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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Home Page: [www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org](http://www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.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 14

Date: September 6, 2009

## † THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: ..... *Psalm 77, TLH p. 139*

Hymn: ..... *TLH 540: With the Lord Begin Thy Task*

Liturgy: ..... *TLH, p. 15 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)*

Introit (followed by *Gloria Patri, The Kyrie*): ..... *TLH, pp. 16-17*

P: We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks,

**C: For Your name is near, men tell of Your wonderful deeds.**

P: Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,

**C: Who finds great delight in His commands.**

P: He will have no fear of bad news, his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**C: His heart is secure, he will have no fear; Splendor and majesty are before him. Glory be to God!**

Gloria in Excelsis: ..... *TLH 466, st. 4*

Praise and honor to the Father, Praise and honor to the Son,  
Praise and honor to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One,  
One in might and one in glory, While unending ages run.

First Reading: ..... *Amos 7:10-15*

Amos explains that he, an ordinary sheepbreeder, was sent by God.

Gradual:

P: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

**C: His greatness no one can fathom.**

P: I will meditate on Your wonderful works,

**C: And I will proclaim Your great deeds.**

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death ...

**C: And brought life and immortality to life through the Gospel.**

Alleluia.

Second Reading: ..... *Ephesians 4:11-16*

We are called upon to speak the truth about God in love.

Confession of Faith: ..... *Nicene Creed, TLH p. 22*

Hymn: ..... *WS 772: On Galilee's High Mountain*

Sermon: ..... *Mark 6:1-13*

(1) Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. (2) And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing *Him* were astonished, saying, "Where *did* this Man *get* these things? And what wisdom *is* this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! (3) "Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" And they were offended at Him. (4) But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." (5) Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*. (6) And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching. (7) And He called the twelve to *Himself*, and began to send them out two *by two*, and gave them power over unclean spirits. (8) He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff; no bag, no bread, no copper in *their* money belts; (9) but to wear sandals, and not to put on two tunics. (10) Also He said to them, "In whatever place you enter a house, stay there till you depart from that place. (11) "And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!" (12) So they went out and preached that *people* should repent. (13) And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed *them*. (NKJV™)

"Our Savior's Call to True, Rewarding Labor"

Offertory: ..... *TLH p. 22 f.*

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

Offering & Prayer:

Liturgy for the Lord's Supper: ..... *TLH p. 24 ff.*

Distribution: ..... *Meditative Music*

**Note:** In obedience to God's Word, and out of concern for the welfare of souls (1 Corinthians 11:29), and finally that we may honestly express the unity of faith and hope that binds us, we ask that only such as have identified with Grace through public confession of faith or another CLC congregation, approach the altar at the usher's direction.

Nunc Dimittis, Prayer, Benediction: ..... *TLH 29 ff.*

Closing Hymn: ..... *TLH 412: May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill*

## † THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Schedule Change:** This begins next Sunday with Sunday School and Bible Class at 9 am and Worship at 10 am.
- ◆ **Among Us:** Rick and Heidi Nelson were blessed with a baby boy, Cameron David, this past Friday, Sept. 4. He was 9 lb, 2 oz. Cam and Mom are well. Thanks be to God for this exciting gift! A baptism is planned for next Sunday during our regular worship service.
- ◆ **Sunday School Teachers:** We plan to meet following today's service.
- ◆ **Grace Men's Retreat:** Planning is underway for the men's retreat to be held Sept. 18-20 at Remer, MN, same location as the past few years. Cost will be \$90 per person. This includes four meals and lodging. Those interested in being sponsors or being sponsored may speak with Eli Wales who is organizing the event. A sign-up sheet for those who plan to attend is by the guest book.
- ◆ **Eden Prairie Worship:** Regular Sunday morning services are being held at 9:00 am in Eden Prairie, MN, as an outreach effort in the southwest area of the Twin Cities. Fliers are by the guest book.
- ◆ **ILC History:** On Sunday, Sept. 20, 3 pm, the Minnesota delegate conference will be meeting at Berea Lutheran Church in Inver Grove Hts. With the celebration of the CLC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the conference will begin with a presentation of a history of ILC. Retired Prof. Ron Roehl, with his wife, Eunice, will make the presentation. Berea is inviting members from Grace to this event and are inviting us to a meal that would be held around 5 pm that Sunday. Those interested may sign by the guest book so that Berea can anticipate numbers for their meal preparations.
- ◆ **Women's Seminar:** Immanuel Lutheran Church of Mankato, MN, invites fellow Christian women to join us for The Christian Woman Today Seminar to held on Sat., Oct. 3, 2009. This year's theme is "My times are in Your hand" (Psalm 31:15a). Registration forms may be found by the guest book. Registration is due Sept. 27.
- ◆ **Mission Calendars:** The Mission board has produced a 2010 mission calendar. Each month is dedicated to a different mission field and provides information and pictures. The calendar itself marks all major church holidays and provides a yearlong bible reading plan. We are asking a donation of \$3 per calendar to help cover the costs of printing and shipping. The calendars can be picked up at the CLC book house. More details can be found at [www.lutheranmissions.org/2010calendar/](http://www.lutheranmissions.org/2010calendar/)
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Michael Eichstadt of Messiah in Hales Corners, WI (Milwaukee area), has received the call to serve Messiah in Eau Claire, WI. † Pastor Emeritus Bertram Naumann has been diagnosed with cancer which is in advanced stages. A caring bridge site has been setup at: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/bertrnaumann>. † An article appears in the Eau Claire newspaper this week about Immanuel at: <http://www.leadertelegram.com/story-news.asp?id=BL1SBDN30P1>.

**News from the ELCC:** The ELCC, our sister church in the Democratic Republic of Congo has been beset with problems from within and without. Peter wrote, "In this rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may redound to praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ." I Pet. 1:6-7 They have to keep their focus on the coming of the Lord and the solution to all our earthly problems and in the mean time then their faith will grow through the adversities. Pastor Muzakuza continues to gather the local pastors for Sunday afternoon studies and makes trips to other districts to work with pastors and congregations in their own areas. The translation committee has completed seven more pamphlets in French or Swahili and these will be posted to our website [www.lutheranmissions.org](http://www.lutheranmissions.org) so that more people may take advantage of them. They have an ambitious program of work before them as they look at what next to do. The catechists have encountered difficulties in travel to congregations to teach. Also, some who were trained then left, while the faithful continue. A couple years ago a small self-help project was started with the ladies of the churches in Lubumbashi of selling perfume, the proceeds of which they used to buy two sewing machines. This was carried out through the help of Martin Essien, a brother from Nigeria. Now they want to expand their self-help projects. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in Congo that God grants them peace within the church and opportunities to reach out and the spiritual and financial means to do so. – Missionary David Koenig

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### HEBREWS 11:1 (Opening Service Address at ILC-- Prof. John Pfeiffer)

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"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Substance: this refers to something that you can touch and see. The chair you are sitting on has substance. Hope, on the other hand, has no substance. You cannot grab it, like you would a life-preserver. And yet, we do grab it like a life-preserver, because of faith. Faith gives substance to hope. Jesus is so real to our hearts, that we can spiritually touch Him. Heaven is so real that we can spiritually see it. The other word used in our text is "evidence": "Faith is the evidence of things not seen." Those people who live for this world, for the things they can see and feel, they want evidence. "Show me." That's what they say. "Prove it." Because they don't have faith, there is no way that you can prove it to them. "Faith is the evidence of things not seen." When a person has faith he doesn't need physical evidence. His faith provides all the evidence he needs. The reason for this is that faith clings to the words of Christ. These words speak not merely to the ears, but to the heart. Reality is not merely a matter of what the body can sense, but also of what the heart can sense. The world cannot see what we can see, because their hearts are dead. They have no faith. Thanks be to God that we are alive with faith. He gave us the faith to trust His words: to trust that Jesus died for us, that our sins are forgiven, that Christ's righteousness has been credited to our account, and that heaven is truly ours. And this is why we are starting a new school year. And this is why we built a new building and this day are dedicating it to the glory of God. This is why you and your parents came so far and invested so much in your education. And this is why our education students and seminary students are giving their lives to the proclamation of our hope. This is why: because we see the unseen, because our hope has substance, because we have all the evidence we need. Is Jesus real to you? Is forgiveness real? Is heaven real? Then you are ready for this year of faith."

## DEATH BY INDIFFERENCE AND NEGLECT (II):

The impetus behind the establishment of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) 50 years ago was not some misguided idea that it was necessary to protect the Word of God. The God Who gave His Word by inspiration to His chosen writers is perfectly capable of protecting His word. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, tells us, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will be no means pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

Since the fall into sin, however, efforts have been made to distort the Word of God. Since Satan’s first lie, souls have been misled and destroyed by all and any who in their perverted reason “use their tongues and say ‘He says’” (Jeremiah 23:31) while they cause God’s “people to err by their lies and by their recklessness” (Jeremiah 23:32). That God’s Word does

not need our defense does not mean that we as children of God can or dare sit idly by while people are being robbed of the Word of truth. God’s Word will endure throughout all generations in spite of the incessant and vile attacks that are made against it! The question is, “Will it remain among us?”

We expect the world to level broadsides against the Word and the Church. Such attacks can be resisted because we can see the enemy and set up our defense against him. However, it is hardly debatable that the philosophy of the world and anti-Christian forces are infiltrating the Christian church. That this is so speaks to something about which we as a confessional Lutheran Church must be concerned—namely, indifference toward the Word of God, and neglect of it in our daily life. Indifference toward the Word and the ultimate neglect of it creates a vacuum in the church as well as in our personal lives-- a vacuum that begs to be filled. Unfortunately Satan and his followers are more eager to fill it than we are alert to their efforts!

Fifty years ago, those who formed the CLC did not sit in judgment of people’s faith or salvation—a frequent accusation. Our forbears did not presume to be God, or to do what only God can do, namely, read hearts. What they did was look at the state of affairs in the church and at what was being taught and practiced in the church.



They did so with a sense of their own failures and weaknesses which may have contributed to the sorry state of affairs. The more they studied the Scriptures (sometimes by necessity), they were compelled by the Word of God and conscience to confess their sin and to take action. For many it meant leaving a formerly cherished fellowship. They were reminded of something that we forget only at peril to our own personal faith: any departure from any Word of God manifests disrespect for the Word, and potentially undermines trust and confidence in the Word God has given us “to make us wise unto salvation” (2 Timothy 3: 15).

Nor did the CLC come into existence through “holier-than-thou” people. It came into existence because the Spirit of God changed the natural bent of imperfect people, and gave them willing and obedient hearts. Under the Spirit they could not be indifferent, nor could they neglect to do what served to their spiritual and eternal welfare in spite of the cost--perceived and real—to their material and temporal welfare.

As we are about to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the CLC, we are nearing another crossroad, if we are not there already. Do we care what is taught and practiced in our own church? *Are we sufficiently concerned about our soul’s welfare in eternity that we regularly, faithfully, and steadfastly hear the Word of God, and partake of the sacrament?* Are we ready to say “No” to the world, and to the false doctrines and philosophies that are infiltrating the church in the world, or are we growing comfortable with letting happen what happens while we pursue our own creature comforts?

Do we care whether or not we as a church are faithful to the Word of God, and to the Lutheran Confessions drawn from that Word, or are we falling prey to the prevailing perverted opinion that we are free to cherry pick what we choose to believe from Scripture, while casting out what we do not believe? Do we still care enough about our church and our soul, or has an attitude of indifference and neglect set in? If we do care, how are we showing it! Actions speak louder than words! Indifference and neglect will surely lead to the demise of a confessional CLC. God forbid! More importantly however: will indifference and neglect lead to the extinction of your (our) personal faith, and with it the loss of eternal life? God’s Word will endure into eternity! “Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward” (2 John 8).  
(Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 8/30/2009)

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## Funeral home suits new Eden Prairie Lutheran congregation just fine

By Paul Wahl - Sun Newspapers

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Most groups that gather at Albin Chapel in Eden Prairie assemble to mourn the death of a loved one. After all, it is a mortuary. But each Sunday morning a decidedly different collection of folks makes their way to seats in the neatly appointed chapel. They're members of Eden Prairie's newest church, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, or CLC as parishioners call it.

If you're thinking the city already has a good number of Lutheran churches, you're probably not alone. Truth is, most of the Eden Prairie adherents and those from surrounding communities have had to hit the road to either Inver Grove Heights or Fridley for years. "These are extremely dedicated people," said the Rev. David Schierenbeck, who pastors the denominations Berea Lutheran just across the Eagan city limit in Inver Grove Heights. Schierenbeck and the Rev. John Hein of Grace Lutheran in Fridley are the caretakers of the fledgling congregation. The push to make it a reality stems largely from the work of Helen Kirschstein of Eden Prairie, who describes herself as a lifelong member of the CLC. She grew up in rural Sanborn in southwest Minnesota. "You could see our church from our kitchen window," Kirschstein said. "In the summer we'd walk to church."

Kirschstein's first quest was to find a location for about 30 worshipers. She and Schierenbeck toured nursing home meeting rooms, inspected unused church buildings and traipsed through recreation centers in several communities. A funeral chapel wasn't necessarily the first choice, but their meeting with Jim Albinson vaulted Albin Chapel to the top of the list. Albinson had actually been looking for ways to use the chapel attached to the funeral home as a service outreach to the community. "It's built such that the chapel can be completely secured from the mortuary part of the business," he said. The business, whose roots go back nearly to the turn of the century in Minneapolis, has always believed it had a role to play in the community, other than providing burial services, Albinson said. He calls it "social capital." About the only concern Albinson had was that the congregation clean up after itself, which the CLC group has done beyond expectation, he said.

The chapel was constructed in 1997-98 at 6855 Rowland Road, just north of one of Eden Prairie's largest churches, Wooddale. Since the chapel holds about 150 people, there is room for growth, but Schierenbeck said the day when Eden Prairie police have to direct traffic in front of Albin Chapel, like they do at Wooddale, is probably a ways off. The outreach effort is being aided by a gift from another CLC congregation that recently disbanded and wanted to see its proceeds go to a Minnesota mission effort. "The chapel is a lovely setting, and it is a beautiful facility," Kirschstein said. "Jim is wonderful to work with and very supportive of our outreach effort."

A location having been secured, the next step was a plan of action for the weekly worship services, which begin at 9 a.m. Sundays. Schierenbeck and Hein take occasional turns ministering, but the bulk of the pulpit duties fall to professors, retired pastors, seminary students and new seminary grads from the church's seminary, Immanuel Lutheran in Eau Claire, Wis. Schierenbeck said the goal is to install a resident mission pastor for the Eden Prairie outreach. Wayne Eichstadt, who has served pastorates in several states and is the denomination's secretary, is scheduled to speak in August.

While much of the service would be easily recognizable as Lutheran, the core message varies from what you might hear in the much larger Evangelical Lutheran Church in America homily or even that of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod or Wisconsin Synod. Schierenbeck's father and grandfather were a part of the Wisconsin Synod. Schierenbeck and his childhood congregation left its former fellowship for doctrinal reasons in 1960 and participated in forming the CLC. While the differences between the CLC and its fellow Lutheran offshoots are a bit complex, Schierenbeck said he prefers to approach them from a positive perspective. "While the gospel of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ remains the heart of our message and ministry, all teachings of Holy Scripture are vital to the proclamation and preservation of the Gospel message," he said. "We believe the Bible is the infallible and inerrant word of God and where the Bible has spoken on an issue, that is where we stand."

There are about 15 CLC churches in Minnesota, most of them in rural areas. With today's trend toward people gravitating to large communities, Schierenbeck said those who grew up in the church are returning to their roots. The two metro congregations have enjoyed steady growth throughout the years, he said. The CLC denomination will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year. 8/12/2009



Albin Chapel has opened its doors for Sunday Morning services for the newest Church of the Lutheran Confession congregation in the nation.

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

*Organist:* Jan Davis                      *Elder:* Frank Radichel  
*Ushers:* Pat Paplow, Gerald Anderson, Dan Degnan,  
 Brandon Paplow, Andrew Rosendahl  
*Counting Team 1:* Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel;  
 Pat Paplow  
*Church Cleaners:* A&M Rosendahl *School Cleaners:* Dick

† **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 3:* Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Mikey Oman;  
 Miranda Duehlmeier; Dan & Cindy Degnan  
*Church Cleaners:* A&M Rosendahl *School Cleaners:* Dick

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

**Today:** 9:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper  
**Mon., Sept. 7:** No School – Labor Day  
**Wed., Sept. 9:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Public School Catechism  
**Sun., Sept. 13:** FALL SCHEDULE BEGINS  
 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class Resume  
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Schedule Changes)  
 11:15 am – Hospitality Hour Resumes  
 12:00 pm – Council Meeting  
**Mon., Sept. 14:** 7:00 pm – School Open House  
**Wed., Sept. 16:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes  
**Sept. 18-20:** Grace Men's Retreat @ Remer, MN  
**Sun., Sept 20:** 3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conf. @ Inver Grove Hts., MN  
**Sat., Sept. 26:** Berea Open @ Hastings (See registration by guest  
 book)

<b>Last Week's Stats:</b> Aug. 30, 2009		Sun.: 110	
Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,541.66	CLC: \$771.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC: 1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-758.34	CLC: -229.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	99,399.68	CLC: 32,155.40
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	115,500.00	CLC: 35,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-16,100.32	CLC: -2,844.60
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	70.00	Tuition: 141.00
GLC Other: 35.00	MDF:	18.00	Kinship: 50.00
ILC Student Aid: 31.00	ILC Bldg.	167.00	IIF: 19.00    CEF: 15.00

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