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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: Epiphany 3

Date: January 22, 2012

† THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 67, TLH p. 137*

Hymn: *TLH 2: To Thy Temple I Repair*

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

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

P: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets

C: The name of the Lord is to be praised.

P: Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord.

C: Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore.

P: The Lord is exalted over all the nations,

C: His glory above the heavens. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 131, st. 5*

All glory, Jesus, be to Thee For this Thy glad epiphany;

Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore.

First Reading: *1 Samuel 3:1-15*

The LORD comes to Samuel, a young servant in God's tabernacle.

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. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the Good News of the kingdom,

C: And healing every disease and sickness among the people. Alleluia.

Second Reading: *Matthew 5:27-32*

Jesus teaches about the sin of lust.

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

Hymn: *TLH 296: Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth*

Sermon: *1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

(12) All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. (13) Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. (14) And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. (15) Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! (16) Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." (17) But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. (18) Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. (19) Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? (20) For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. (NKJVTM)

YOUR BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 234: Holy Ghost, with Light Divine*

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

Installation of Officers:

Closing Hymn: *TLH 416: Oh, that the Lord Would Guide*

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 speak with you!

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Some time ago Alvin Jask's niece, Zanabu "Naomi" Meh, went from Liberia to India because of medical issues. She has tuberculosis. The sponsor for her medical treatment says that funds have run out and she can no longer afford to pay for the extra time and service required for her to stay in India for treatment of other complications before surgery. Preparations are being made to get her back to Liberia. Alvin asks that we pray for Naomi.
- ◆ **Whitewater Camp:** The Immanuel-Mankato youth group (high school age and above) has since 1999 hosted a winter camp at Whitewater State Park near St. Charles, MN. This winter camp is coming soon – January 27-29. Information is available from Pastor.
- ◆ **Cleaning List:** The beauty of the LORD is shown through the preaching of the Gospel from His house. His house itself should reflect this beauty. Please consider participating in ensuring this by signing up on the 2012 cleaning list located by the guest book.
- ◆ **CLC News:** The Rev. Michael Gurath has returned the call to serve as a foreign missionary to India and East Africa.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #16, Second Article, Part 1

Importance of Christian Education (Some Quotes)

"Christianity has fought, still fights, and will continue to fight science to the desperate end over evolution, because evolution destroys utterly and finally the very reason Jesus' earthly life was supposedly made necessary. Destroy Adam and Eve and the original sin, and in the rubble you will find the sorry remains of the Son of God. If Jesus was not the redeemer who died for our sins, and this is what evolution means, then Christianity is nothing." (G. Richard Bozarth, "The Meaning of Evolution," American Atheist, Sept. 1979.)

"Public schools may not deny the existence of God, but they do get the idea across that He may safely be disregarded." (Bjarne W. Teigen).

"Above all, in schools of all kinds the chief and most common lesson should be the Scriptures, ... But where the Holy Scriptures are not the rule, I advise no one to send his child. Everything must perish where God's Word is not studied unceasingly; and so we see what manner of men there are now in the universities, and all this is the fault of no one but the Pope, the bishops, and prelates, to whom the welfare of the young has been entrusted." (Martin Luther, Luther on Education)

A CASE FOR ESTABLISHING, USING, AND MAINTAINING OUR CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS...

...**AT THE SECONDARY LEVEL:** Recognizing the necessity and blessing of Christian education for our youth and recognizing further that the life of a confessional church depends to a great extent on a biblically educated membership, the Church of the Lutheran Confession maintains Immanuel Lutheran High School (ILHS), College, and Seminary. In fact the establishment of Immanuel predates the formal organization of the Church of the Lutheran Confession.

All the reasons that we have for training our elementary students in the Word of God and the way of salvation applies also to their secondary education. The high school years are critical to the development of youth as young men and women begin to be confronted by the real world and its influences. They also begin to be subjected to different religious philosophies in society. No claim can be made that children trained in a Christian elementary or secondary school will not succumb to such temptations. Yet, should we as concerned parents not give them the best opportunity to prevail? Should we not give them the best opportunity to be clothed in the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-16)? Would we not acknowledge that continued education in a Christian secondary school provides such opportunity?

Caring Christian parents never lose concern for the welfare of their children. Therefore they will be concerned about the total well-being of their children—spiritual as well as academic—and cannot but be concerned about the state of public education in the increasingly deteriorating society in which we live. They certainly will want to give serious and prayerful consideration about at whose feet their children will continue their education after the elementary years.

Consider the difference between education in our Christian High School as compared to that of the public, government-controlled system. Our Christian school has as its purpose the education of the whole person, body and soul. The foundational platform is established from the Word of God. The educational approach is dictated by a Christ-like love for souls. In our school the Gospel of Christ is taught because it is the power of God unto salvation as well as the power unto sanctification. The disciplinary standard is the *divine standard* of right and wrong, without fear or apology. The gospel is applied both as a healing balm, as well as the power to promote a life that glorifies God in word and deed.

As we consider the differences between Christian education at Immanuel and the public system we are not comparing teachers per se. Every teacher in the public system or in a Christian school such as ILHS has his or her strengths and weaknesses. There are “better” teachers than others in both systems.

We are speaking of the *system* within which teachers teach as well as the approach to education. Nor is the concern about whether children are better educated in one system than in the other. But the difference has to be considered between the substance of public education *system* where the Lord God and His truth are not a concern, as compared to ILHS where they are! In the public system teachers are *not all Christian*. Further those who are of the Christian persuasion *are limited in what they can say of the Bible and from the Bible*, if indeed they can say anything at all. Further, in the public system there are teachers of *different Christian persuasions*. In ILHS all the teachers believe and confess the same thing. Free from any political or administrative restraint they can speak Bible truths and discuss matters of faith. In fact they are under divine constraint to teach what the Bible teaches, and to speak of faith. They can confess their faith in the Lord Jesus and instruct the young people in the way of life that is in Christ, and representative of Christ. In the acceptance of their divine call they have committed themselves to be faithful to the Scriptures in their teaching and in their life. They are servants of God to the children sitting at their feet. They see the students before them as blood bought children of the Heavenly Father.

In the public system, teachers are expected to speak the company line regarding the origin of the world. The company line is evolution which is anti-Christian. Evolution is not science, but a religious philosophy. If not the company line, nevertheless they are restrained from speaking of the sin of homosexuality and abortion. If they even want to speak the truth with regard to such issues they may well lose their job. That is a simple reality of working in a system where the watch word is not “What saith the Lord,” but “what saith the state.” In December of 2011 it was reported in the news that public schools in California are mandated by the state to teach “gay history” beginning in the first grade. We can be reasonably sure that eventually it will be coming to a school near you.

Watching recent union activities unfold as teachers carried placards and occupied streets and capitol rotundas we wondered what message teachers were sending to students. Whatever the legitimacy of teacher complaints, what message is sent to the students who witness such behavior as some teachers even lied about their health to get “sick leave”

to protest? What if disgruntled students followed the example of their teachers and tried the same tactic because they felt abused and cheated by the teacher. What if students occupied the lunch room or the concourse or atrium of the school for days on end? Might the students end up in the principal’s office? And we wonder why it is difficult to maintain discipline in the schools and in society!?

We are fully aware that Satan works strenuously in a Christian elementary or secondary school, certainly as strenuously if not more so than in a public school. Satan delights in ensnaring God’s children wherever they are. The advantage of a school such as ILHS is that both the discipline called for, as well as the comfort for the penitent student is found in Scripture, the foundational source of a complete education.

For logistical or financial reasons it is true that not all parents who would like to send their children to ILHS can. But as unabashed promoters of an educational experience where “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” and believing that, “A good understanding have all those who do His commandments” (Psalm 111:10) we dare to hope and indeed pray that no parent will simply dismiss the idea of utilizing ILHS. In view of the deteriorating society and moral standards of our age and in view of the myriad of theological philosophies with which our children are confronted, a soundly based education in Christ is surely to be desired. It is by the Spirit of God that the student is molded in the faith, and set on the path of salvation. It is through the Word of God that the Spirit trains the heart. Why would anyone at least not give careful and prayerful consideration to placing the precious child of God in an educational environment where the Spirit can work?

“For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He guards the paths of justice, and preserves the way of His saints. Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path. When wisdom enters your heart, and knowledge is pleasant to your soul, discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man who speaks perverse things ...” (Proverbs 2:6 -12).

Can faithful, caring, and involved Christian parents provide such wisdom without ILHS? Absolutely! That in fact is their responsibility! But will Christian parents not welcome the assist that ILHS can give in the most critical responsibility parents have—to train up a child in the way of salvation!

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 12/2011

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: **Maureen Ochsner** Elder: **Larry Nelson**
Ushers: **Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Don Dahlin, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter**
Counting Team 2: **Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales**
Hospitality Team 5: **Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel**
Church Cleaners: **Kirkham** School: **Flesner**

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: **Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Don Dahlin, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter**
Counting Team 3: **Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland**
Hospitality Team 6: **Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt Wendland**
Church Cleaners: **Lentz** School: **Flesner**

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

Today: 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Jan. 25: 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
Sat., Jan. 28: 9:00 am – Congregational Work Day
Sun., Jan. 29: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday

Last Week's Stats: Jan. 15, 2012 Sun.: 119 S.S.: 14 B.Cl.: 44 Wed.: 23

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,161.81	CLC:	\$683.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,030.00	CLC:	960.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-868.19	CLC:	-277.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$7,455.80	CLC:	\$2,987.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	9,090.00	CLC:	2,880.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,634.20	CLC:	+107.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	4.00	Tuition Aid:	150.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	ILC Bldg.	220.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

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