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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)

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Grades: Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

Church Year: Advent 1

Date: November 28, 2010

## † THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... *Psalm 18, TLH p. 125 f.*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 63: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

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

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

P: Let the sea roar, and all its fullness,

**C: The world and those who dwell in it;**

P: Let the rivers clap *their* hands;

**C: Let the hills be joyful together before the LORD,**

P: For He is coming to judge the earth.

**C: With righteousness He shall judge the world, And the peoples with equity. Glory be to God!**

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... *TLH 36, st. 3*

All praise and thanks to God

The Father now be given,

The Son, and Him who reigns

With them in highest heaven:

The one eternal God,

Whom earth and heaven adore!

For thus it was, is now,

And shall be evermore.

**First Reading:** ..... *Isaiah 2:1-5*

The prophecy of God's Church being enlightened with the Word.

**Gradual:**

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

**C: 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. He said to me, "You are My servant, Israel, ...

**C: In whom I will display My splendor." Alleluia.**

**Second Reading:** ..... *Romans 13:11-14*

In our walk in Christ we are to be aware that He will come soon.

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 384: Oh, How Great Is Thy Compassion*

**Sermon:** ..... *Matthew 24:37-44*

(37) "But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. (38) "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, (39) "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. (40) "Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. (41) "Two *women* will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. (42) "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. (43) "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. (44) "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

**"They Who Fear the Lord ..."**

**1. Look after the welfare of their soul**

**2. Are prepared to go at the Lord's call**

**Offertory:** ..... *TLH p. 12 f.*

**Hymn:** ..... *WS 703: Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 52: Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

*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 CONFIDENCE OF THOSE WHO KNOW IN WHOM THEY BELIEVE:

Our confident hope for time and for eternity is inspired by Paul's confident expression of faith in 2 Timothy. In this prison epistle Paul recognized that his ministry and his life were drawing to a close. He wrote to Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (4:6-8). From the time of his conversion to saving faith in Christ Jesus, as well as from the time that he was called to be a servant of the Lord, Paul had committed his person, his life, his spiritual well-being, his ministry, and his salvation into the hand of the Lord. How could Paul be so confident and so trusting as to totally commit to the Lord who and what he was as well as the success of his ministry? The answer lies in his own words. Previously in the same letter (1:12) the apostle said, "*For I know Whom I have believed.*" What blessing to live in confidence of faith in Christ Jesus, the eternal Word. Yes, Paul believed the Word of God.

Paul exhibited a faith and confidence not natural to man since the fall into sin. There is a reason why in society there are many wandering about in despair without seeming purpose or direction, so many who have no idea from where they have come, or where they are going. Why is this? Because they have believed the big lie! Every false religion—every religion no matter how "spiritual" or pious that rejects, twists, or otherwise mishandles the Word of God-- has nurtured the big lie. What was the genesis of the lie? The answer is found in Eden. "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, *Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil*" (Genesis 3: 1-5). The sin of Eve and Adam with her was not first of all eating the forbidden fruit. The first sin involved listening to the devil and rejecting the Lord and His Word! They ate the fruit because they believed

the lie! There is a reason why Adam and Eve hid from God. They were frightened! They knew they had sinned.

Things have deteriorated over time. The only difference between Adam and Eve and our generation is that while the first parents ultimately recognized that they had sinned, many today refuse even to acknowledge God. Still fewer care what God says, while others speaking in the conceit of their own mind put words in God's mouth. *Anything and everything* from whatever source *that contradicts any Word of God is a lie!* Every perversion of God's Word is merely a variation of the first lie perpetrated by the devil. The Lord said through Jeremiah, "How long will this be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies" (Jeremiah 23:26). Those who cause God's people to err through their lies, or who thereby rob hearts of the confidence of Paul are called reckless by the Lord Who says of them, "They do not profit this people at all" (Jeremiah 23: 32).

Do you want to grow in the confidence of faith, and face affliction and ultimately death with confidence? Then listen to the Word, the Word that is written that you might know that you have eternal life, and reject the lies! "And this is the record that *God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God*" (1John 5:11-13). Even this fundamental truth of the gospel which manifests the love of God, the foundational truth that undergirds all of Scripture, Satan undercuts, and particularly so, by asking "Has God said?"

There is only one source for the confidence that Paul exhibited. It is the inspired Word of God. As you hear it and believe, unlike those who do not hear and therefore fall for the lies conceived and promoted by Satan, you will be able to say with Paul, "*I know Whom I have believed.*" As you believe in Him and are confident of Him in Whom you believe you can in the face of death join in the blessed confidence of another confident believer who said in the face of death, "Lord Jesus receive my spirit" (Acts 7:59).

Oh, grant that in Thy holy Word  
We here may live and die, dear Lord;  
And when our journey endeth here,  
Receive us into glory there. Amen (TLH--292:9)

(Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 11/2010)

## † THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Thanks** to Pastor Daniel Fleischer for preaching the Good News of our Savior. Pastor Fleischer is retired and lives in Oakdale, MN. Pastor Hein is at Eden Prairie today but will be around later.
- ◆ **Among Us:** As announced in church on Wednesday evening, Peter Fleischer had surgery on Friday to remove a brain tumor. Unfortunately it turned into an emergency situation as he became unresponsive during the early morning hours. His surgery was successful, but Peter will be in a drug-induced coma for the time being. Tests are being done on the tumor. A caring bridge site has been set up: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/peterfleischer>. Kjell Olmanson is out of the hospital after having seizure-like symptoms. However, a diagnosis is not yet certain. Kjell will be having an MRI this week. Jessie Maestas will be having outpatient surgery tomorrow in order to have a stent. May the Lord keep His children in His Word and grace as they face life's challenges!
- ◆ **Evangelism Workshop:** Messiah Lutheran Church at Eau Claire, WI, is holding a workshop on evangelism today 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.
- ◆ **Midweek Advent Services:** This Wednesday, at 7 pm, we will begin our series of three midweek services. Our last midweek service on December 15 will be our annual candlelight service preceded by the congregational Christmas meal at 6 pm.
- ◆ **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](http://lutheranspokesman.org).
- ◆ **December Spokesman:** Beginning with the December issue, the formatting and layout of the hard copy of The Lutheran Spokesman has been professionally upgraded. Also, the eight page "Bread of Life" daily Bible reading schedule that comes out every year in the December issue is available only online. The .pdf file is on the home page of [lutheranspokesman.org](http://lutheranspokesman.org). Pastor will print a few hard copies once the 2011 copy is available.
- ◆ **Invitation:** Pastor David Baker will be installed at Our Redeemer's in Red Wing MN on Dec. 5th at a special 3 PM service. Our Redeemer's would like to invite the fellowship of faith to join them in this service of prayer and thanks for God's gifts and blessings in the public ministry. A light lunch will be served following the service.
- ◆ **2011 Cleaning:** The 2011 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Caleb Schaller of Redemption in Lynnwood, WA (Seattle area) has received the call to St. Stephen in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco area). † Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew in Dallas, TX, has received the call to Ascension in Batavia, IL (Chicago area).
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #12 – Conclusion. Please memorize individual parts for Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> rehearsal.

### **Last Week's Stats:** Nov. 21, 2010 Sun.: 82 S.S.: ? B.Cl.: 20 Wed. 80

|                         |               |              |          |             |           |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|-------------|-----------|
| Sun. Offering:          | Grace:        | \$1,397.02   | CLC:     | \$746.00    |           |
| Wed. Offering:          | Grace:        | 863.00       | CLC:     | 180.00      |           |
| Weekly Need:            | Grace:        | 3,015.00     | CLC:     | 960.00      |           |
| -Under / +Over:         | Grace:        | -754.98      | CLC:     | -34.00      |           |
| Year-to-Date Offering:: | Grace:        | \$139,122.17 | CLC:     | \$41,826.00 |           |
| Year-to-Date Need:      | Grace:        | 141,705.00   | CLC:     | 45,120.00   |           |
| Year-to-Date (+/-)      | Grace:        | -2,582.83    | CLC:     | -3,294.00   |           |
| Other Offerings:        | Living Faith: | 75.00        | Tuition: | 86.00       |           |
| GLC Other:              | 51.50         | MDF:         | 0.00     | Kinship:    | 150.00    |
| ILC Student Aid:        | 0.00          | ILC Bldg.    | 120.00   | IIF: 0.00   | CEF: 0.00 |

## † TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Al Rosendahl

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: Kitzman School: None

## † NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Roger Ochsner, Don Dahlin, Jeremiah Boe, Bob Maki, Joel Stifter, Arnold Gehrls

Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Michael Ude

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

Church Cleaners: Kitzman School: Story

## † OUR SCHEDULE †

**Today:** 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:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship

**Sun., Dec. 5:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper  
11:15 am – Hospitality  
12-2 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal

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

**Sun., Dec. 12:** 12-2 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal  
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

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# Grace Lutheran Church & School

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Therefore keep  
watch, because you  
do not know the day  
or the hour.

Matthew 25:13