

Click here to open service web page for:2006/03/26/

Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

Email: jphein@clclutheran.org

Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

Phone: 763-784-8784

Principal: Ryan Libby (Ph. 763-784-6340)

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Lent 4

Date: March 26, 2006

During the season of Lent we see the brutal sufferings of our Savior. This was necessary in order to obtain our salvation. Unfortunately human nature always has that desire to add something to it. May you personally be edified as we hear God's teaching that Jesus has completed all this work for us. We simply are to believe in what He has done by looking to the cross. All glory be to God!

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 38, TLH p. 132*

Hymn: *TLH 394: My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

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

Introit (*followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie*): *TLH, pp. 6-7*

P: The Lord is my strength and my shield;

C: My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped.

P: The Lord is the strength of His people,

C: A fortress of salvation for His anointed one.

P: Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;

C: Be their shepherd and carry them forever. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 245, st. 1,6: God Loved the World*

1. God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.

6. Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!



First Reading: *John 3:14-21*

Faith looks to the cross and trusts in God's plan of salvation.

Gradual:

P: Oh, come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

C: The author and finisher of our faith,

P: Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning the shame,

C: And sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

P: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,

C: That whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Second Reading: *Reading of the Passion History*

Pilate has Jesus scourged and ends up sending Him away to be crucified.

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

Hymn: *WS 776: Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose You (Insert)*

Sermon: *Ephesians 2:4-10*

(4) But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, (5) even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), (6) and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, (7) that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (8) For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, (9) not of works, lest anyone should boast. (10) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Faith – Works = Faith + Works

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 373: By Grace I'm Saved, Grace Free and Boundless*

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

Hymn: *TLH 390: Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed*

Silent Prayer:

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!

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

♦ **Midweek Lenten Services:** During the Wed. evenings of Lent we are holding special worship services focusing on our Savior's Passion. The overall theme will be "Lenten Meteorological Marvels." Each service focuses on a weather element illustrated in Scripture reflecting the Lord's grace. This Wed. we will focus on the Captivating Thunder of the Christ's Glory. Please join your fellow Christians in fellowship with the soup suppers preceding the worship service. Soup is served from 6:00 to 6:45 pm.



♦ **Book Fair:** This coming Friday night at 7:00 pm the children in the Christian Day School will be making presentations that they have prepared on certain books and authors. Just your presence will help the children realize their work was meaningful. Please come and support the school!



♦ **Easter Breakfast:** A sign-up list is located by the guest book for those volunteering to help out with the Easter breakfast. Please consider signing up as a way to inspire an enjoyable morning of fellowship!

♦ **Daylight Savings Time:** Next Sunday, April 2nd, is when clocks are to be turned ahead an hour.



♦ **Softball Sign-up & Shirts:** There is still a sign-up list for those interested in playing softball this summer. In addition, shirts are now available for \$10 each. The money goes to Jeff Radichel. There are extra shirts, so people other than players may purchase them.

♦ **A Reminder About Funds:** The Council has closed the Kitchen Fund and has now created a Floor Fund for flooring in the kitchen, fellowship hall, and storage room. They also created a Furnace Fund to replace some of our aging equipment. These are now the only designated project funds. Please indicate such donations on your offering envelope.

♦ **Retreats:** Brochures are found by the guest book for the CLC Women's Retreat and the Marriage Enrichment retreat.

♦ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Easter Recitation

Last Week's Stats: Mar. 19, 2006 B.Cl.: 34 S.S.: 14 Sun.: 119 Wed: 80

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	2,909.22	CLC:	746.00
Wed. Offering	Grace:	444.00	CLC:	100.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,970.00	CLC:	850.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+383.22	CLC:	-4.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	36,098.44	CLC:	10,799.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	35,640.00	CLC:	10,200.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+458.44	CLC:	+599.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	3.00	Tuition:	10.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	11.00	Kinship:	0.00
ILC Student Aid.:	ILC Bldg.	6.00	IIF: 100.00	CEF: 16.00

Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You

1. Lord, 'tis not that I did choose You;
 2. It was grace in Christ that called me,
 3. Haste then on from grace to glo - ry,

That I know could nev - er be,
 Taught my dark - ened heart and mind,
 Armed by faith and winged by prayer.

For this heart would still re - fuse You
 Else the world had yet en - thralled me,
 All but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry;

Had Your grace not cho - sen me.
 To Your heav'n - ly glo - ries blind.
 God's own hand shall guide you there.

You re - moved the sin that stained me,
 Now I wor - ship none a - bove You;
 Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry;

Cleans - ing me to be Your own;
 For Your grace a - lone I thirst,
 Swift shall pass the pil - grim days,

For this pur - pose You or - dained me,
 Know - ing well that, if I love You,
 Hope soon change to heav'n - ly glo - ry,

That I live for You a - lone.
 You, O Fa - ther, loved me first.
 Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

WHY WOULD WE GO DOWN A FAILED ROAD?

More times than a pastor who has been in the ministry for a length of time can remember, he will hear parents say about their neglectful or wayward children, "But they believe in God." We understand the sentiment. It is difficult for parents to face the possibility that children have forsaken the paths of the Lord. Loving parents grasp at straws, even as they pray! Or it said of young people in general, "But you know that they have to go down that road." We wonder why they have to go down that road, whatever that road is. But then we remember our own youth. Parents, teachers, pastors, Christian people with experience in years tried frequently to alert and warn us about the dangers of the road we may have been traveling or were contemplating traveling. But we paid them no heed, because **we** had to go down that road ourselves before we found out that people who cared about us knew of what they were speaking. Life seems to be one unending replay. Such is the nature of life in the flesh. Whether it is we remembering our past, or our young people today, the question that seemingly is never answered is, "Why would anyone go down a failed road?" Are we incapable of learning anything from the past?

The same holds true in the church. Are we incapable of learning anything of those who have gone down the wrong path before us? Why would we repeat it? Today many churches have gone down an ill-advised path, many times with good intentions. But in the process they have lost the substance of the Gospel, and their mission. In an effort to attract new people, or engage the present members, or keep members from leaving the church, they have resorted to programs and approaches that in the end may have fulfilled the intent, but were dismal failures because the truth suffered. If truth is lost, how does that serve the people? "There is a technique in use today in which people poll the neighborhood to see what sorts of activities people enjoy and then they build a "church" that meets those specifications. They downplay religious parts to avoid offending anyone ..." (The Case Against Contemporary Worship: www.KenCollins.com).

In our church our services are identified first of all by what is taught from our pulpits. As a church we stand upon the inerrant Word of God. The substance of our preaching is sin and grace – Law and Gospel. The cornerstone and foundation of our faith is the Lord Jesus Christ. When people leave our service we want them to have confronted their old self through the confession of sins, and we want

them to be comforted through the absolution or forgiveness of sins. We want them to leave our church – perhaps they are visitors who will not come in again – having heard the way of salvation. We want them to leave not simply with an emotional high, but with quiet confidence and hope, with the peace that comes through having drunk deeply of the wells of salvation.

To that end it is important how we conduct our service. Our service should be a Christ-centered service. Our liturgy is to reflect Christ and the truth. Liturgy says something about who and what we are! Our hymns – there are others than in our hymnal – are to be reverential, respectful, substantive, and scriptural. Our sermons should glorify the Lord Jesus. Justification of the sinner through the merit and atonement of Christ should predominate instead of "how-to sermons," or "how-one-can-get-ahead-in-life sermons." Justification precedes sanctification, but every preaching of justification in Christ, inspires the sanctified life! We should not approach our service with speculating on how can we keep the people coming back, how can we attract more people, how can we excite the youth.

As the latter attitude dictates the approach to worship many so called evangelicals have resorted to contemporary services. In an effort to keep up even Lutheran churches have been ensnared. Basically contemporary worship emphasizes music that appeals in sound (vocal, instrumental) and substance to the masses. Contemporary worship as it is promoted is heavy on new forms and music, but short on content; consequently, the soundness, solemnity, substance, and respect of the liturgical service is sacrificed. Speaking of sin is diminished because this is offensive. Without the speaking of sin, the Gospel becomes "another" gospel. Jocularly, emotion, feel good about self is a poor substitute for a thoroughly Christ centered service. If the former is what it takes to attract and keep people the loss is the worshipers'.

But this is a widely traveled road today. Why would we go down a road that for all its appeal to the masses does not address the most critical needs of the masses, namely their relationship to God, and their eternal welfare? Can we not look and learn before we go down the wrong road of trying to be all things to all people before finding out that we are indistinguishable from those who have already walked the failed road? Being all things to all people is the real offense if its pursuit sacrifices truth, does not serve the *eternal* welfare of people, and does not glorify God.

Written by Pastor Daniel Fleischer (3/19/2006)

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Janelle Hein Elder: Benno Sydow

Ushers: Michael Dick; Larry Nelson; Larry Brandt; Roger Brandt; Dale Enns; Scott Dauer; Lynn Sandhoefner

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Rick Nelson; Phil Radichel; Ryan Libby

Hospitality Team 4: Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Fred, Pal, & Scott Dauer

Church Cleaners: J. Radichel School: Vandevveer

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Michael Dick; Larry Nelson; Larry Brandt; Roger Brandt; Dale Enns; Scott Dauer; Lynn Sandhoefner

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandevveer; Clint Welker; Mark Wales

Hospitality Team 5: Mark & Trudy Wales; Al Rosendahl; Karen Auel

Church Cleaners: M. Dick School: Davis

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service (Lent 4)
11:00 am – Hospitality; 7:00 pm – Chaska Worship

Wed., Mar. 29: 2:30 pm – Chiquettes (Little One's Story Hour)
4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Children
6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Supper
7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Worship Service

Fri., Mar. 31: 7:00 pm – Christian Day School Book Fair

Mar. 31-Apr. 1: Marriage Enrichment Seminar (Rochester, MN)

Sun., Apr. 2: Daylight Savings Time Begins; 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper (Lent 5)
11:00 am – Hospitality

Sun., Apr. 9: 10:00 am – Palm Sunday Worship Service

Fri., Apr. 14: 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service w/ Lord's Supper

Sun., Apr. 16: 7:00 am – Easter Sunrise Service
Easter Breakfast (No Bible Cl. & Sun. School)
10:00 am – Easter Festival Service

Sun., Apr. 23: 11:30 am – Quarterly Voters Meeting

Fri., Apr. 28: ILC High School Visitors Day & Musical

Sat., Apr. 29: Work Day at Grace

Grace Lutheran Church & School

