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*Grace Lutheran Church & School*



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Home Page: [www.CLCClutheranChurch.org](http://www.CLCClutheranChurch.org)

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635) Phone: 763-784-8784  
 School Phone: 763-784-6340 Grades: Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>  
 Church Year: Epiphany 8 Date: February 27, 2011

† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... *Psalm 119, Part II, p. 149*

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 368: The Lord My Pasture Shall Prepare*

**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 is compassionate and gracious,

**C: Slow to anger, abounding in love.**

P: He does not treat us as our sins deserve

**C: Or repay us according to our iniquities.**

P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

**C: So great is His love for those who fear Him.**

P: As far as the east is from the west,

**C: So far has He removed our transgressions from us.**

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... *TLH 12, st. 2, 5*

**This day the Lord for sinners slain**

**In might victorious rose again:**

**O Jesus, may we raise-ed be**

**From death of sin to life in Thee!**

**All praise to God the Father be,**

**All praise, eternal Son, to Thee,**

**Whom, with the Spirit, we adore**

**Forever and forevermore.**

**First Reading:** ..... *Isaiah 49:13-18*

When God's people think that the Lord has forsaken them, we are to be reminded that the Lord will not forget us, just like a nursing mother will not forget the needs of her infant.

**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. Bless those who persecute you;

**C: Bless and do not curse. Alleluia.**

**S.S. Hymn:** ..... *TLH 145: Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*

**Second Reading:** ..... *1 Corinthians 4:1-13*

The Apostle Paul warns the Corinthians not to be puffed up with themselves. Instead they are to look to the apostles who were made public spectacles to the world by the things they endured for Christ's sake.

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 413: I Walk in Danger All the Way*

**Sermon:** ..... *Matthew 6:24-34*

(24) "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. (25) "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? (26) "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? (27) "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? (28) "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; (29) "and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. (30) "Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? (31) "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' (32) "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. (33) "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (34) "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

*WORRY-FREE LIVING*

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 200, st. 1-6: I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

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

**Hymn:** ..... *WS 784: Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

## † THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Grace School Class Trip:** The students who will be going on the class trip in April are continuing their fund raising. Today there will be a silent auction and spaghetti meal following the worship service. A free-will offering will be received during the meal.
- ◆ **Grade School Basketball Tournament @ ILC:** The grade school basketball tournament held at ILC will be on March 11-13. A full schedule for the tournament is posted by the pastor's office. Grace is playing with children from our CLC congregation in West Columbia, SC. Games are:
  - ⇒ Fri., March 11, 11:00 am (v. Eau Claire A2)
  - ⇒ Sat., March 12, 8:30 am (v. Mankato A1)
  - ⇒ Sat., March 12, 1:00 pm (v. Markesan A)

The team pizza party is on Friday, March 11, 5-9 pm at the Plaza Hotel. Please let Mark Wales know if you plan on attending. The tournament web site is: <http://www.cclutheran.net/tourney/>
- ◆ **A Marriage Enrichment Seminar** is being planned for Friday and Saturday, March 18-19, by Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire. It will be held in Black River Falls, WI. The event begins Friday evening the 18th, at 6:30 p.m. The retreat concludes on Saturday the 19th, at 3:30 p.m. You may pick up a brochure by the guest book with details and registration information.
- ◆ **Christian Women's Retreat:** April 8-10, 2011, at Days' Inn in Lacrosse, WI. Come and join the fun and learning. Brochures were distributed some time ago, but there are a few copies by the guest book. For more information, contact Pastor Paul Nolting (PNolting@hickorytech.net), or Laila Fleischer (lefleischer2@q.com). NOTE: Deadline for registration for the Retreat is March 1. Can late-register up to April 1, with a late fee.
- ◆ **Summer Camp @ ILC:** Summer is around the corner and that means so is Camp! We have already been preparing for months and are very excited to get things rolling! Camp dates are June 19-25 for campers going into grades 5th-9th. The cost for camp will be \$100. We are also running our Pre-camper program again, for children ages 5-9 and will be half-a-day in the mornings. Camp will be headed up by Joelle Noeldner, Tom Naumann, and Jessica Ohlmann. We feel truly blessed to be given the opportunity to care for your child(ren) and nourish them in His Word. We have full confidence that God has given us the physical, emotional, and spiritual gifts needed to run this camp safely and smoothly. Thank you for your trust. We hope to see you and your child(ren) soon! Our camp website is <http://youthcamp.cclutheran.net/>. Registration will open March 11th. We can't wait to hear from you!
- ◆ **CLC News:** Rev. Philip Matzke has returned the call to Ascension in Batavia, IL (Chicago area).
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #22, Review of Articles

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH The Bible is Our Basis ...

<b>... for a foundation</b>	<i>For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:11</i>
<b>... for strength</b>	<i>God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1</i>
<b>... for guidance</b>	<i>Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. Psalm 119:105</i>
<b>... for salvation</b>	<i>Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12</i>
<b>... for eternal life</b>	<i>And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. John 17:3</i>
<b>... for doctrine</b>	<i>All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16</i>
<b>... for fellowship</b>	<i>Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. Romans 16:17</i>
<b>... for forgiveness</b>	<i>In [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:14</i>
<b>... for love</b>	<i>In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:10</i>
<b>... for wisdom</b>	<i>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Proverbs 9:10</i>
<b>... for truth</b>	<i>Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. John 17:17</i>
<b>... for peace</b>	<i>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7</i>

## WEALTH DISTRIBUTION:

Part of the present political justification for raising taxes particularly by taxing the rich is the idea of wealth distribution. It is the rob Peter to pay Paul idea. Politicians appeal to the “have nots” (as they define that class) to gain their favor and votes by penalizing the “haves.” In this way they hope to eradicate poverty. The more likely real end-game is that everyone will be equally poor or rich depending on one’s definition of poor or rich.

What does Scripture say about wealth distribution? The Lord does not condone laziness and lack of effort. Scripture says, “If any would not work, neither should he eat” (2 Thessalonians 3: 10-12). As Scripture is timely for all ages, that exhortation speaks to our age.

Yet Scripture addresses the issue of the indigent, the needy, and those who suffer lack, “For the poor will never cease from the land” (Deuteronomy 15:11). That is a reality that escapes many do gooders today. Scripture speaks to the Christian’s responsibility to the poor as it declares such necessity an opportunity for children of God who are well supplied to exercise their faith. Paul wrote to the Galatians, “Therefore, as we have opportunity let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10). In the Deuteronomy passage cited above the Lord commanded, “You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and needy, in your land.” The Psalm says, “A good man deals graciously and lends ...” (Psalm 112:5), and again in Psalm 41, “Blessed is he who considers the poor.”

Bible believers recognize the proper role of government as defined in Romans 13 and therefore “Render to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due ...” Christians who are troubled by the forced conscription of wealth by government entities are not by reason of disdain for such conscription excused from sharing with those who suffer need. It is an exercise of faith and a grateful heart as well as a reflection of the Heavenly Father’s love when we exercise compassion to the poor and needy. Furthermore, we find happiness through the exercise of mercy toward the poor (Proverbs 14: 21). What a concept—both the helped and the helper reap happiness when we as children of God exercise our faith by sharing as we see the need and have the opportunity!

But there is a more noble “wealth distribution” opportunity.

We have been enriched by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God

which has been preserved to us through the ages. He has called us to faith in Christ Whose blood “cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7). We are redeemed, restored, forgiven. We have a secure future because “God Who is rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2: 4-7). By the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus all who believe in Jesus shall come to the heavenly home, where “we shall see Him as He is” (1 John 3:2). “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Peter 1: 3-5).

The wealth of heaven is ours—the perfection, the joy, the everlasting bliss of being with the Lord where sorrow, tears, pain, and death are gone forever. All that awaits us in heaven is signed and sealed by the faithful guarantor, the Lord Jesus Christ.

While we wait for that eternal day, we are called upon to share that which though we give it away will never diminish. The Lord wants us to give it away. He said, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). He wants us to share the gospel. He wants us to be dispensers of His light, sharing the message of His grace and His love with those who are still sitting in darkness in our community, state, and country, and to the uttermost parts of the earth. As we are reconciled unto God through Jesus Christ, He has called us to be ambassadors for Christ to proclaim the word of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5: 18-20). It is an activity of faith and a grateful heart to give freely to others what has been freely given to us.

The unsurpassed wealth which we have as a free gift from God is not taken from us by Him to be given to others. It is wealth to be shared by us with others to our own great joy, and to the benefit of those who without it sit in the darkness and in the shadow of death.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 2/27/2011

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: **Maureen Ochsner**     Elder: **Larry Nelson**  
Ushers: **Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Eli Wales, Brandt Wendland**  
Counting Team 3: **Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Michael Ude**  
Hospitality Team 4: (BYE due to meal for class trip) **Mark & Trudy Wales; Karen Auel; Bob & Suki Vandever**  
Church Cleaners: **Sydow & Dahl**     School: **Sandhoefner**

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: **Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Eli Wales, Brandt Wendland**  
Counting Team 4: **Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner**  
Hospitality Team 5: **Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel**  
Church Cleaners: **Anderson**     School: **Sandhoefner**

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

**Today:** 9:00 am – Sun. School & Bible Class  
 10:00 am – Worship Service  
 11:15 am – Meal & silent auction for the class trip  
**Wed., Mar. 2:** 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class  
**Sun., Mar. 6:** 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  
**Wed., Mar. 9:** 7:00 pm – Ash Wed. Worship (Midweek Lent Starts)

**Last Week's Stats:** Feb. 20, 2011     Sun.: 124     S.S.: 20     B.Cl.: 29

Week's Offering:	Grace:	\$1,971.10	CLC:	\$802.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,850.00	CLC:	960.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-878.90	CLC:	-158.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$21,447.99	CLC:	\$7,997.50
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	22,800.00	CLC:	7,680.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,352.01	CLC:	+317.50
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition:	0.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	15.00	Kinship:	0.00
ILC Student Aid:	ILC Bldg.	45.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

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