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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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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

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

Grades: Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

Church Year: Pentecost 22

Date: November 5, 2006

## † THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... *Psalm 139, TLH p. 154 f.*

**Hymn:** ..... *WS 790: Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here*

**Liturgy:** ..... *TLH, p. 15 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)*

**Introit (followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie):** ..... *TLH, pp. 16-17*

P: I will lift up my eyes to the hills; From whence comes my help?

**C: My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.**

P: He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

**C: Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.**

P: The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

**C: The sun shall not strike you by day, Nor the moon by night.**

P: The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.

**C: The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in  
From this time forth, and even forevermore. Glory be to God!**

**Children:** ..... *I am a Child of the Lord*

**First Reading:** ..... *Romans 7:1-4*

The bond and commitment of marriage is to last a lifetime.

**Gradual:**

P: These are they who have come out of the great tribulation;

**C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the  
blood of the Lamb.**

P: Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

**C: Who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.**

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth,

**C: That we might be a kind of firstfruits of all He created. Alleluia.**

**Second Reading:** ..... *John 2:1-11*  
Jesus' presence at the wedding of Cana shows His blessing of it.

**Confession of Faith:** ..... *Nicene Creed, TLH p. 22*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 623: O Perfect Love*

**Sermon:** ..... *Ephesians 5:22-33*

(22) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. (23) For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. (24) Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in everything. (25) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, (26) that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, (27) that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. (28) So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. (29) For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. (30) For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. (31) "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." (32) This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. (33) Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife *see* that she respects *her* husband. (NKJV)

## "God's Masterpiece"

**Offertory:** ..... *TLH p. 22 f.*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 624: O Blessed Home Where Man and Wife*

**Offering & Prayer:**

**Liturgy for the Lord's Supper:** ..... *TLH p. 24 ff.*

**Distribution:** ..... *Meditative Music*

**Note:** In obedience to God's Word, and out of concern for the welfare of souls (1 Corinthians 11:29), and finally that we may honestly express the unity of faith and hope that binds us, we ask that only such as have identified with Grace through public confession of faith or another CLC congregation, approach the altar at the usher's direction.

**Nunc Dimittis, Prayer, Benediction:** ..... *TLH 29 ff.*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 309: O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee*

**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 †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Alice Weibye's daughter-in-law, married to Steven, was diagnosed with cervical cancer. Melinda Kitzman goes in for kidney surgery tomorrow. May the Lord answer our prayers for a recovery according to His will!
- ◆ **Dorcus Guild:** Last meeting Trudy Wales was established as the president. She is calling for a meeting next Sunday. Please bring your calendars to schedule a few events. Also, she wants to discuss the purpose and function of the Guild in general.
- ◆ **Note to Parents:** Recently there has been some theft in the classrooms following Sunday morning. We ask parents to monitor their children while in church on Sunday mornings.
- ◆ **Election Day:** As Christians we live in a nation in which God has enabled us to have a right to express our opinion through our personal vote. We are thus responsible for using this privilege wisely. Please make sure to do so by voting this coming Tuesday.
- ◆ **Reminder:** for Campbell's Labels for Education Program. Submission guidelines are changed this year. Fronts of labels are not being accepted – only the UPC's. Many label "fronts only" submissions had to be discarded recently. Complete label submission is fine so long as the entire UPC is attached. Also, some jar lids, rather than the UPC, are required for other products. Please take a reference sheet (found by the collection bin) home with you. Our goal is 1,000 UPC's for each month.
- ◆ **Youth Conference:** The dates for Youth Conference 2007 (sponsored by Immanuel-Mankato) have been set for August 7-12 in Como, CO (Bus transportation will likely depart Mankato on Aug. 6 and return Aug. 13). Youth who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade through 2<sup>nd</sup> year college are eligible to participate. More information will be provided in the coming months.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Sixth Commandment

## YOUR LOVE, O GOD, HAS CALLED US HERE

1 Your love, O God, has called us here, For all love  
 2 O gra-cious God, You con-se-crate All that is  
 3 O God of love, in-spire our life, Re-veal Your

finds its source in You, The per-fect love that  
 love-ly, good, and true. Bless those who in Your  
 will in all we do; Join ev-ery hus-band,

casts out fear, The love that Christ makes ev-er new.  
 pres-ence wait And ev-ery day their love re-new.  
 ev-ery wife In mu-tual love and love for You.

## SO WHAT IS MARRIAGE?

The morals of a godless society have shrunk to such depths that our president who believes that marriage is a union between a man and a woman, nevertheless, tells us that government lawyers are looking into “codifying” the marital relationship. Granted that we live in a secular society. So, what is going to change if the law says that marriage is the union between a man and a woman? Nothing will change! Law may codify morality, but the law does not accomplish or create morality. The most that can be accomplished is that if such a codification is in fact even passed, “same-sex” couples will be denied getting into your pocketbook! We will see. Further, no codification is necessary to confirm that which God Himself has spoken in His Word!

The defense of and the promotion of homosexuality generally as well as of homosexual unions begins with a defiance as well as rejection of God’s Word. Having exchanged the Truth of God for a lie, “... God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient...” (Romans 1:26-27).

Can a homosexual be saved? Yes, in the way same as an adulterer, one wrongfully divorced, a drunkard, an idolater, an abuser of spouse or children, a covetous person or any other sinner is saved. By way of repentance, and through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ whose blood and merit has washed away and taken away the sin of all.

So what is marriage? The gracious heavenly Father who instituted marriage at creation concluded, “ It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet [suitable] for him” (Genesis 2:18). So what did God do? Make a man for Adam? Scripture says, “And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a **woman**, and brought **her** unto the man” (Genesis 2: 22). The divine conclusion of the whole matter is, “ Therefore shall a **man** leave his father and his mother, and shall **cleave unto his wife**: and they shall be one flesh” (Genesis 2:24). “... **Male and female** created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish [fill] the earth...” (Genesis 1:28). Jesus reiterated these facts. “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them **male and female**, And said, For this cause shall a **man** leave father and mother, and shall **cleave to his wife**: and they twain shall be one flesh” (Matthew 19:4-5). The husband wife relationship is illustrative of the relationship of

the “bride,” the Church, to Christ. “**Husbands**, love your **wives**, even as Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for it...” (Ephesians 5:25). Any perversion of the husband and wife relationship breaks the parallel between marriage and Christ and His bride, the Church. One may search through the Bible from beginning to end, and find not one single reference to a “marital” union between like sexes. And right there is the problem. Promoters of such life style whether they are in the church or outside of it - and there are churches that promote it - ... “hold [suppress] the truth in unrighteousness...” (Romans 1:18) with the end result that “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools...”(Romans 1:22).

The only conclusion to which the Bible believer and disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ can come is that “Marriage is the life-long union of one man and one woman.” Laws may change in society. Standards of morality have certainly changed for the worse. But the child of God in his or her own life and confession will not change principles built upon the Word of God. The child of God cannot approve that which God calls sin. The fact that society approves what the Heavenly Father condemns does not change reality. Sin is sin!

So long as the world shall stand, all people including children of God, in the flesh as we are, are confronted by temptation from within and without. The struggle against sin and our flesh will not end until the penitent sinner has been taken home to heaven. We “daily sin much and indeed deserve nothing but punishment” (5<sup>th</sup> Petition). Yet the child of God, believing the Bible, recognizes the love of God in Christ Jesus, even if he cannot understand the depth of the riches of that love. For the child of God “The blood of Jesus Christ His [God’s] Son cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7 ) is one of the grandest passages. We are washed, we are cleansed, and we are sanctified by the merit and grace of Jesus. It is only this precious Gospel that changes hearts, and creates the desire within the heart to live within the bounds of honesty and morality that glorifies the Lord our God. Until the heart is changed, nothing is changed. Government codification does not change hearts any more than the Law has the power to save the soul!

As God is our judge, we will let God be the judge of those who walk their own way. Yet we will judge that which is contrary to God’s will. We will call sin, sin. Victory over sin is not accomplished by denying the Truth. It is overcome through Christ revealed in sacred Scripture. The tragedy is that Satan continues to mislead by asking, “Has God said...” (Genesis 3:1)? The truth is that marriage according to God’s institution is the union of a man and a woman. The source of that truth is God’s Word, which also tells us concerning any sinful activity, “He that covers His sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesses and forsakes them shall have mercy” (Proverbs 28:13).

## † TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Al Rosendahl

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

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

Hospitality Team 6: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel

Church Cleaners: No Volunteers      School: Sandhoefner

## † NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Jeff Radichel; Gerald Anderson; Dan Degnan; Matt Dick; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow; Andrew Rosendahl

Counting Team 4: Paul Lentz; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner; Jeff Radichel

Hospitality Team 7: Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt Wendland

Church Cleaners: No Volunteers      School: Sandhoefner

## † OUR SCHEDULE †

**Today:** 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service  
11:00 am – Hospitality

**Tue., Nov. 7:** Election Day

**Wed., Nov. 8:** 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

**Sun., Nov. 12:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service; 11:00 am – Hospitality  
11:15 am – Boards; 12:00 pm – Council Mtg.

**Wed., Nov. 22:** 7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Worship

**Last Week's Stats:** Oct. 29, 2006 B.Cl.: 41 S.S.: 28 Sun.: 124 Wed: 20

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	2,511.85	CLC:	1,005.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,970.00	CLC:	850.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-458.15	CLC:	+155.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	124,360.45	CLC:	39,320.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	130,680.00	CLC:	37,400.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-6,319.55	CLC:	+1,920.00	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	12.00	Tuition:	55.00	
GLC Other:	98.00	MDF:	5.00	Kinship:	105.00
ILC Student Aid:	120.00	ILC Bldg.	2.00	IIF:	30.00
				CEF:	52.00

# Grace Lutheran Church & School

...walk in love,  
as Christ also  
hath loved us...



*Ephesians 5:2*