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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: Epiphany 5

Date: February 8, 2009

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 103, TLH p. 145 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 527: Lord, It Belongs Not to My Care*

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

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

P: The Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

C: But the way of the wicked will perish.

P: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked

C: Or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

P: But his delight is in the law of the Lord,

C: And on His law he meditates day and night.

P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.

C: Whatever he does prospers. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 246, st. 1,4: Holy, Holy, Holy*

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Choir: *Come, Let Us Sing*

First Reading: *1 Corinthians 9:16-23*

Paul's motto in mission work: "Be all things to all men."

CDS Children: *TLH 292: Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide*

Gradual:

P: Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol Him, all you peoples.

C: For great is His love toward us; and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

P: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;

C: Bring an offering and come into His courts.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, ...

C: Because He has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: *Mark 1:29-39*

Although active in doing miracles in healing the sick, Jesus shows His desire to get down to His real business at hand, to preach the Gospel.

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

Hymn: *TLH 410: Jesus, Lead Thou On*

Sermon: *Job 7:1-7*

(1) "Is there not a time of hard service for man on earth? Are not his days also like the days of a hired man? (2) Like a servant who earnestly desires the shade, And like a hired man who eagerly looks for his wages, (3) So I have been allotted months of futility, And wearisome nights have been appointed to me. (4) When I lie down, I say, 'When shall I arise, And the night be ended?' For I have had my fill of tossing till dawn. (5) My flesh is caked with worms and dust, My skin is cracked and breaks out afresh. (6) "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, And are spent without hope. (7) Oh, remember that my life is a breath! My eye will never again see good." (NKJVTM)

Optimistic Faith in the Midst of a Hopeless World

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 200, st. 1, 5-8: I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

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!

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Among Us:** This will be Matthew Dick's last Sunday with us before he begins his preparations and deployment to Iraq. Please express your farewells to him, assure him of your prayers for him and his family, and thank him for his willingness to serve our country in this capacity. The Dorcas Guild is considering various ways in which they may be able to help Joey and the kids while Matt is gone. Matt, may the Lord keep you safe in His keeping and bring you back safely to your family! Elnora Smith also thanks the members for the various cards.
- ◆ **Thanks** to all those who helped out at last weekend's work day. Also to our outgoing officers who served us the past few years on the Council: Ed Lentz; Ole Olmanson; Pat Paplow; and Benno Sydow.
- ◆ **Directory:** Please check your contact information in the draft copy of the directory located in the narthex and update if necessary.

- ◆ **Midweek Lenten Services:** This year our midweek services will begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7 pm. This 6-week series will focus on Christ in the Creatures of the Passion, looking at various passages that illustrate Christ as various creatures with their unique characteristics. Come and be spiritually edified by the Scriptures which point to Christ as our Savior from sin.



- ◆ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** These start on Feb. 25, 6 pm. There is a sign-up sheet for Lenten Soup Suppers as well as setup and cleanup.

- ◆ **CLC News:** Anita Meyer has accepted the call to teach at Luther Memorial school, Fond du Lac, WI. † CLC Pastors Todd Ohlmann and Matthew Ude were



recently in Nepal, visiting the pastors and churches of the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession. Pastor Ohlmann's trip blog has recently been updated with news and photos. You may see it here: <http://www.2009hclcnepalvisit.blogspot.com/>. † Pastor Nathanael Mayhew requests various materials for our missions in East Africa, including theological books, Sunday School materials, and used laptop computers. He writes: "Any of these things would be a great blessing and benefit to the work of preaching Christ in our overseas fields in East Africa. If you are able to help with any of these resources, or if you have a question about other resources which might also be useful, please send me an e-mail at ndmayhew@juno.com." † Numerous additions have been made to the "Missions" link on the CLC website: www.clclutheran.org.

- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #20 Third Article, Part 2

CONFESSING THE TRUTH AND FACING THE CONSEQUENCE:

There are consequences for telling the truth in our society. Jesus told His disciples that they should expect persecution. "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake... A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master" (Matthew 10: 22; 24). We do not say this to lament our circumstance or to play the victim card. We say it simply because it is a fact, and so that we are not surprised when persecution of whatever sort comes our way. Jesus said of His disciples, "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world" (John 17:14). He further prayed, "I do not pray that you should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one" (v.15). Thereafter He prayed, "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word" (v.20).

Persecution of the children of God is not something new. It came into the world with sin! Yet each generation needs to recognize the reality, and be encouraged in the face of Satan's efforts.

The truth of the true and only living God -of the only God Who is, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier - always meets with various responses. It strengthens and comforts many hearts or it brings out the worst of the human condition in others.

Increasingly, Christ believers are accused of hate crimes in many quarters because we teach that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ Jesus alone; we believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, is the only Savior, and the only way to heaven. He that believes in Jesus shall be saved; he that does not believe in Jesus is damned. That is what Scripture teaches (1 John 5:11,12). If we truly believe that Scripture is the inspired Word of God, how can we say anything else? It simply is not possible to compromise truth with its opposite. In every case that truth is compromised one ends up with error! Some say telling the truth in this regard is hate. So be it. We say that it is love to tell the truth. We will consider the attitude and manner in which we speak, but telling the truth is not hate speech.

Teaching false doctrine is sin. A life of drunkenness and adultery is still sin. Any departure from God's holy law is sin! Scripture says that homosexuality is sin (Romans 1:26, 27). Scripture tells us that children are a gift of God and that life is a time of grace. That time of grace begins with the conception of a child in the womb. Abortion is sin. Can we who believe the Scripture compromise with immorality? Not if we are of God. But to society - tacitly if not overtly supported by government edict - to speak the truth is hate speech. To us it is love to speak the truth.

Scripture tells us, "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him" (1 John 3:15). As children of God we take the accusation of being hate mongers seriously in the light of what Scripture says. But we reject the accusation of the world which has no respect for God, His Word, or the truth. That which is sin is evil, and vice versa. The standard of what is right and wrong, or of what is sin and is not sin is not the whim and wisdom of society, but the Word of God. That which is contrary to God's Word is evil whether we or they of the wicked world are guilty. Scripture says, "Everyone practicing evil hates the light ..." (John 3:20).

When we as Christians speak the truth of the way of salvation, or when we speak against evil, and warn of those who pervert the truth to satisfy their perversions, we are not thereby encouraging people toward doing physical harm to those caught in sin. If we with Scripture warn against social interaction with those who practice sin, as well as with their sin, that is not hatred - we know we will not convince those who have no respect for God's Word- but is an exercise of faith both as a witness against sin, as well as out of love for those who are caught in Satan's snare. As representatives of our Lord, and as such who ourselves have been redeemed from the consequence of sin through the Lord Jesus, we desire to share God's healing word with people caught in sin. The Lord also desires their salvation. In speaking we are to speak the truth in love - yes, we need an extra measure of the Spirit so to do. We are to speak as those who are mindful of our own sins against the holy God, but with honesty and forthrightness. We should be ready to confess our own sins without making excuses. We are to speak with the consciousness that our own natural heart is deceitful. Children of God will witness to the truth and speak against the perversions of

society, fully aware of the hypocrisy inherent in our own flesh, and with the full sense that pride goes before the fall. We should say with Paul, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief" (1Timothy 1:15).

We must speak boldly of the grace of God which has redeemed us, and which is offered in the Gospel. We can not apologize for the truth of the Gospel. We can not shrink from telling the truth, even if telling the truth of sin and of grace invites the jeering, disdain, and false accusation of those who love the darkness more than they love the light. We will pray for the strength to bear the consequences for telling the truth.

Who clings with resolution
To Him whom Satan hates
Must look for persecution;
For him the burden waits
Of mockery, shame and losses,
Heaped on his blameless head;
A thousand plagues and crosses
Will be his daily bread (TLH 528:11).

We have reason to be introspective. "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more than they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him" (Luke 12: 4,5).

Finally, our Savior said, "... In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). There is a rest that remains for the people of God who faithfully speak the truth, and bear the consequence; the blessing of God in Christ Jesus is greater than any evil consequence the world can heap on us!

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid (Psalm 27:1)?

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 2/1/2009

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Jan Davis Elder: Frank Radichel
Ushers: Roger Ochsner, Don Dahlin, Jeremiah Boe, Bob Maki, Joel Stifter, Arnold Gehrls
Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow
Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel
Church Cleaners: E. & L. Wales School Cleaners: Maki

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Roger Ochsner, Don Dahlin, Jeremiah Boe, Bob Maki, Joel Stifter, Arnold Gehrls
Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales
Hospitality Team 6: Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt Wendland
Church Cleaners: M. & P. Dick School Cleaners: Sandhoefner

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am –Hospitality; 12:00 pm Council Meeting
Wed., Feb. 11: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sun., Feb. 15: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am –Hospitality
 Afternoon – Basketball Jamboree at Mankato, MN
Wed., Feb. 25: 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service w/ Lord's Supper

Last Week's Stats: Feb. 1, 2009 Sun.: 127 S.S.: 19 B.Cl.: 39 Wed.: 26

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	3,386.30	CLC:	1,162.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,230.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+156.30	CLC:	+162.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	13,530.85	CLC:	4,402.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	16,150.00	CLC:	5,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-2,619.15	CLC:	-598.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	25.00	Tuition:	96.00
GLC Other: 110.00	MDF:	116.00	Kinship:	114.00
ILC Student Aid: 0.00	ILC Bldg.	226.00	IIF: 75.00	CEF: 19.00

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I KNOW THAT
thou canst do every thing,
 AND THAT NO THOUGHT
 CAN BE WITHHOLDEN
from thee. JOB 42:2, KJV