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*Grace Lutheran Church & School*



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
 Fridley, MN 55432  
 Email: [jphein@clclutheran.com](mailto:jphein@clclutheran.com)  
 Home Page: [www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org](http://www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.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 24      **Date:** October 26, 2008

† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... *Psalm 92, TLH p. 143*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 3: Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now*

**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, for He is good;
- C: His love endures forever.**
- P: Let the redeemed of the Lord say this —
- C: Those He redeemed from the hand of the foe.**
- P: He lifted the needy out of their affliction
- C: And increased their families like flocks**
- P: The upright see and rejoice,
- C: But all the wicked shut their mouths. Glory be to God!**

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... *TLH 245, st. 1,6*

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:** ..... *Zephaniah 3:8-17*  
 God's people will serve Him without shame before the nations.

**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. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**  
 P: Grow in grace  
**C: And in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!**

**S.S. Children:** ..... *TLH 261: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word*

**Second Reading:** ..... *Acts 16:9-15*  
 The Apostle Paul is called by the Spirit to proclaim the Gospel in Macedonia.

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 496: Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying*

**Sermon:** ..... *Matthew 5:13-16*  
 (13) "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. (14) "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. (15) "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. (16) "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." (NKJV™)

**"Let Your Light Shine Before Men"**

Guest Speaker: Mr. Scott Schiermeister

**Offertory:** ..... *TLH p. 12 f.*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 498: Rise Thou Light of Gentile Nations*

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 50: Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*

*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!*

## TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THY HEART

We are approaching the end of another election cycle. Electioneering has always been a nasty and dirty exercise. We were reminded of that as we toured the Lincoln Museum a few weeks ago. The political cartoons were every bit as nasty, demeaning and savage as they are today. Nevertheless, this campaign surely has descended into the lowest pits of incivility. Further, the results of the election, depending on the point of view of different voters could well change the moral and political landscape. Our nation could become a nation that few of us recognize anymore. The undefined "change and hope" may not have much of an impact on the older generation in the short term, but those of us who care about our children and grandchildren are filled with a degree of trepidation for their future.

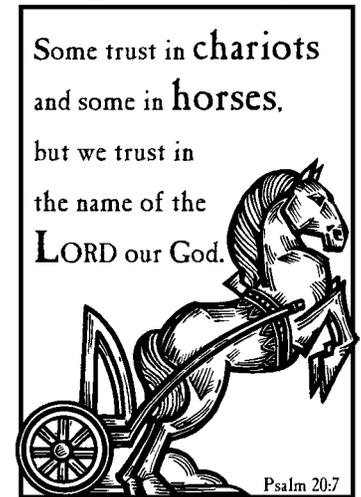
Politicians tell us that Americans are good people; that the better part of our nature ultimately shows forth. Let them think what they will, we know one thing for sure, and the political season brings it out- the natural heart of man is only evil continually. The lies and deceit, and the self serving that is the staple of those in government is abhorrent. The slander that dominates campaigns on either side is further evidence of the darkness of the human heart. Unfortunately it is descriptive of what lurks in every human heart, including our own. We call it sin!

The war, the economy, taxes, immigration, education, and other political and cultural issues are legitimate part of electioneering. Very little has changed over the decades. Every election we hear the same thing- grandiose promises of politicians who tell us that they will make things better. Seldom do things get better. When the ebb and flow is measured they generally are the same or worse. But yet we continue on. Why? Because "the dominion belongs to the Lord, and He rules over the nations" (Psalm 22:28). The legitimate issues will not cause a nation to rise or fall unless on one hand the Lord blesses, or on the other the Lord withdraws His blessing. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Commend all things to Him Whose will will be done to achieve His purpose for His children.

It is not difficult to make the case that this nation is every bit as godless as Israel was before the Assyrians wasted it, or Judah before the Babylonian captivity. Political platforms and issues do not destroy a nation. Evil does! The evil that brings judgment emanates from

unbelief. Unbelief is the rejection of the Word of God. Unbelief is manifested by idolatry. It rejects the true God and His justifying love in Christ. Unbelief is a rejection of the cross and of the Savior. Unbelief lies at the root of the lack of respect for life and marriage. It is the root cause of immorality, injustice, and selfishness. As Christians who profess to believe the Word and trust in Christ, we are nevertheless tempted by reason of our flesh. To the extent that we neglect worship, are indifferent to sin, ape the ways of the world, are indifferent to the Truth, and are inconsistent in the confession of our Lord, and our faith, we contribute to the circumstances that will bring God's wrath upon a nation. Love and pursuit of that which is evil and indifference to that which is good and right is manifestation of a people that has forsaken the Triune God and Lord to Whom dominion belongs and Who rules the nations.

There is more at stake of course than the welfare of this nation. It is the welfare of our souls. Redeemed and faithful children of God will have as a first priority the welfare of their soul. They will manifest faithfulness to the Lord and His Word, and confess and trust in Christ Jesus Who delights in showing mercy. He will keep us unto eternal life. As our faith is in Jesus, all will be well with us here regardless of the circumstances that confront us in society. He cares about His children! "God, forgive us our sin and have mercy on us. Trample under foot the devil and stay the devices of all who do the devil's will. Turn the citizens of this nation to repentance and bless it as we trust in You. Lord, even as Your justice so Your promises alone are true and trustworthy. Deliver us for Jesus' sake to the perfect peace in heaven where sin, death, and the devil no longer can assail us and where is perfect peace and joy. Amen."



Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 10/26/2008



## Voters Meeting Notes – October 19, 2008

The July voters meeting minutes were approved as amended. The Treasurer's 3rd quarter report was approved as presented.

### Pastor's Report

- Reported the wedding of Jeff Radichel and Sarah Noeldner.
- Reported the transfer of James and Jennifer Squires and children to Berea.
- Reported the transfer of Sarah Radichel from Eau Claire.
- Moved and passed to accept the transfer of Megan Ngetich from Mankato.
- VBS went well with 25 students.
- Pastor expressed his thanks for time off for vacation.
- Two students are attending ILHS this year.
- The men's retreat went well with 7 attendees.
- Pastor was Liturgist at Red Wing's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Pastor will be at Mission Festival at Eagle Lake next week. Scott Schiermeister will preach at Grace.
- November 2 is the Reformation service in Mankato.
- Some church discipline issues are being addressed.

### Board of Elder's Report

- November 2 is the new piano dedication.
- November 16 is Dr Menton's presentation.
- The following membership matters were acted upon:
  - o Moved and passed to remove membership of Angela and Travis Valley and children per their request.
  - o Moved and passed to remove membership of Mindy Kitzman per her verbal request (while under church discipline)
  - o Moved and passed to remove membership of Marion Schwieger per her request.
- A schedule and place of worship is being established for the Metro Outreach.
- The U of M student's transportation to/from church is being addressed.
- There was a \$100 disbursement from the Living Faith Fund.
- Moved and passed to accept the wording for the Living Faith Fund.

### Board of Education Report

- Substitute teachers are to be called for a 1-year term. Therefore, for the current school year:
  - o Moved and passed to call Heidi Nelson as a substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.
  - o Moved and passed to call Jan Davis as a substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.
  - o Moved and passed to call Janelle Hein as a substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.
  - o Moved and passed to call Deb Maki as a substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.

- Matt Dick will not be able to fulfill his last year of his 3-year term, so we will have to elect someone to finish the final year.
- Teacher's Conference will be in California in 2010.

### Board of Trustees Report

- Classrooms, garage door, flag pole, water heater, and other items have been completed.
- October 25 is fall cleanup.

### Other Business

- Moved and passed to accept the 2009 Grace calendar.
- Moved and passed to locate the sound/video control booth behind the organ. Discussion centered around the placement of the screen, which might be placed above the altar or between the Nativity and Crucifixion windows.
- Moved and passed to have Benno convert a pew to a table under the mailboxes.
- Could use better wireless for computers in Pastor's office and around that area.
- Moved and passed to accept the 2009 budget:

o Elders	64,000	3% salary increase
o Education	62,000	2.5-3% salary increase
o Trustees	<u>42,000</u>	
	168,000	0.2% increase

## ✠ **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS** ✠

- ◆ **Today:** Many thanks to our former vicar, Scott Schiermeister, for sharing God's Word today. He, his wife Peggy, and recently-born daughter Lydia live in Eau Claire. May the Lord bless their family!
- ◆ **Meeting:** Today is the Dorcas Guild meeting.
- ◆ **Reformation:** Next Sunday Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato, MN (421 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street), will be hosting the CLC Minnesota Area Reformation Festival. The service theme will be "Praise God from Whom the Blessing of Music Flows!" Prof. John Reim will be the guest speaker. Our children and choir are invited to sing and have been working on the music. The offering for the service will go toward the ILC Student Aid Fund. There will be a potluck meal at 5:30 pm and members are asked to bring either sandwiches, salad, or cake with your name on the dish so that it can be properly returned.
- ◆ **Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors Day:** is November 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:05 a.m. in the ILC gymnasium for chapel. It will feature presentations and classroom visits. Come and learn more about your church's college and a continuing education with Christ. If interested, please speak with Pastor Hein.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #8 – 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment.

† TODAY AT GRACE †

*Organist:* Jan Davis

*Elder:* Dave Rust

*Ushers:* Mark Wales, Josh Benzer, Pete Fleischer, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Brandt Wendland

*Counting Team 1:* Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow

*Hospitality Team 2:* Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Peter Fleischer; Alice Weibye; Ed & Verona Lentz

*Church Cleaners:* E.Wales/R.Nelson *School Cleaners:* Teachers

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

*Ushers:* Mark Wales, Josh Benzer, Pete Fleischer, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Brandt Wendland

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

*Hospitality Team 3:* Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Fred, Pal, & Scott Dauer; Dan & Cindy Degnan

*Church Cleaners:* E.Wales/R.Nelson *School Cleaners:* Maki

† OUR SCHEDULE †

**Today:** 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service  
11:00 am – Hospitality; 11:30 am – Dorcas Guild Meeting

**Wed., Oct. 29:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Study

**Sun., Nov. 2:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper  
11:00 am – Hospitality  
4:00 pm – MN Area Reformation Service @ Mankato, MN

**Fri., Nov. 7:** Immanuel College Visitors' Day

**Nov. 7 and 8:** 7:30 pm – ILC Play "Alice in Wonder"

<b>Last Week's Stats:</b>	Oct. 19, 2008	Sun.: 114	S.S.: ??	B.Cl.: 45	Wed.: 24
Sun. Offering:	Grace:	2,097.10	CLC:	1,024.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,225.00	CLC:	1,000.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-569.02	CLC:	+24.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	121,634.03	CLC:	40,855.35	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	135,450.00	CLC:	42,000.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-13,815.97	CLC:	-1,144.65	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	14.00	Tuition:	50.00	
GLC Other:	114.00	MDF:	14.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	1.00	ILC Bldg.	39.00	IIF: 14.00	CEF: 19.00

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