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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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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:** April 19, 2009

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 118, TLH p. 148 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 193: Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

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 199, st. 4*

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

Praise eternal as His love: Alleluia!

Praise Him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

First Reading: *Acts 4:8-12*

After healing a lame man, Peter gives testimony to the power of the resurrected Christ and the salvation He alone can offer mankind.

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: *John 20:19-31*

Thomas doubts the eyewitness testimony of the other disciples.

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

Hymn: *TLH 208, st. 1-7: Ye Sons and Daughters of the King*

Sermon: *1 John 1:1-2:2*

(1 John 1:1) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life; (2) the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us; (3) that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. (4) And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. (5) This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. (6) If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. (7) But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. (8) If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (10) If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. (1 John 2:1) My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. (2) And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. (NKJVTM)

“Testimony to the Risen Lord”

1. The Witness of the Disciples

2. The Fellowship with God and Believers

3. The Christian Life of Repentance

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 200, st. 1-2, 5-8: I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

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

Hymn: *TLH 208, st. 8-10: Ye Sons and Daughters of the King*

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ♦ **Meetings:** Today following hospitality, around 11:30 am, we will be holding our quarterly Voters and Dorcas Guild meetings.
- ♦ **Work Day:** Next Saturday will be a church work day, starting at 9 am.
- ♦ **Invitation:** During this year, Grace of Sleepy Eye is having several services of thanksgiving to God for our 50th anniversary, with former pastors or sons of the congregation serving as guest speakers. One such service will be today at 4:00 p.m. Pastor Paul Fleischer will speak. The main celebration will be in November.
- ♦ **2009 Yearbook:** Copies are available, one per family, by the guest book.
- ♦ **Softball:** There is a sign up sheet located by the guestbook.
- ♦ **ILHS Visitors Day:** Visitors Day for Immanuel Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI, is slated for May 1. This lasts the entire day as there are activities scheduled to familiarize students with the campus, classes, and activities. Current 7th and 8th grade students are invited to attend. Please speak with Pastor Hein if interested.
- ♦ **Call News:** Redeemer of Bowdle, SD, and Zion of Ipswich, SD, have called Michael Gurath to serve as pastor. † Mrs. Gail Schaefer, Peace Thru Christ, Middleton WI, where she has taught for 8 years, will be retiring from the teaching ministry at the end of the school year. A retirement celebration/meal will be held following services on Sunday morning May 31. Service begins at 10:00 a.m. All are invited! If you have any well wishes to be read, please send them to Pastor Mark Bernthal 3232 West Point Rd. Middleton, WI 53562
- ♦ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #24, Baptism 3 & 4

Is the Easter Story and its message really true? Did Christ really rise from the dead? As the Apostle states in First Corinthians 15:1-25, the answer to those questions could not impact our Christian faith more. If Christ is not risen, then our preaching, ministry, and church calling is futile, we are false witnesses, our sins still condemn us, misery and hopelessness are our lot and all who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished forever. Yet, if Christ truly arose, we have forgiveness and peace with God, we have comfort strength, and hope in our lives and our ministry, we have the living Christ's personal assurance that we shall live with Him forever in heaven. Our God's true and trustworthy Easter message in His Word is clear and powerful: "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. He lives!" And because He lives, all of His believing children will live, as well! Amidst a skeptical and unbelieving world and lives that are filled with many struggles, the Easter story is true – This is our Easter faith-confidence and hope. This is our foundation for our Easter joy and celebration. – Rev. David Schierenbeck, 4/12/2009

Last Week's Stats: Apr. 12, 2009 Sun.: 155

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,191.35	CLC:	\$1,192.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-108.65	CLC:	+192.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	46,128.51	CLC:	15,650.40
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	49,500.00	CLC:	15,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,371.49	CLC:	+650.40
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	5.00	Tuition:	65.00
GLC Other: 0.00	MDF:	12.00	Kinship:	60.00
ILC Student Aid: 50.00	ILC Bldg.	470.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

ON THE ALERT:

People, we included, are understandably concerned about the financial morass in which the country is. The loss of savings is causing concern for the future of those who are nearing retirement or have children to educate. This is compounded for those who are losing their jobs. Most people outside of the so called "beltway" in Washington are concerned about the financial burden that is being laid on our children. The circumstances that lead to this concern are not of recent origin, but are surely being accelerated in recent months as politicians wrestle with a fix, that, a case can be made, because of greed and political self serving is contributing to the problem.

However the financial ramifications that impact us are not the weightiest issue.. What concerns us is that while citizens are concentrating on the financial woes, the issues that will bring God's wrath upon this nation are accelerating. Moral decline and unbelief is what destroys a nation and souls that love wickedness. This decline also is not of recent origin. Scripture tells us that the wickedness of man is great in the earth, and the intent of his heart is only evil continually (Genesis 6:5). Such a condition reaped the whirlwind of divine wrath in the past. What should cause greater alarm than the financial meltdown is the immorality being promoted in the highest echelons of government. More and more the government is intruding itself into the family, denying parents the right to raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. In the name of rights abortion, homosexuality, irreligiousness and false religiousness are given equal status with truth. God's Word is treated with disrespect and contempt, and the lives and welfare of those who dare to object are endangered.

As children of God we will not take up arms. Our influence in society seems to be of little consequence. So what can we do? First of all be alert! Do not be misled by the smokescreens. Hold fast the faith with all confidence that in Christ we are the ultimate victors in eternity. If we are truly concerned about the future of our children and their welfare then take the responsibility seriously to strengthen their baptismal faith through faithful attention to the Word of God- both the law and the gospel. Pray for this nation as Abraham prayed for Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18). But above all let your heart- and so train your children- focus on the cross of the Lord Jesus, and treasure the inheritance of heaven where neither men nor the devil will disturb the perfect rest and peace of those who by God's grace are received into glory. That is the hope that can be believed in because the author of it is not man, but the God of our salvation!

Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 3/15/2009

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Maureen Ochsner Elder: Al Rosendahl

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Brian Eichstadt, Gary Gunther, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter, Larry Nelson

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

Hospitality Team 3: Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Mikey Oman;
Miranda Duehlmeier; Dan & Cindy Degnan

Church Cleaners: Volunteers? School Cleaners: Hein

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Brian Eichstadt, Gary Gunther, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter, Larry Nelson

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

Hospitality Team 4: Mark & Trudy Wales; Al Rosendahl;
Karen Auel; Bob & Suki Vandever

Church Cleaners: Volunteers? School Cleaners: Maki

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service (Easter 2)
11:15 am –Hospitality
12:30 pm – Voters' and Dorcas Guild Meetings

Wed., Apr. 22: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class

Sat., Apr. 25: 9:00 am – Work Day

Sun., Apr. 26: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service (Easter 3)
11:15 am –Hospitality

Fri., May 1: Immanuel Lutheran H.S. Visitors' Day
7:30 pm – ILC Musical "Into the Woods"

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!

Grace Lutheran Church & School



*God
raised him
on the
third day
and allowed
him to
appear....*

Acts 10:40, NRSV