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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: www.CLCCGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Lent 3

Date: March 11, 2007

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Hymn: TLH 277: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

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 (Pastor):



1.

Glory to God in the Highest (Congregation):



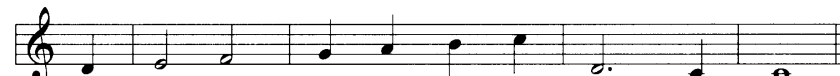
C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



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 - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y 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.

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Second Reading: Passion History (Beck)



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!

2.

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:.....*TLH 278: Delay Not, Delay Not, O Sinner, Draw Near*

Sermon:.....*Isaiah 12:1-6*

(1) And in that day you will say: "O LORD, I will praise You; Though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me. (2) Behold, God *is* my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, *is* my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.'" (3) Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation. (4) And in that day you will say: "Praise the LORD, call upon His name; Declare His deeds among the peoples, Make mention that His name is exalted. (5) Sing to the LORD, For He has done excellent things; This *is* known in all the earth. (6) Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, For great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst!"

"WITH JOY DRAW WATER FROM THE WELLS OF SALVATION"

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 149: Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*

Offering, Prayers, and Lord's Prayer:

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 50: Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

† **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS** †

- ♦ **Midweek Lenten Services:** This Wednesday at 7 pm we continue our midweek Lenten series based from Isaiah 53, "God's Suffering Servant – Sent for Us." This week we will focus on His Agonizing Suffering. Please come and enjoy the Lenten soup suppers at 6 pm.
- ♦ **Among Us:** Gilbert Maestas had successful back surgery this past week at Fairview in Edina. He is still recovering at the hospital with the intent to be home soon. May the Lord bless and strengthen him!
- ♦ **Softball Signup:** By the guest book is a signup sheet for this upcoming summer's softball team. If you have any interest in playing at all, please be sure to sign your name.
- ♦ **Silent Auction:** In the fellowship hall is a quilt that a member donated for use in a silent auction. There is a bid sheet posted beside the quilt. The funds will be used to help support the upper grade class trip. The upper graders of Grace Lutheran School would like to extend a thank you to everyone for helping them collect \$458 from the spaghetti meal!
- ♦ **Women's Seminar:** Brochures are still available for the women's seminar that will be held in Lacrosse, WI, on April 20-22. Registration deadline is March 20.
- ♦ **Invitation:** Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire will be conducting a special worship service on Sunday, April 1, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. dedicating its new sanctuary to the LORD. There will be a brief program after the service followed by a lunch. Members of Messiah wish to invite the brethren to join them in praising God for blessing this building project and seeking His continued blessing for its use in the proclamation of the Gospel of salvation. The members also would like to thank the brethren in the C.L.C. for the funds made available from the Church Extension Fund (C.E.F.) which helped finance the building of this House of the LORD.
- ♦ **CLC News:** Teacher Susan Rehm has accepted the call to serve as full-time lower grade teacher at Berea in Inver Grove Heights, MN. † Mrs. Amy Mielke, member at Grace in Valentine, NE, has been called to teach grades 1-4 at Messiah in Hales Corners, WI (Milwaukee area).
- ♦ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Third Article, part 2.



THE BONES OF JESUS?

There was a quite a commotion this past week when movie producer/director James Cameron announced that he had found the bones of Jesus in a tomb five miles outside of Jerusalem. One morning television host trumpeted that, "If this is true, this changes everything!" This is a true statement. The Apostle Paul writes that, "If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty ... And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable" (1 Cor. 15:14-19).

So, is it true? Did Jesus really marry and have children? Are his bones really buried in Palestine? Are we, of all men, the most pitiable? After all, our justification hinges on the teaching of Christ's resurrection, for we are told that, "Christ was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised again because of our justification" (Rom. 4:25).

We know what the Word of God says about Christ's resurrection. That Christ, "... rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:4). That He was, "... declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Rom. 1:4). The Bible teaches that this was not a spiritual resurrection. It was a physical, bodily resurrection, and that Christ was, at one point after His resurrection, before His Ascension into heaven, seen by over five hundred people at one time (1 Cor. 15:6).

Let's look at the so-called evidence presented in the documentary. The documentary centers on what are called "ossuaries," or, "bone boxes," discovered by archeologists in a tomb in 1980, five miles outside of Jerusalem. The bones that were inside the boxes were reburied after their discovery, while the boxes were cataloged for study. So, while the documentary is being promoted as dealing with the bones of Jesus, the bones are nowhere in sight.

But still, if the bone box labeled, "Jesus," once held bones, isn't that the same thing? After all, the documentary claims that the boxes are labeled, "Jesus," "Mary," "Joseph," and "Mary Magdalene." However, the names on the boxes are themselves open to interpretation. The letters scratched onto the stone boxes are difficult to read, and could be read a number of different ways. One language expert who examined the box that is allegedly labeled in Aramaic, "Yeshua," i.e., "Joshua," or, in the Greek, "Jesus," thinks that it reads, "Hanun." Another scholar, who studied the boxes ten years ago, suggests that the names on the boxes were among the most common names of the First Century. At least three other boxes from the same time period have been found in that region bearing the name, "Yeshua," and the name, "Mary," refers to seven different women in the Bible. Furthermore, while the second "Mary" in the tomb is being reported as being "Mary Magdalene," the box reads only, "Mariamene e Mara."

Another problem with the film's claim is that, since the First Century, Christians have held that Christ's tomb was located at what is now the Church of the Resurrection, nowhere near the site of the tomb in the film.

Consider also the timing. The tomb in question was discovered over twenty years ago. The film itself only began shooting two years ago. If the discovering archeologists believed these boxes to contain the bones of Jesus, surely they would have long ago claimed the fame and fortune for themselves.

The claims made in the documentary are really nothing new. Since Christ's resurrection people have been suggesting that Jesus did not rise from the dead. In fact, many modern churches, even some mainstream Lutheran bodies, have suggested that Christ did not rise bodily, but only spiritually, and that His body remains in a tomb somewhere. Unbelievers will read the headlines, "The Tomb of Jesus Discovered!" and say, "I knew it all along." The real danger lies in the fact that many marginal Christians, who don't know the Scriptures, who only know what they were told in church, will read the headlines and, instead of questioning the "discovery," will question God's Word, endangering their faith in the risen Savior. After all, as Paul says, "And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!" If Christ did not rise, then sin was not paid for, and we have no Savior from sin. If that were not true, but that Jesus was buried in a tomb with Mary and Joseph, it seems likely that the Apostles would have been ridiculed by the early Christians and their claims refuted by the leaders of the Jews. But, instead, Paul confidently, and without doubt, declares, and we believe, "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who sleep!" (1 Cor. 15:20).

Rest assured that the bones of Jesus are right where the Scriptures report them to be – surrounded by the flesh of the risen and ascended Lord Jesus (Lk. 24:38). "The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!" (Lk. 24:34).

Pastor Joel S. Fleischer

2007 ILC Tour Choir Concert Schedule

- Sunday, March 4; 10:00 a.m. - Millston, WI
- Saturday, March 10; 1:30 p.m. - Austin, MN
- Sunday, March 11; 10:00 a.m. - Sioux Falls, SD
- Sunday, March 11; 7:30 p.m. - Rapid City, SD
- Monday, March 12; 7:30 p.m. - Cheyenne, WY
- Tuesday, March 13; 7:00 p.m. - Loveland, CO
- Wednesday, March 14; 7:00 p.m. - Denver (Lakewood), CO
- Thursday, March 15; 7:30 p.m. - Valentine, NE
- Friday, March 16; 7:00 p.m. - Watertown, SD
- Saturday, March 17; 7:30 p.m. - Mankato, MN
- Sunday, March 18; 10:30 a.m. - Inver Grover Heights, MN
- Sunday, April 15; 7:00 p.m. - Eau Claire, WI



† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Dave Rust

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

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

Hospitality Team 3: Dan & Cindy Degnan; Ed & Verona Lentz; Angela Valley

Church Cleaners: ??

School: Sandhoefner

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

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

Hospitality Team 4: Bye (Meal served by Grace School)

Church Cleaners: M. & T. Wales

School: Vandever

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class

10:00 am – Worship Service (Lent 3)

11:00 am – Hospitality

11:15 am – Boards; 12:00 pm Council

Wed., Mar. 14: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Supper

7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Service

Sun., Mar. 18: 8:30 am – Choir Practice

9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class

10:00 am – Worship Service (Lent 4)

11:00 am – Meal provided by upper-graders

Last Week's Stats: Mar. 4, 2007 B.Cl.: 48 S.S.: ?? Sun.: 135 Wed: 75

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	5,201.97	CLC:	1,909.00
Wed. Offering:	Grace:	487.10	CLC:	150.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,030.00	CLC:	960.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+2,659.07	CLC:	+1,099.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	28,634.72	CLC:	9,347.24
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	27,270.00	CLC:	8,640.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,364.72	CLC:	+707.24
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	73.00	Tuition:	54.00
GLC Other: 234.00	MDF:	134.00	Kinship:	77.00
ILC Student Aid: 15.00	ILC Bldg.	59.00	IIF: 27.00	CEF: 48.00

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