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Grace Lutheran Church & School

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Fridley, MN 55432
Email: jphein@clclutheran.com
Home Page: 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-8th
Church Year: Epiphany 4 **Date:** January 31, 2010

✠ **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** ✠

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 85, TLH p. 140*

Hymn: *TLH 17: Oh, Worship the King*

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 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: *1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13*
God's love is demonstrated by selfless action.

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.**

Second Reading: *Luke 5:1-11*

Peter acknowledges his sin of distrust after he questioned the Lord. Yet the Lord still calls a sinful man like Peter to do His work of catching souls.

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

Hymn: *WS 723: What Wondrous Love Is This*

Sermon: *1 Corinthians 13:1-3*

(1) Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. (2) And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. (3) And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. (NKJVTM)

Genuine Love in Christ

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 349, st. 1-4, 7: Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

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

Hymn: *WS 709: God Loves Me Dearly*

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!

INFORMATION PLEASE:

Since fall, we have had occasional inquiries concerning the CLC from individuals or churches in the ELCA. Recently we received the following: "I am a concerned member of American Lutheran Church (sic).... Our congregation is greatly concerned with the direction of the ELCA. We are considering moving from the liberal ELCA to a more conservative Lutheran body." The inquirers are concerned with "belief statements, social statements, worship practices, seminaries, and financial obligations of member churches." Under "belief statement" are questions about our understanding of Biblical interpretation, our stance on the activity of women in our congregations, homosexuality, abortion, close communion, financial activities of the congregations and/or the synod, church polity, and mission emphasis. One asked, "What is the role of women, minorities, youth and others who are marginalized in your church body?"

We appreciate the inquiries. It is encouraging that there are people at this late date who are concerned about the direction of the church -- specifically in the Lutheran church in so far as ELCA can be called Lutheran. We respond to each one with lengthy e-mails, and frequently with information through regular mail. Other than "thank you" we have never had a follow up. We of course understand that they are in an inquiring stage, and no doubt are inquiring of other Lutheran churches also. We ask only that they compare what we teach and practice to the Scripture, and make their decisions in that light.

The inquiries confirm to this writer what a blessing it is for the CLC to have as its source of faith and doctrine the inspired and faithful Word of God. We are blessed to have a seminary where the "doctrinal position of our Seminary is based on a simple acceptance of the canonical writings of the Old and New Testaments as the verbally inspired Word of God, and an unqualified subscription to the Lutheran Confessions of the Book of Concord..."(*CLC Directory*). In the CLC, "It is our earnest desire, by the grace of God, to be faithful to the Word as well as to be found faithful in service as ready instruments of God's ministering grace in Christ Jesus, our Lord." "It is our single purpose to be a Christian church that proclaims the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible...We reject the idea of some that the main work of the church is to promote political and social causes. Our right of existence as a church body has been established by our Lord's commission to 'preach the gospel to every creature'" (Mark 16:15) (*Statement of Faith and Purpose*).

The question about the "role of others who are marginalized in your church body" was interesting, particularly in the context of the sentence. We do not have marginalized members. Before the Lord God all people are sinners. In Christ all people have forgiveness and

promise of life as an objective fact. The blessings of Christ's redemption accrue to us--men, women, youth, poor and rich-- through faith in Christ. The Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe. In faith and hope all who are in Christ are one! In the exercise of our work and activity in the kingdom we are bound only by what Scripture says. No one is marginalized. The *Lord* has assigned to all his or her place in the kingdom work on earth. Sanctification born of the Gospel is a reflection of the Gospel in the heart and life and activity of all who in Christ wait for eternal life.

The challenges that lie before faithful Christ believers is to hold fast the faith to which we are called and to which we pledged ourselves at our confirmation. In the 50th year of the CLC God help us to be faithful to Scripture and to the name CHURCH OF THE *LUTHERAN* CONFESSION. Amen

Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 1/31/2010

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Thanks:** After being shut-in at home recovering from her broken leg, Jane writes: "Please let everyone know how much I appreciate all the cards and prayers. They have been very uplifting and I can't wait until we can get back to worship service again. ... Thank you again for all the support, prayers, cards and thoughts. Jane Smith-Cowan"
- ◆ **Thanks:** To those who participated during work day yesterday!
- ◆ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** Please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall to bring soup and/or serve and cleanup at the soup suppers during the season of Lent. Supper will be served at 6:00pm before each Wednesday night service.
- ◆ **CLC History:** In celebration of the CLC's 50th anniversary, a book called *A History of the CLC* is being published this year. Signing up does not obligate one to purchase the book, but preorders are \$24.95. The 500 page book will be \$29.95 after publication. Grace member Rick Nelson was involved in the layout of the book.
- ◆ **Directory:** We are again preparing for the publication of the yearly directory at Grace. Please check your contact information in the draft copy of the directory located in the narthex. Place a check mark by your entry if it is correct. If it is not, then please edit as necessary. If you wish to add email or cell numbers, please do so. Your cooperation is appreciated as we attempt to produce an accurate directory.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Eric Libby of Our Savior's in Jamestown, ND, has received the call to Grace in Sleepy Eye and Faith in New Ulm, MN. † Pastor David Naumann of Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI, has received the call to St. John's in Clarkston, WA, and Peace in Orofino, ID.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #18, Second Article, Part 3

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Sue Nelson *Elder:* Al Rosendahl
Ushers: David Stifter, John Auel, Scott Baker, Al
 Rosendahl, Dylan Stifter, Lyle Trulin, Micheal Ude
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: Anderson *School:* Hein

† NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: David Stifter, John Auel, Scott Baker, Al
 Rosendahl, Dylan Stifter, Lyle Trulin, Micheal Ude
Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack
 Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Michael Ude
Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick;
 Frank & Ann Radichel
Church Cleaners: Anderson *School:* Maki

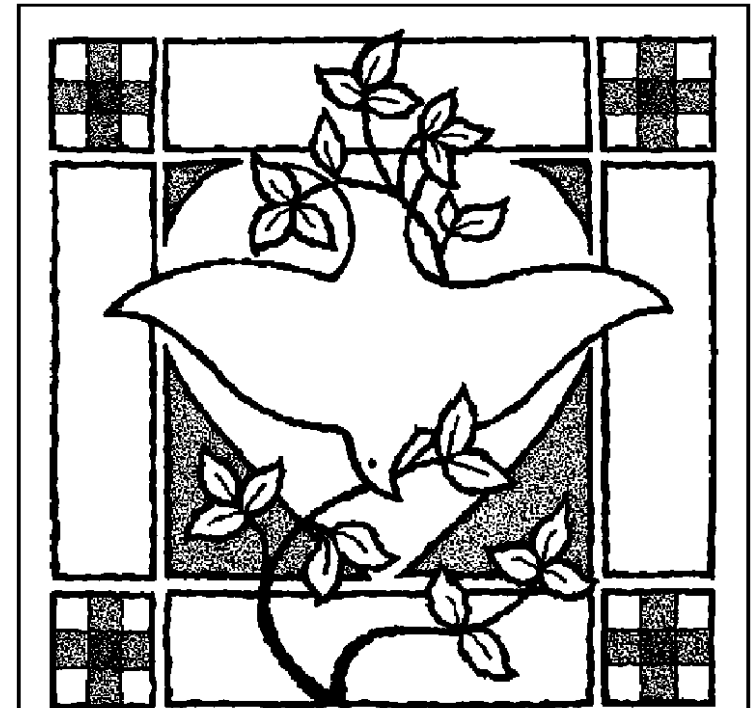
† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Feb., 3: 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sun., Feb. 7: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper
Wed., Feb. 17: Ash Wednesday
 6:00 pm – Soup Supper
 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service w/Lord's Supper

Last Week's Stats: Jan. 24, 2010 Sun.: 110 S.S.: 15 B.Cl.: 30 Wed.: 23

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,468.26	CLC:	\$666.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,015.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-546.74	CLC:	-294.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$11,117.61	CLC:	\$3,079.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	12,060.00	CLC:	3,840.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-942.39	CLC:	-761.00	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	42.00	Tuition:	63.00	
GLC Other:	18.20	MDF:	26.00	Kinship:	65.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	107.00	IIF: 17.00	CEF: 16.00

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And now these three remain:
Faith, Hope and Love.
 But the greatest of these is Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13

