>
... for peace	<i>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7</i>

A TIME TO BE BOLD

In 1520 the pope issued a bull of excommunication against Luther. On December 10, 1520, Martin Luther saying "Since they burned my books, I burn theirs," publicly cast the papal bull (edict) into the fire. On January 3, 1521, the edict appeared declaring that Martin Luther had been excommunicated from the Catholic Church. Charles V was to announce it. However, it was decided the better part of wisdom that Luther should not be excommunicated without a hearing. Eventually Luther was called to Worms. In April He went under the pretense that he would be involved in a debate. Against the advice of friends, he went. Before he went he said, "This is not the time to be timid but to raise the voice boldly."

Luther certainly did not endear himself to those who would sit in judgment of him when he said, "This will be my recantation at Worms: 'Before I said the pope is the vicar of Christ. Now I declare that the pope is the opponent of Christ and the apostle of the devil.'" ⁽¹⁾ Previous to this he had said: "Unless I am restrained by force or the emperor rescinds his invitation, I will enter Worms under the banner of Christ against the gates of hell." ⁽²⁾

He arrived in Worms in April with great public fanfare. He stood before the emperor, magistrates, and church dignitaries. But instead of an opportunity to speak or debate, he was asked if the books before him were his. He acknowledged that they were. On April 17, he responded to the question, "The books are all mine, and I have written more." Martin Luther concluded, "This touches God and His Word. This affects the salvation of souls...I beg you, give me time." That evening he prayed and studied. He committed his cause to the Lord. And he wrote, "So long as Christ is merciful, I will not recant a single jot or tittle." The next day he spoke in German, then in Latin, in his own words, "without teeth or horns." He said, "Unless I can be instructed and convinced with evidence from Holy Scriptures or with open, clear, and distinct grounds and reasoning—and my conscience is captive to the Word of God—then I cannot and will not recant, because it is neither safe nor wise to act against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen" ⁽³⁾

He was told not to preach or write anything, but still under promise of safe conduct, on April 26 he left Worms. He was surreptitiously kidnapped by friends and taken to the Wartburg where he spent nearly a year. While at the Wartburg he published a dozen books. He translated the whole New Testament from Greek into German in 11 weeks. His translation, still highly appreciated and referred to today, also contributed to the modern German language. Disguised with a beard and an alias, Junker ⁽⁴⁾ George, he mingled with the people to hear and converse with the common people so that he could put the Bible in the language they spoke.

In the papal indictment in spite of which Luther labored faithfully, he was accused of crimes against the pope and the church. He was accused of

teaching old heresies and new doctrines, contrary to the teachings of the Roman church. The indictment against him over the signature of Charles V said among other things: "For this reason we forbid anyone from this time forward to dare, either by words or by deeds, to receive, defend, sustain, or favor the said Martin Luther. On the contrary, we want him to be apprehended and punished as a notorious heretic, as he deserves, to be brought personally before us, or to be securely guarded until those who have captured him inform us, whereupon we will order the appropriate manner of proceeding against the said Luther. Those who will help in his capture will be rewarded generously for their good work.

"As for his accomplices, those who help or favor the said Martin in whatever manner or who show obstinacy in their perversity, not receiving absolution from the pope for the evils they have committed, we will also proceed against them and will take all of their goods and belongings, movable and fixed, with the help either of the judges in the area in which they reside or of our parliaments and councils at Malines or in other cities in which these events are made known."⁽⁵⁾

This edict was stayed temporarily at the Diet of Speyer in 1526. The Diet at which Charles was not present because he was occupied elsewhere did not rescind but held in abeyance the ban on Luther. The Diet of 1526 declared: "Lutheranism was to be tolerated in those regions where it could not be suppressed." This occasion was taken by the evangelicals to assert religious liberty in their province, which was not the intent of the Diet. During this time most of northern Germany became Lutheran. However, in 1529 a second Diet in Speyer rescinded the delay. It said "In Lutheran lands the principle of religious liberty for Catholics must be observed, whereas in Catholic lands the same liberty would not be extended to the Lutherans."⁽⁶⁾ *The evangelicals protested, thus the origin of the name Protestant.*

Protestantism defined any who resisted the supremacy of the Roman Church, and its teaching and practices. Yet within Protestantism there were divergences of doctrine. For example, John Calvin whom Luther never met personally, and Ulrich Zwingli were prominent in protestant circles. While Luther and Zwingli agreed on some things, Luther split with Zwingli over the Lord's Supper, as Luther held to the real presence of the body and blood of the Lord in the Sacrament while Zwingli taught representation. Said Luther, "Is means is."

Protestantism and *Reformation* Lutheranism today have little in common other than they are not Catholic. "The name Lutheran was first used by Eck, when he published the Bull against Luther. Pope Hadrian VI (1522) employed it, also, as a term of reproach." Luther strongly disapproved of the use of his name, yet consented to its use under a condition forgotten by most Lutherans today. Luther said, "It is my doctrine, and it is not my doctrine; it is in my hand, but God put it there. *Luther will have nothing to do with Lutheranism except as it teaches Holy Scripture purely*"⁽⁷⁾.

As the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is celebrated in 2017 much will be heard about the Reformation, as well as about Luther who in the Lord's hands was the catalyst for reform that restored the Word of God to its rightful place in the Church.

Today Christianity itself is under bitter attack. This is not a new phenomenon. But these attacks call for steadfast confessors of Christ to witness boldly against the worldly philosophies from whatever source they come. In our own country the weight of government is being marshalled against Christianity, and in some countries the threat of the sword. Faithful Christ-believers are called upon to hold fast the faithful word in the face of pseudo-Christians who preach another gospel. In these times God give us the courage of Luther: "*This is not the time to be timid but to raise the voice boldly.*"

To Andreas Carlstadt in 1518, three years before Worms, Luther said of his meeting with a Catholic antagonist, Cardinal Cajetan: "I know that I would be the most agreeable and the dearest person if I were to say, this one word *revoco*, that is I recant. But I will not turn heretic by contradicting the opinion which made me a Christian. I would rather die by fire or be exiled and cursed."⁽⁸⁾

Luther was not a well man physically. He was also subject to depression. In spite of the ban and edict of Worms which declared him a heretic and enemy of the state, he died a natural death. He died in bed in 1546 in Eisleben, the town of his birth. He had gone there to mediate a dispute. He left in this vail of tears his wife, Katharina whom he married in 1525. They had 6 children, two of whom died before he.

We do not idolize Luther. He who once called himself a maggot sack was a sinner who found the peace he sought when he understood that before God the sinner is justified and saved by *grace alone*, through *faith* in Christ *alone*. The source of his confidence was *Scripture alone*. Lutherans who compromise Scripture betray the witness of the gospel, make of God a liar, and abuse the name of their Lutheran forebearer.

The Lord truly watched over His servant, and strengthened him for the task to which he had been called, and then delivered him from his labors. By the grace of God, he defied pope and emperor. Today if you visit the castle church in Wittenberg and stand before the pulpit, you are standing at the grave of Martin Luther who is buried at its foot.

1) Kittelson, James M., *Luther the Reformer* Fortress Press, Minneapolis, MN, 2003, pp. 157-163

2) Ibid

3) Ibid

4) A German nobleman or aristocrat, a knight

5) Bretcher, Dennis, ed., *The Voice-Christian Resource Institute on line, Edict of Worms 1521*

6) Bainton, Roland, *Here I Stand*, Abingdon Press, Nashville/New York, p. 318

7) Krauth, C. P., *The Conservative Reformation and its Theology*, Fortress Press, Philadelphia, 1891 (Reprint 1963) p. 118

8) *What Luther Says* Vol. III, page 1184, para. 3779