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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635)

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Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 26

Date: November 21, 2010

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 100, TLH p. 144 f.*

Hymn: *WS 757: Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning*

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

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

P: We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth.

C: In which righteousness dwells.

P: Show me, O Lord, my life's end and the number of my days;

C: Let me know how fleeting is my life.

P: You have made my days a mere handbreadth;

C: The span of my years is as nothing before You.

P: But now, Lord, what do I look for?

C: My hope is in You. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 250, st. 1,4*

C: Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.

All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heaven above adore Thee.

Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;

Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee

And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.

First Reading: *Jeremiah 23:2-6*

The prophecy of the coming Shepherd who will reign as King.

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.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Jesus promises: "I am the Alpha and the Omega,

C: The First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." Alleluia.

Second Reading: *Luke 23:35-43*

Jesus' true kingship is revealed at the cross to the penitent thief.

Baptismal Affirmation: *Lillian Grace Nelson*

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

Hymn: *WS 749: Come to Living Word and Water*

Sermon: *Colossians 1:13-20*

(13) [The Father] has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, (14) in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. (15) He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. (16) For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. (17) And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. (18) And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. (19) For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, (20) and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

"God's Christ-Centered Kingdom"

1. It's centered in Christ's creation

2. It's centered in Christ's redemption

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 341: Crown Him with Many Crowns*

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

Hymn: *TLH 339, st. 1-3, 7: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

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!

WHOEVER CONFESSES ME BEFORE MEN

Politically, culturally, morally, socially, as well as spiritually, we are in a decline in this nation. We do not suggest that our age is any different than any other in the world since the fall into sin. The Old Testament prophets were confronted with the same conditions, conditions which invited God's wrath. But inasmuch as it is the age in which we live and during which we observe the deterioration of national life in a nation that prides itself on being a "Christian nation," we stand by our assessment. Further, the inspired word penned by the apostle Paul told us that it would be so "in the last days" (2 Timothy 3).

Our nation can be prepared offensively and defensively to ward off nations that mean us harm. But finally the greater danger to the welfare of nation is the rot from inside. There is a parallel within the church. Open attacks against the doctrine and life of the church can be thwarted. What is dangerous to the doctrine and life of the Church is neglect, and apathy toward the Word of God, as well as indifference to the doctrine and confession to which we are called by the Spirit of God.

There was a reason why the apostles suffered persecution and even death at the hands of anti-Christian forces. They dared to proclaim the gospel of salvation in spite of the opposition of those who rejected the Lord. There is a reason why such as Martin Luther who stood in the Scriptures and the apostolic teaching was pursued and lived under the ban of the Roman church. By the grace of God he died a natural death. The gracious Lord and Savior does protect His own! In any age, the truth of God faces opposition because truth exposes error. God's Word uncovers sin. The Savior and the message of salvation are a stumbling block to those who are lost. As Reformation Lutherans we are heirs of those who have gone before us, and who have contended for the faith, often times at great peril to life and limb. If ever there was reason to stand up and be heard that the name of the Lord might be glorified, and our confession be heard, surely it is today-yes, in spite of, and in the face of, wickedness in the world as well as apostasy within the church!

Probably few among us have ever heard of Patrick Hamilton. Patrick was born in 1503. He was of Scottish heritage. He was a Catholic. In 1517, the year that Luther nailed the theses to the church door, he at 14 set out for the University of Paris. He graduated with a master's degree in 1520 at the age of 17. He was described as one who became a priest so that he could "preach the Word of God in purity."

The Cardinal accused Patrick of being "inflamed with heresy, maintaining the diverse heresies of Martin Luther." In 1527 he fled to Germany where he listened to faithful preachers and listened to lectures of Luther. In Germany he became a convinced Lutheran.

Hamilton's concern was the reform of the doctrine, rather than the abuses within the church. In spite of contrary advice he returned to Scotland in 1527 with a desire to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. During this time he married.

Among things that appear in his work called Patrick's Places (1527) we read:

"He that believeth God, believeth the Gospel. He that believeth God, believeth His Word. And the Gospel is his Word. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be condemned" (Mark 16).

"Whoever thinketh to be saved by his works, denieth Christ is our Savior, that Christ died for him, and finally, all things that belongeth to Christ."

The Cardinal was determined to silence Patrick, "Luther's ambassador to the Scots." He appointed a man to dissuade Patrick from his teaching. This man instead was convinced by Patrick.

In February of 1528, Patrick Hamilton was captured and cast into prison because he held "to the diverse heresies of Martin Luther." When tried he said, "As to my confession, I will not deny it for awe of your fire, for my confession and belief is in Jesus Christ. I will rather be content that my body burn in this fire for the confession of my faith in Christ than my soul should burn in the fire of hell for denying the same."

On February 29, twenty five years after his birth, with Bible in hand he was led to the pyre to be burned. "But in all his cruel pains he offended them never in word or sign; but continually prayed for them and gave thanks unto God which made him worthy to suffer for his name." In a final expression of defiance against Satan, he raised three fingers of his burning hand and said, "How long, Lord, shall darkness overwhelm this realm? How long wilt Thou suffer this tyranny of men?" As Stephen did (Acts 7), Patrick declared, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." The gracious Lord does deliver His own from this vale of tears to Himself in heaven!

To this day, in the cobblestone patio in front of St. Salvatore University in Scotland at the spot of the martyrdom one still finds the initials PH.

We wonder, "Is there a Patrick among us?"

"HIM WILL I ALSO CONFESS BEFORE MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN" (Matthew 10:32).

NOTE: Quotes and historical information are from a Hagiography: St. Patrick Hamilton, by Rev. Bruce Adams and made available through Lutheran Tract Mission of North Adelaide, SA

(Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 11/2010)

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

◆ **Thanksgiving Eve Service:** Our Thanksgiving service will be on Wednesday, Nov. 24, 7 pm. While things may not be particularly bright with our national economy, we are still assured of our Lord's providence and bounty of spiritual blessings. The deep well of our Savior's all-abounding grace never runs dry! We have a great opportunity to gather together in worship with our fellow Christians to thank the Lord. Come and worship your Lord, thanking Him for every good and perfect gift! Berea Lutheran in Inver Grove Hts. will also be holding its Thanksgiving service on Thursday morning at 9:00 am.



◆ **Cookie Bake:** The annual Christmas Cookie Bake will be held on Sat., Nov. 27 from 9am-1pm in the fellowship hall. Kids and adults are welcome to bake and decorate some yummy treats to share and bring home.



◆ **Evangelism Workshop:** Messiah Lutheran Church at Eau Claire, WI, is holding a workshop on evangelism next Sunday, Nov. 28, from 2:00-5:30 pm. There will be presentations on face-to-face evangelism scenarios and with using Facebook for evangelism. A supper and social time will follow.

◆ **Christmas Eve Service:** Our children will be rehearsing for the service on the following dates:

- ◆ Sun., Dec. 5: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
- ◆ Sun., Dec. 12: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
- ◆ Sun., Dec. 19: 9-9:45 am (please be here earlier than 9 am so that we can start promptly in order to get through everything)

December is a busy month, but please understand the importance of these rehearsals for a successful Christmas Eve service. Each child should attend at least 2 out of the 3 sessions, but attending all three is obviously the most preferable. The children have a wonderful opportunity to express the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ. The parents' help is greatly appreciated to make everything go well, as is evident by how well things have gone the past few years.

◆ **Poinsettia Signup:** The signup sheet for Poinsettia's is on the cabinet by the guest book at the church entry. It will be there for the month of Nov. If anyone has any questions, please contact Jackie Radichel.

◆ **Recital:** Those grade school students interested in participating in a music recital please speak with Janelle Hein. This will be held during hospitality on December 12.

◆ **ILC Christmas Concert:** This year's Christmas concert will be held on Fri., Dec. 17, 7:30 pm, at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI. Those who wish to sign up for a ride on the bus, there is a signup list for the trip.

◆ **LUTHERANSPOKESMAN.ORG:** The CLC Board of Education and Publications announces the completion of this new website created to enhance The Lutheran Spokesman. We encourage the use of this website for the building up of your personal faith and also as a social networking evangelism tool for the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We hope you will visit the site and then recommend it to your family and friends. Beginning with the December issue, The Lutheran Spokesman will work in conjunction with the new website: lutheranspokesman.org.

◆ **2011 Cleaning:** The 2011 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.

◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #11 – 9th & 10th Commandments. Please memorize individual parts for Dec. 5th rehearsal.

Last Week's Stats: Nov. 14, 2010 Sun.: 107 S.S.: ? B.Cl.: 39 Wed. 18

Week's Offering:	Grace:	\$2,758.91	CLC:	\$746.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,015.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-256.09	CLC:	-214.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$136,862.15	CLC:	\$41,116.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	138,690.00	CLC:	44,160.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,571.76	CLC:	-3,044.00	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition:	25.00	
GLC Other:	201.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	52.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	105.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 100.00

Christ lets Himself be called a Likeness or Portrait of the Father which is like Him in all things, as Paul says to the Colossians (1:15): "He is the Image of the invisible God"; again, to the Hebrews (1:3): "He is the express Image of His Person," that is, an Image which is God and has the same Essence in a sense far more real than the essential reproduction of a seal in wax so that not one line is missing. By means of such a comparison the prophets and evangelists wanted to express the fact that in every respect Christ possesses the divine Essence like, and with, the Father. To be sure, when a portrait is pressed, it is somewhat different; for in that case the seal itself does not follow, but the impression merely retains its likeness. But this Image, which is God's, receives everything that He is. If the seal could imprint itself and the wax could turn into the seal and the two could become one, then the comparison should be perfect. Or it would be perfect if one could draw a person in such a way that the portrait would have flesh and blood and yet remain in the essence of the person. Scripture, then, wants to indicate that the Son is entirely equal to the Father in divinity, omnipotence, wisdom, might, and entire being, nothing excepted, and is the same God in very respect ... – M. Luther

† TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Al Rosendahl

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 1: Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner

Church Cleaners: ?????

School: Story

† 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 2: Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Peter Fleischer; Jenny Kleifgen

Church Cleaners: ?????

School: None

† OUR SCHEDULE †

Today: 9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality

Wed., Nov. 24: 12:00 pm – School Dismissal (Grace & ILC)
4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Sat., Nov. 27: 9:00 am – Christmas Cookie Bake

Sun., Nov. 28: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality
2:00-5:30 pm – Evangelism Workshop at Eau Claire, WI

Wed., Dec. 1, 8: 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship

Sun., Dec. 5, 12: 12-2 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsals

Sun., Dec. 12: 3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital

Wed., Dec. 15: 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Dinner
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship

Fri., Dec. 17: 2:00 pm – Day School Northtown Concert
7:30 pm – ILC Christmas Concert

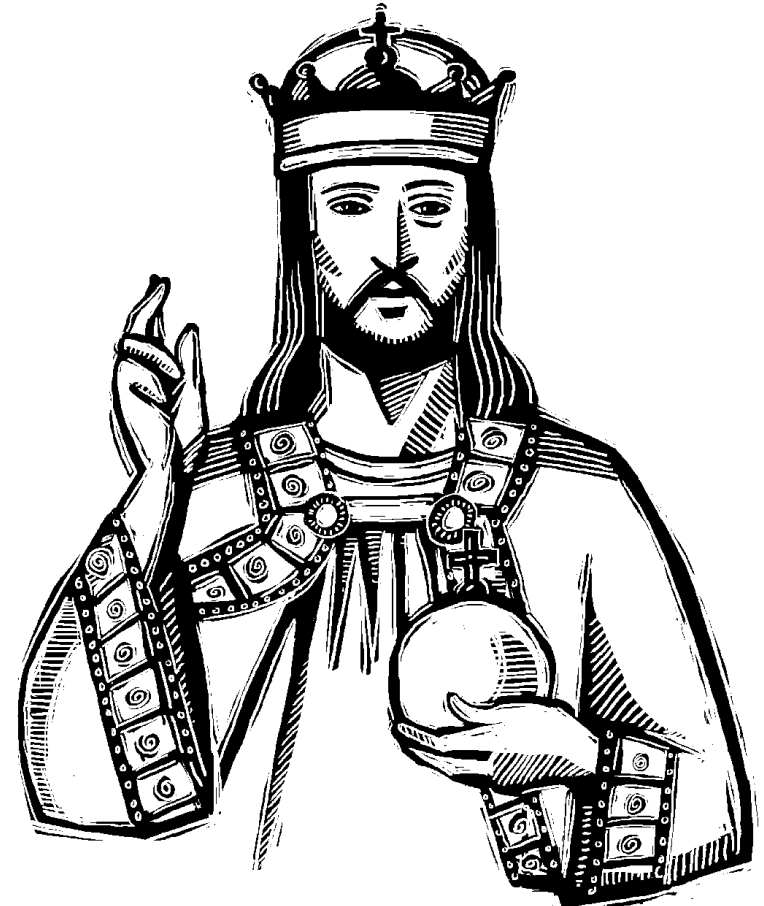
Sun., Dec. 19: 9:00 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal; 12:00 Council Meeting

Fri., Dec. 24: 6:30 pm – Christmas Eve Worship

Sat., Dec. 25: 10:00 am – Christmas Day Worship

Fri., Dec. 31: 7:00 pm – New Years Eve Worship w/Lord's Supper

Grace Lutheran Church & School



CHRIST THE KING
• SUNDAY •