

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

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

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Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Epiphany 2

Date: January 19, 2025

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 36, TLH p. 132*

Hymn: *TLH 343, st. 1-3,6-7: How Lovely Shines the Morning Star*

Liturgy: *WS, p. 12 ff.*

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: [Spoken] Amen.

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: [Spoken] Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy (Congregation):



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest (Congregation):



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shipped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - mighty Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray ...
C: [Spoken] Amen.

CDS Hymn:.....*TLH 433, st. 1-2, 5-6: Jesus, My Truth, My Way*

First Reading:.....*1 Peter 2:4-10*

Second Reading:.....*Matthew 3:13-17*



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Confession of Faith:*The Apostolic Creed*

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: *WS 779: Redeemed, Restored, Forgiven*

Sermon: *Isaiah 62:1-5*

¹ For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns. ² The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name. ³ You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you, And your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a virgin, So shall your sons marry you; And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So shall your God rejoice over you. (NKJV™)

See the Epiphany Glory of God's People

I: Not rejected, but rejoiced in by the Lord

II: Not desolate but dazzling in Christ's righteousness

Preacher: Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck

Create in Me:



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me



not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly



Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn:..... *TLH 134: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

Offering, Prayers, and Lord's Prayer:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: [♪] Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hymn:..... *TLH 391: Blessed Are the Sons of God*

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ➔ **Thanks** to retired Pastor David Schierenbeck for graciously sharing the Word of God today. He and his wife, Mary, live in St. Paul Park, MN. He is filling in for pastor who had a challenging week of chemo.
- ➔ **Among Us:** Duane Enns will be getting a port to start chemo to treat his throat cancer. Pastor resumed chemo this week.
- ➔ **Directory:** Please check your contact info. in the draft copy of the directory located in the narthex. Place a check mark by your entry if it is correct. If it is not, then please edit as necessary. If you wish to add email or cell numbers, please do so. Thanks!
- ➔ **Offering Statements:** The offering statements for 2024 are in your mail boxes. Any questions see Benno Sydow.
- ➔ **2025 Cleaning:** The 2025 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ➔ **A National Women's Retreat** (online) is being held on Sat., Jan. 25, 11 am CST start. The Theme is "Press Pause: Grace-full Stewardship." The scriptural foundation for the retreat is 1 Peter 4:10, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." Registration & info.: tinyurl.com/PressPause25.
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #11 – 10th Commandment

Council Meeting Notes – January 12, 2025

Meeting opened with prayer. November Council meeting minutes were read and approved. There was no Council meeting in December.

Treasurer's Report

- November treasurer's report was presented and approved
- December treasurer's report was presented and approved excluding notes in bottom left. This report does not include offerings from New Year's Eve Service and will be reported in the January report.
- We discussed \$200 gift for organists and decided that the counters entered the gift correctly in the General Fund with a notation for Organist and authorized the Treasurer to distribute the money equally to the organists.
- The called workers gift will be divided equally by 5 (Pastor and 4 teachers) and distributed in January.
- Motion approved to state the Opening and Closing Balance directly from the Bank Statement with corresponding dates in the lower right of future treasurer's reports.

Pastor's Report

- A funeral for Melvin Eichstadt was held at Grace on Mon. December 16.
- Lenten pulpit rotation starts March 5 is planned with Berea & potentially Eden Prairie.

Board of Elders' Report

- Grace will be purchasing 10 hymnals for \$20 each (O Sing of Christ, the new hymnal from Messiah Eau Claire). The choir will use the hymnals initially.
- Grace received ~\$7,000 from the U.S. government for employee retention during the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds have been placed in the General Fund.
- Motion passed to recommend \$60,000 as the Cooperative Budget Plan number for 2025 to the voters. This is our goal for our offering to the CLC General Fund.

Board of Education Report

- As planned, Pre-Kindergarten will not be offered beyond the current school year.
- Planning for long-term tuition changes has been started.
- We are expecting to receive and install playground equipment from the City of Fridley once the weather is more suitable.
- An attempt will be made to recruit young adults to participate with the Ice Cream Social and the Christmas bags so the younger people can become more involved.
- Devin Vandever is now enrolled in the school.

Board of Trustees' Report

- There will be a work day on January 25. Business as usual is occurring with regular maintenance and other normal care of the property.

Other Business

- The plan is to define the position of Financial Secretary in the February Council meeting after the new Council members are elected.
- The Sanctuary Improvement Committee plans to remove upholstery from a single pew to figure how to replace the upholstery for all of the pews.

Adapted from minutes submitted by Secretary Pro Tem Dale Enns

CLC Financial Report - December 2024

| Operating Funds | Balance 7/1/2024 | YTD Revenue | YTD Disbursed | Budget 6 Months | Balance 12/31/2024 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| General Fund | 0 | 524,119 | 607,627 | 656,490 | (83,508) |
| ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy) | 0 | 936,481 | 819,402 | 862,050 | 117,079 |
| Auxiliary Funds | | | | | |
| ILC Improvement Fund (IIF) | 110,979 | 29,719 | 53,954 | | 86,744 |
| ILC Building Projects | 1,560,282 | 268,933 | 0 | | 1,829,215 |
| Mission Development Fund (MDF) | 120,784 | 99,847 | 80,323 | | 140,308 |
| Kinship | 169,884 | 73,929 | 83,932 | | 159,881 |
| Church Extension Fund (CEF) | 2,684,208 | 269,397 | 210,651 | | 2,742,954 |
| Student Aid Fund (SAF) | 117,317 | 49,443 | 134,694 | | 32,066 |
| EduK8 Fund | 47,692 | 17,661 | 0 | | 65,353 |
| Reserve Fund | 79,964 | 78,184 | 0 | | 158,148 |
| Auxiliary Funds Totals | \$4,891,110 | \$887,113 | \$563,554 | | \$5,214,669 |

General Fund – In the month of December we received about \$28,000 more than we spent. This reduced the deficit in the fund to just over of \$83,000 compared to a year ago when it we had a deficit of under \$19,000. Contributions through December are down about \$36,000 compared to last year at this time.

ILC Operations – Revenue is up about \$63,000 over the same period as last year while disbursements are up about \$14,000.

ILC Building Projects – Year-to-date contributions have been about \$188,000. December brought a decline in the market value of the investments in this fund but there is still a positive increase in market value of approximately \$80,000 for the year.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of payments received of almost \$137,000 from congregations on the loans they owe the CLC, about \$131,000 of increases in the market value of the investments and just under \$1,000 of contributions to the fund. Expenditures in December included a loan of \$150,000 to a congregation

Other Auxiliary Funds – The activity in the other funds in the table above is similar to the activity in the same period a year ago.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer
Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees



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

What are you seeking?

This is what you will find among us:

- The Bible preached as it is — the living Word of the living God; not the preaching of social, political, theological, or ethical opinions of men.
- Man acknowledge as he is — born in sin, prone to error and doomed to hell unless rescued by God Himself; not man morally capable of redeeming himself.
- Jesus Christ worshipped as the Son of God made flesh to redeem lost and condemned mankind; not a Christ molded to accommodate the modern mind.
- God confessed as He has revealed Himself: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost — three divine Persons, one divine Essence; not some god fashioned either by the hand or the mind of man.
- Salvation proclaimed by grace through faith in the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; not by the works or efforts or striving of man.
- The Gospel preached and the Sacraments administered as the means of grace whereby the Holy Spirit creates and preserves faith; not self-induced religious experience or any so-called faith apart from that which is created by the Spirit through the Gospel.
- The Church accepted in faith as the congregation of believers — the creation of the Spirit of God; not a human organization subject to the manipulations of men.
- The business of the Church considered to be the preaching of forgiveness for the regeneration of individuals into eternal life; not the redemption of the world to conform to some social pattern of men.
- Ecumenism as Spirit-created unity in the Gospel; not as 'agreement to disagree' for the sake of power, organization, or the demands of expediency.
- Christian liberty in all that is neither forbidden nor commanded by our Lord; bondage to no word of man.
- All the Bible teaches — nothing more, nothing less.



*Grace Lutheran
Church & School*



✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Eli Wales

Ushers: Larry Brandt; Jeremiah Boe; Dan Degnan; Dale Enns;
Duane Enns; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

Counting Team 1: Dale Enns; Larry Nelson; Thomas
Graham; Kevin Hulke; Phil Radichel

Hospitality Team 1: Dan & Cindy Degnan; Larry Nelson;
Barb Sydow

Church Cleaners: Volunteers? School: Oman

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Larry Brandt; Jeremiah Boe; Dan Degnan; Dale Enns;
Duane Enns; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

Counting Team 2: Kyle Aymond; Dan Degnan; Rick Nelson;
Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker

Church Cleaners: Volunteers? School: Oman

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠


Sun., Jan. 19: 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service (Epiphany 2)
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 1)
11:30 am – Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings

Sat., Jan. 25: 9:00 am – Grace Work Day

Sun., Jan. 26: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service (Epiphany 3)



Last Week's Stats: Jan. 12, 2025 Sun: 68 S.S.: 12 B.C.I.: 31

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------|------|--------------|--|------------|---|
| Sun. Offering: | Grace: | \$3,277** | CLC: | \$465 | <small>QR Code for Online Giving:</small>  | | |
| Online Offering: | Grace: | \$0 | CLC: | \$0 | | | |
| Weekly Need (est.): | Grace: | 5,100 | CLC: | 1,135 | | | |
| -Under / +Over: | Grace: | -1,823 | CLC: | -670 | | | |
| Year-to-Date Offering: | Grace: | \$7,524 | CLC: | \$1,100 | | | |
| Year-to-Date Need (est.): | Grace: | 10,200 | CLC: | 2,270* | | | |
| Difference from Budget (+/-) | Grace: | -2,676 | CLC: | -1,170 | | | |
| GLC Other: | 15 | Living Faith: | 0 | Tuition Aid: | 550 | Sanctuary: | 0 |
| SAF Endowment: | 0 | MDF: | 0 | Kinship: | 140 | EduK8: | 0 |
| ILC Student Aid: | 0 | ILC Bldg. | 0 | IIF: | 0 | CEF: | 0 |

Current Balances: Tuition Aid: \$3,812 Sanctuary: \$10,175

* Based on 2024 goal as the 2025 goal will soon be established by the Voters.

** \$175 in non-member school tuition

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