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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

Phone: 763-784-8784

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Grades: 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Church Year: Pentecost 11

Date: August 28, 2011

## † THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 651: Be Still, My Soul*

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

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

P: Righteous are You, O Lord, and Your laws are right.

**C: Oh, how I love Your law! I meditate on it all day long.**

P: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

**C: For they are ever with me.**

P: How sweet are Your promises to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth.

**C: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P: Accept, O Lord, the willing praise of my mouth,

**C: And teach me Your laws. Glory be to God!**

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... *TLH 360, st. 1, 7*

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing

My great Redeemer's praise,

The glories of my God and King,

The triumphs of His grace!

Glory to God and praise and love

Be ever, ever given

By saints below and saints above,

The Church in earth and heaven.



**First Reading:** ..... *1 Kings 3:5-12*

Solomon prays for an understanding heart.

## 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. Lord, to whom shall we go?

**C: You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Second Reading:** ..... *Matthew 13:44-52*

As believers, God's kingdom is to be a dear treasure to us.

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 435: My Spirit on Thy Care*

**Sermon:** ..... *Romans 8:28-30*

(28) And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. (29) For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (30) Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD ...

1. WHY? GOD CALLED US

2. HOW? FOR OUR GOOD

3. WHAT? ALL THINGS

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

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 521: What God Ordains Is Always Good*

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

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

*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 ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ♦ **Christian Day School Starts:** Tomorrow morning, at 8 am, there will be an opening service for the new school year. All members are invited to come. There are seven children that will be attending this year: 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Natalie Story; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Cole Flesner & Daniel Hein; 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Kathleen Baker; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Patrick Baker; 5<sup>th</sup> grade – Julianna Hein; and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – David Hein. We pray that our students will be richly blessed through the spiritual training they will receive through the daily immersion in God's Word. We also pray that our teachers will be upheld by God's promises that their work is not in vain but is done to the glory of God and for the welfare of His kingdom.
- ♦ **Sunday School:** Those interested in teaching Sunday School this coming year may speak with Pastor or with superintendent Rick Nelson.
- ♦ **Cleaning:** Volunteers are needed for the month of September.
- ♦ **Grace Men's Retreat:** This year's retreat is scheduled for September 16-18. This will be held at Camp JIM near Brainerd, MN. Cost is likely to be \$50 per person. Speak with Eli Wales for questions. More information will be shared at a later date.
- ♦ **Golf Tournament:** Details about the Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> Snell Memorial golf outing are found in brochures by the guest book.
- ♦ **Professor Call:** The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran College announces the following nominations to fill the office of professor at Immanuel Lutheran College to be vacated by the impending retirement of Professor Michael Buck at the end of the 11-12 school year:
  - ⇒ Nathan Albrecht – Spokane, WA
  - ⇒ Matt Busch – Mankato, MN
  - ⇒ Sherman Carstensen – Eau Claire, WI
  - ⇒ Dean Marzofka – Marinette, WI
  - ⇒ Michael Nieuwenhuis – Peoria, AZ
  - ⇒ Kyle Ochsner – Mankato, MN
  - ⇒ David Rodebaugh – Milwaukee, WI

The individual called must be able to teach biology and physical science and health at both the high school and college levels. Duties will commence with the 2012-'13 school year. The Board of Regents invites comments regarding the nominees' educational background and teaching experience. Individuals may also indicate how a nominee might help our school in supervising extracurricular activities or serving in administrative positions, or submit any other comments which may be helpful to the call committee in its considerations. All comments from members of CLC congregations regarding these candidates should be in the hands of the secretary of the Board of Regents no later than Sunday, September 18, 2011. Comments should be sent to: Mr. Craig Ryan, secretary; ILC Board of Regents; 499 Country Lane; Fulda, MN 56131; cryan@page1printers.com.

- ♦ **CLC News:** Pastor John Schierenbeck of Immanuel at Winter Haven, FL, has returned the call to Prince of Peace in Hecla, SD. The congregation has now called Rev. Rick Grams who is currently a member at Berea in Inver Grove Hts., MN.

## RETAINING YOUR RETIREMENT:

At this writing, the economy is in a hard way. It has been for some time. Financial fear and instability is stoked by the huge national debt, the unemployment figures, the wildly fluctuating market, as well as the inability to deal with the problems. Many citizens are concerned, concerned about the national debt to be left to their children and about the stability of their personal retirement kitty.

There are many reasons for the present circumstances. We do not pretend to be an economist or even very financially astute. But we know this much: if we spend more than we earn, and increase debt beyond our ability to pay, we are in trouble.

But instead we prefer to direct attention to the spiritual parallels and recognize from Scripture that in this age of increasing hopelessness and ever changing circumstances, the child of God has hope because of a change that took place — a change that is unassailable.

With the entrance of sin into the world through Adam, the peace, health, confidence, and life of Eden were lost. Ever since, mankind has been in debt to God! Unlike the financial condition in the world in which men turn for a solution to the very ones who created the problem, the Heavenly Father took it upon Himself to fix man's sin problem. He sent the Debt-Payer, the Lord Jesus Christ, into the world. Through His death on the cross Jesus paid our debt. He paid it completely. He said, "It is finished" (John 19:30). Your debt, my debt, the debt of all sinners is paid! The Father, Who in Christ reconciled the world unto Himself (2 Corinthians 5:19) confirmed the payment by raising the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead! For our salvation He asks nothing—nothing!—of us but that we believe in His Son, and rest in His promises. So much for the debt problem!

Further, the Father sent the Spirit of God as the guarantor of the blessings that accrue to mankind from the cross of Christ. The Spirit works the faith whereby we believe that the Father has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light (Colossians 1:12). By the grace of God, the believers place with the saints in heaven is secure through Christ "in Whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins" (1:14).

Holy Scripture tells us that we have an inheritance in heaven. For our purpose here, let us call it retirement security. "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).

Retirement or pension funds in this life are to a great extent funds into which we must contribute. One of the factors contributing to the current financial woes in the country, however, is that some citizens expect and demand the employer or the state fill one's retirement coffers, in some cases with a minimal, if any, contribution on the part of the individual beneficiary. Consequently employers, states, and even the nation are in financial trouble. They cannot guarantee the employee that they can continue to pay into the pension fund, or that money will be there upon retirement.

But how different with our heavenly inheritance! On one hand, we are in no position to demand an inheritance from the Father. On the other hand, the Father does not expect, or demand from sinners a contribution to the promised inheritance in heaven. He arranged for it and paid it through the sacrifice of Jesus! In Christ, "we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined of Him Who works all things according to the counsel of His will ..." (Ephesians 1:11), all according to the riches of His grace!

Furthermore our inheritance in heaven is secure. Others cannot borrow from it, spend it, or otherwise abuse it. Each and every believer in Christ has an inheritance of equal value, equal length, and equal benefit. That inheritance is reserved and guaranteed without qualification by the blood and merit of the Lord Jesus, and the faithfulness of the Father.

Wise stewards of God's gifts will not misuse their material blessings, and to the extent possible they will look after their retirement years. But they will be equally careful to be in control of what they have put away, and not let their savings control them. They recognize that where their treasure is, the heart will be also (Matthew 6:21), and therefore will lay up for themselves, "treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and thieves do not break in and steal" (6:20).

The believer in Christ who sets "his mind on things above, and not on things of the earth," may indeed endure hardship, loss, and setback on this earth. He may even suffer financial destitution. It is not our intent to diminish the seriousness or the difficulties of such circumstances. But all who count heaven as their highest treasure can live in hope and in confidence that the heavenly inheritance is not and will not be diminished or lost for "When Christ who is our life appears, then you will also appear with Him in glory" (Colossians 3: 2, 4).

Blessed are they who believing the promises of the Father, whate'er betide, can sleep at night and rise in the morning in confidence of the Lord's invitation, "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34).

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 8/28/2011

## **Council Meeting Notes – August 14, 2011**

Opened with prayer. Minutes of July 10 meeting were approved as read with the exception of Board of Trustees report which will be revised to include that report. Treasurer report accepted with the note that July expenses exceeded income.

### **Pastoral Report:**

- A memorial service for Matt Snyder will be held on 8/17. His family expressed gratitude for the spiritual care and friendship he received.
- Alex Baker and his niece Alexandra Baker will be baptized today.
- Update on the 12 letters sent to some members regarding delinquency:
  - Two more names revealed – Ryan Auel and Nicole Nygaard
  - Jeremiah Smith asked to be removed from membership along with his children, Emerson and Mahalia. A motion to recommend this action to the voters passed.
- 25 children attended VBS this summer

### **Education Report:**

- The ice cream social this Monday (8/15) is ready to go.
- Four assistants for the school are being recommended: Trudy Wales – hot lunch; Christina Hein – art as her schedule permits; Connie Ahrens – listening to children reading; and Sue Nelson – music.
- New student desks for the younger students are being ordered.
- Board of Ed. members have been added to the list of school cleaners.
- Ann Radichel should have been included on the list of substitute teachers. She will be added to the list, and a call will be extended.

### **Trustees Report:**

- Parking lot maintenance.
  - One more bid has been received: \$4,109.00 for 2 coat seal with no gravel, fill cracks, and striping.
  - The council referred the decision to proceed with the bid of their choice back to the board, and authorized them to expedite the job before school starts, or failing that, wait until the close of school next June.
- Roof leaks.
  - This roof was installed in 2001, and included a 15 year warranty
  - The installer is scheduled to come and investigate the leak problem to determine their liability for repair with regard to the warranty.
- Outside water faucet repairs have been completed.
- Adjustments to the parsonage window AC are needed and will be made.

### **New Business**

- The selection of more members to assist Pastor with Communion distribution was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 11:54 am. (Based on minutes taken by Secretary Jack Kirkham)

## † TODAY AT GRACE †

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Larry Nelson

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Brian Eichstadt, Gary Gunther, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter, Larry Nelson

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow

Church Cleaners: P. Radichel

## † NEXT WEEK AT GRACE †

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Brian Eichstadt, Gary Gunther, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter, Larry Nelson

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales

Church Cleaners: ??

## † OUR SCHEDULE †

**Today:** 9:00 am – Worship Service

**Mon., Aug. 29:** 8:00 am – Opening Service for Grace School

**Wed., Aug. 31:** 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students

**Sun., Sept. 4:** 9:00 am – Worship Service w/ Lord's Supper

**Sun., Sept. 11:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School Begin  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Fall Schedule Begins)  
11:15 pm – Hospitality (Team 5 will be up)  
12:00 pm – Council Meeting

**Wed., Sept. 14:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes

**Sept. 16-18:** Grace Men's Retreat at Camp JIM

**Sat., Sept. 24:** Snell Memorial Open (Golf – brochures by guestbook)

**Last Week's Stats:** August 21, 2011 Sun.: 135

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$4,890.95	CLC:	\$591.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	2,850.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+2,040.95	CLC:	-369.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$99,597.80	CLC:	\$29,091.50	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	96,900.00	CLC:	32,640.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+2,697.80	CLC:	-3,548.50	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	50.00	Tuition Aid:	225.00	
GLC Other:	63.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	0.00
ILC Student Aid:	50.00	ILC Bldg.	20.00	IIF:	0.00
				CEF:	0.00

\$60 in memory of Matthew Snyder

**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9**

## Grace Lutheran Church & School



We know  
that all  
things work  
together  
for good for  
those who  
love God....

Romans 8:28