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Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

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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: Pentecost 11

Date: August 20, 2006

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 45, TLH p. 133*

Hymn: *TLH 226, st. 1-4, 8-9: Come, Oh, Come ...*

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

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

P: From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind;

C: From His dwelling place He watches all who live on earth —

P: He who forms the hearts of all,

C: Who considers everything they do.

P: The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him,

C: On those whose hope is in His unfailing love. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 244, st. 1,4*

1. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!

4. Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!

First Reading: *Romans 8:14-17, 28-30*

Children of God are the elect of God because He chose us from eternity.

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. Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word;

C: And My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." Alleluia.

Second Reading: *John 15:12-19*

Christ emphasizes that instead of us choosing Him, He chose us.

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

Hymn: *TLH 411, st. 1-5: From Eternity, O God*

Sermon: *Ephesians 1:3-6*

(3) Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, (4) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, (5) having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, (6) to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. (*NKJV*)

"Predestined for Glory"

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *WS 776: Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You*

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

Hymn: *TLH 23, st. 2,4: Hallelujah! Let Praises Ring*

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 Way to Get Rid of Doubts: Among all the commands of God the foremost is that we should place His dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, before us. He must be the daily and foremost Mirror for our hearts. In Him we see how God does indeed love us and how, as a good God, He has so thoroughly provided for us that He even gave His dear Son for us. Here, here, I say, one really learns to understand predestination, and nowhere else. You will note that you believe in Christ. But if you believe, you are called; if you are called, you surely are also predestinated. Let this mirror and throne of grace not be taken when such thoughts (of rejection) come to you and bite as fiery serpents, then, whatever you do, pay no attention to these thoughts or serpents, but turn your eyes away from them and look at the brazen serpent, that is, at Christ, who was given for us. Then, God willing, matters will be better. But, as stated, we must fight and constantly rid ourselves of these thoughts of doubt. If they come to you, let them go away, just as you would quickly spit out any mud that may fall into your mouth. - *Martin Luther*

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Linda Wagner is now located at the Benedictine Transitional Care Unit in New Brighton. Gil Maestas has returned home. Myrland Lang was temporarily hospitalized this week for pneumonia. Last Sunday morning Shaina and Ole Olmanson were blessed with a daughter, Lene Beth. This was an emergency c-section, but by the grace of God, Lene was born healthy. Lene's baptism is planned for this afternoon. May God continue to bless His elect!
- ◆ **Church Picnic:** Our annual church picnic will be held next Sunday following our worship service. This year's picnic will again be held at French Regional Park located on the north shore of Medicine Lake in Plymouth. The church will provide grilled meat and beverages. However, those attending the picnic are asked to sign-up for what they intend to bring, either a salad, chips, or dessert. For information about the park, go to www.threeriversparkdistrict.org/parks/french.cfm.
- ◆ **Sunday School:** One of the vital programs at Grace for the instruction of our youth is the Sunday School. Those interested in helping out with teaching, subbing, or helping out in any way may speak with either Pastor Hein or Michael Ude, the superintendent.
- ◆ **School Year:** This coming Tuesday morning will mark the beginning of a new school year here at Grace. Everyone is invited to attend the opening service at 8:00 am. The following is the enrollment at this time: K) Tyler Dick, Julianna Hein, Jack Maki; 2nd) David Hein, Stephanie Perdue, Michael Arends; 4th) Emily Hein, John Maki, Ned Sandhoefner; 6th) Abbie Hein; 7th) Karie Davis, Matt Vandever; 8th) Christina Hein. May the Lord richly bless our school this year!
- ◆ **New Guidelines for 2006-07 Campbell's Labels for Education Program:** First, thank you to everyone who has saved labels, lids and UPC codes for the program. Second, and new for this year, fronts of labels will no longer be accepted. Only UPC codes and lids can be submitted. Also, some UPC codes are worth 5 points. Please see new guidelines by collection bin. If you are in doubt what to save, deposit the complete label, or contact the program coordinator, Norma Rust, if you have further questions.
- ◆ **Markesan Announcement:** On Sept. 10 we will be celebrating Ann Sprengeler's 25 years in the teaching ministry (7 at Messiah, Eau Claire and 18 at Faith, Markesan) with a pot-luck dinner and program following our 10:30 service. We thank God for His servant, and Ann for her service. If you have any messages or remembrances that you would like passed on at our celebration please send them to: mikeschierenbeck@cdlutheran.com or N1529 State Road 73, Markesan, WI 53946.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Mr. Scott Wuerch of Messiah in Eau Claire, WI, has resigned his call as 5-6th grade teacher. † The CLC Missions web site has been recently updated (see cdlutheran.org). † Missionary David Koenig will depart on Sept. 7 for a visitation to our affiliate churches in India, Tanzania, Kenya, the Congo, Togo, Ghana, and Nigeria. God willing, he will be back in the U.S. for Christmas. Please remember him to our Lord in prayer, for his safety and success in spreading God's Word on our behalf.

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 that 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.

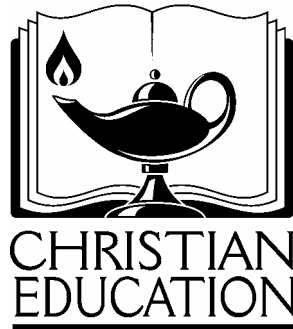
THE INIQUITIES OF THE FATHERS:

The Lord God had promised to Abraham that His seed would occupy the Promised Land. After reiterating his promise to the patriarchs, and through the years of Egyptian bondage, the time had come to occupy it. As they stood at the brink of entering, twelve spies were sent to spy out the land. Ten of them feared to take the land, in spite of the Lord's promise, "I swore to make you dwell therein ..." (Number 14:30). The people doubted the Lord's promise saying, "if only we had died in the wilderness"(14:2). Be careful for what you wish. All the adults who left Egypt died in the wilderness. There is a consequence to doubting the Word of God.

Of all the people who were 20 and over when they left Egypt, only Joshua and Caleb would enter. These two men believed that the Lord would redeem His promise in spite of the challenges. The people chose to listen to the 10 who did not believe. The majority is not always correct. They are correct - and blessed - who follow God's Word!

In this context we find this significant word, "And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms (bear the brunt of your infidelity -NKJV), until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness" (Numbers 14:33). For 40 years, one year for each day that the spies were in Canaan, Israel wandered in the wilderness. The children would suffer during this time because of the spiritual unfaithfulness of their fathers.

What does this say to parents? Children are a gift of God placed in your home. They are not your own. Christian parents have the responsibility before God to bring them to baptism. Baptism is the means of grace which the Heavenly Father has instituted for bringing infants into His kingdom, that is, under His gracious rule and care. Further, it is Christian parents' responsibility in the home first of all and through agencies of the church (e.g. Christian Day School, Sunday School, worship) faithfully to expose them to the Word of their Savior, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20), so that they may know the blessings of their baptism and grow in God's grace. Children are to be taught the Word so that they can distinguish between right and wrong, between good and evil, and above all that they may find personal joy in the forgiveness of sins, and eternal life, and glorify the Lord in their



life. It is the parents' responsibility to bring their children to Jesus so they may know salvation and be bold in living their faith before the world. Finally, it is the responsibility of father and mother to set for the children in their home a good personal example in faith, trust in the Lord, and godly living.

But what if parents are indifferent to the Word, or if they murmur about how "strict" the church is, or if they are ready to compromise the Word of God in order to make accommodation with the world, or themselves doubt God's promises as Israel did? What if parents are not diligent in matters of faith? We simply ask the question, "Do you want your offspring to bear the brunt of parental infidelity?" We know how this judgment manifested itself in Israel's time. The children had to wander in the wilderness 40 years while they watched their parents die.

Granted that many children today are architects of their own grief because they have rebuffed the efforts of faithful parents. Nevertheless, we observe how in general children in society today are paying the price of parent's indifference and misguided values, as well as all too frequent parental unfaithfulness to the Lord and His Word. Many children while enjoying the material things of this world are wandering about in the wilderness of this evil world without discipline, without purpose, without direction, without faith, without hope because father and mother have neglected their spiritual well being. Unless God through His gracious Word draws and sustains the children in spite of parental neglect, the lives of the children will be incomplete and worse, spiritually malnourished and starved children will suffer eternal consequences!



"Think of the children," because "It's for the kids," we hear today. Yet the children of our generation are for the most part a cheated generation unless they are "trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). "We love our children and would do anything for them," is a hollow echo if the children are denied God's Word and truth without which they cannot grow in knowledge of the true God, faith in Christ, and trust in the Lord. What will children gain if parents give them everything, and expect nothing, and do not raise them in the Word. What is their soul worth? Parents who truly love their children do not neglect their spiritual welfare. They will not sentence their children to suffer the consequence of parental infidelity! (To be continued)

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 8/20/2006

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Michael Dick

Ushers: Mark Wales; Joshua Benzer; Pete Fleischer; Jack Kirkham; Ole Olmanson; Clint Welker; Brandt Wendland

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

Church Cleaners: Kitzman

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Mark Wales; Joshua Benzer; Pete Fleischer; Jack Kirkham; Ole Olmanson; Clint Welker; Brandt Wendland

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Ole Olmanson

Church Cleaners: Kitzman

School: Arends

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Worship Service

Mon., Aug. 21: 10:00 am – Opening Service for ILC

Tue., Aug. 22: 8:00 am – Opening Service for the Grace School

Wed., Aug. 23: 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

Sun., Aug. 27: 9:00 am – Worship Service

Annual Church Picnic

Sun., Sept. 10: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class Starts

10:00 am – Worship Service (Fall Schedule)

Sept. 22-24: Grace Men's Retreat

Last Week's Stats: August 13, 2006 Sun.: 105 Wed. B.Cl.: 13

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	2,648.51	CLC:	764.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,970.00	CLC:	850.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-321.49	CLC:	-86.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	96,237.71	CLC:	28,453.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	98,010.00	CLC:	28,050.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,772.29	CLC:	+403.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition:	7.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	10.00	Kinship:	55.00
ILC Student Aid..:	ILC Bldg.	372.00	IIF: 1.00	CEF: 50.00

GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church & School



FOR AS MANY AS ARE
LED BY THE SPIRIT OF
GOD, THEY ARE THE
SONS OF GOD.

ROMANS 8:14, KJV