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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: www.CLCClutheranChurch.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: Easter 2 **Date:** March 30, 2008

† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 16, TLH p. 125*

Hymn: *TLH 200: I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

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

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

- P: Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name;
- C: Make known among the nations what He has done.**
- P: Sing to Him, sing praise to Him; tell of all His wonderful acts.
- C: Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**
- P: Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always.
- C: Remember the wonders He has done, His miracles and judgments. Glory be to God!**

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 193, st. 1,6*

1. Christ the Lord is risen today,
Sons of men and angels say.
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heavens, and, earth, reply.

6. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!
Praise to Thee by both be given!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the Resurrection Thou!



First Reading: *Isaiah 25:1-8*

Because of Christ's victory, the LORD is exalted, for He has delivered mankind from death.

Gradual:
P: Christ has risen from the dead.
C: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.
P: He has made Him ruler over the works of His hands;
C: He has put everything under His feet.
P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Since Christ was raised from the dead, He cannot die again;
C: Death no longer has mastery over Him. Alleluia.

Second Reading: *Mark 16:1-8*

The angel proclaims the resurrection message. Fear and fright are taken away, the place of death is interpreted as the place of the resurrection, and you yourself are called upon to spread this joyous news.

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

Hymn: *TLH 210: The Strife Is Over, The Battle Done*

Sermon: *1 Corinthians 5:6-8*

(6) Your glorying *is* not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? (7) Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. (8) Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth. (NKJVTM)

"CHRIST HAS FULFILLED THE PASSOVER"

- I. And Has Risen From The Dead
- II. Even So, We Walk In Newness Of Life

Guest Speaker: Pastor Joel Fleischer

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 211: Lo, Judah's Lion Wins The Strife*

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

Hymn: *TLH 205: The Day of Resurrection*

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 †

- ◆ **Thanks:** to Pastor Joel Fleischer, former member at Grace, for sharing the Word with us this morning. He was in the area on vacation. He is the pastor at Calvary Lutheran in Marquette, MI, living there with his wife, Beth, and three children.
- ◆ **Among Us:** This past week Ardis Trulin had bypass heart surgery at Methodist Hospital. Following the surgery she experienced a stroke. May the Lord strengthen her and heal her in the days to come.
- ◆ **Softball Signup:** A signup sheet is found by the guest book for those interested in playing softball this coming spring and summer.
- ◆ **Wed. Bible Class:** In order for things to work out for focusing on the Confirmation exam, the Wed. night Bible Class will be suspended.
- ◆ **ILC Tour Choir:** Thanks to those who helped provide goodies and supported the hosting of the concert last Sunday afternoon.
- ◆ **Field Day:** Contrary to what was reported at the last Council meeting, Grace will again host this year's field day. Berea has offered to host it next year.
- ◆ **Berea Carnival:** Our children are invited to attend a carnival at Berea Lutheran Church in Inver Grove Heights on April 26, from 2 – 5 pm. There is a poster advertizing this on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ **Youth Camp:** Register by March 31, 2008 and receive a \$10 discount per camper. Registration and additional details are online at <http://youthcamp.clclutheran.net/>.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Tom Scheutze of Coloma, MI, is still hospitalized but has made remarkable improvement this past week. A Caring Bridge site for updates: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/tomschuetze>.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #23 – Baptism 1 & 2.



Last Week's Stats: Mar. 23, 2008 Sun.: 153 Tour Choir Concert: 123

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	3,773.85	CLC:	740.00
Good Fri. Offering:	Grace:	896.00	CLC:	429.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,225.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+1,444.85	CLC:	+169.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	37,603.23	CLC:	12,980.35
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	38,700.00	CLC:	12,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,096.77	CLC:	+980.35
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	524.00	Tuition:	39.00
GLC Other: 125.00	MDF:	16.00	Kinship:	64.00
ILC Student Aid: 50.00	ILC Bldg.	14.00	IIF: 24.00	CEF: 39.00

ILC Tour Choir: \$805 (From last afternoon's concert)

WHOSE ARE THE CHILDREN?

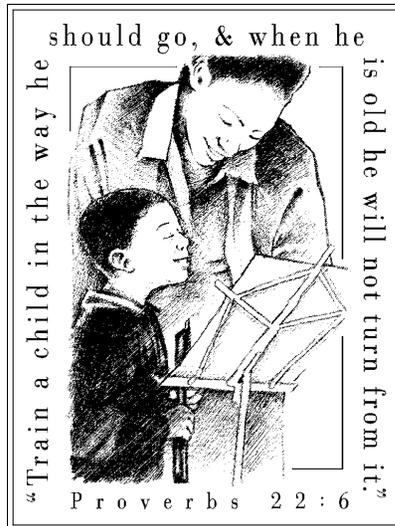
According to *WorldNetDaily* (3-1-08) "a California court has ruled that several children in one homeschool family must be enrolled in a public school or 'legally qualified' private school ..." In what is the height of sophistry the court said, "We agree ... 'the educational program of the State of California was designed to promote the general welfare of all the people and was not designed to accommodate the personal idea of any individual in the field of education.'" Their argument that the educational program was not designed to accommodate the personal idea of any individual in the field of education appears to be aimed at the parents of the homeschooled children, who in this case object to the "various anti-Christian influences" in the public schools of California. We might well agree that we do not want the personal idea of any individual promoted in the public school. But we can make a good case that the only personal ideas they want to quash are those of individuals who take seriously what God says in Deuteronomy 6:6ff and Ephesians 6:4 and speak from a Christian perspective! The state's sophistry is compounded by a lie. The systemic religion of public education – we are speaking of the system, not teachers as such – is secular humanism, a world view that in its rejection of Christ and divine truth is totally this "world-centered."

The issue is not whether children should be educated by *qualified* teachers. We appreciate committed teachers who have prepared for their profession, and who teach the subject at hand. But neither do we buy the idea that simply because someone has a certificate issued by the state he is necessarily a qualified teacher. Further, when the schools go beyond teaching the essentials and become thought manipulators through teaching of evolution, promotion of alternate life styles, and purveyors of political correctness, and finally through word or actions deny the expression of, or ridicule "sincerely held religious beliefs" of Christian parents, the same Christian parents are confronted with a decision. We are to obey in all things (Romans 13) unless we are asked to sin. Acts 5:29 says, "We ought to obey God rather than man," in such circumstances. Each one will have to determine for himself whether the issue at hand rises to such a level.

Under the law we are free to seek redress. The California parents are considering taking their case to the Supreme Court. If the court upholds the parents right to homeschool their children, fine and good. If not they are confronted with another decision, which could mean suffering the consequence if they are conscience bound to resist. We know that in this world we shall suffer persecution (2 Timothy 3: 12).

But we as Christian parents, grandparents, and congregation (in that order), have no ground of complaint if, whatever the circumstances, we are not regularly and faithfully exercising our responsibility to train up God's children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Whether they are in school or homeschooled they are confronted in daily life on the street, in the press, and on TV with Satan's devices that overtly or covertly entice them away from the Word of God, from their Lord and Savior, and into "despair and other great shame and vice."

Training children up in the Lord begins in the cradle. At the head of each chief part of Christian doctrine in the catechism Martin Luther wrote, "As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household." The Church and its agencies- eg. Sunday School, Christian Day school- are not appointed to replace parental responsibility, but to *assist* parents in the task of instructing children of the Heavenly Father in the Word, and in appreciation of the grace of God in Christ Jesus. Furthermore the example we set by our own worship life, and the devotional priorities in the home, as well as in our daily life is the best "homeschooling" that we can do. God forbid that we should ever lose that right! To possess it and to waste the opportunity is not criminal before the civil law. It is sin before God!



Scripture tells us that in the last times there will be a falling away. It will become more and more difficult for the Christ believer to confess the truth without fear of reprisal. More and more the state is trying to intrude into our homes and schools to make wards of our children. Therefore it is our responsibility not to waste a moment in bringing the Word to our children, *and the children to the Word* for a number of reasons: 1) so that by the Gospel they grow in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, their Savior in whom they can find comfort in the difficult days that lie ahead 2) so that they may live in confidence of forgiveness and eternal life, and 3) so that when they are confronted by the devil's wiles they have the spiritual discernment to recognize them.

The court decision is a politically and socially driven action that impacts parental responsibility. It bodes ill for parents who choose to raise their children according to the dictates of their conscience. But let us not simply lament the direction we are headed, but as responsible Christian parents, grandparents and congregation (in that order) raise up our children in the home so that as they know Christ and know that they are known of Him, they can face the future with the Savior's promise firmly implanted in the heart: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand" (John 10:27-29). No one shall be able to rob them of faith, and of the Savior's embrace as they grow in and continue in Christ Jesus - not government schools, not society, not the law, not the government!



"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness'. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ-" (2nd Peter 3: 17), you, and the children for whom God has made you responsible!

(Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 3/16/2008)

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Maureen Ochsner Elder: Benno Sydow

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 2: Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Peter Fleischer; Alice Weibye

Church Cleaners: Ochsner School Cleaners: Vandev eer

† 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 Vandev eer; Clint Welker; Mark Wales

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

Church Cleaners: Ochsner School Cleaners: Davis

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service (Easter 2)
11:00 am – Hospitality

Wed., Apr. 2: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

Sun., Apr. 6: No Choir Practice – Resumes following week
9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper (Easter 3)
11:00 am – Hospitality

Sun., Apr. 13: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper (Easter 4)
11:00 am – Hospitality; 12:00 pm – Council

Sun., Apr. 20: 11:30 am – Voters' & Dorcas Guild Meetings

Fri., Apr. 25: Immanuel Lutheran High School Visitor's Day
7:30 pm – ILC Musical "Wagon Wheel's West"

Sat., Apr. 26: 9:00 am – Work Day at Grace



Grace Lutheran Church & School

This is
the LORD
for whom
we have
waited...

Isaiah 25:9

