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Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432
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Home Page: www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org
Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 14

Date: September 2, 2012

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation: Psalm 90, TLH p. 142

Hymn: TLH 123: Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Liturgy: TLH, p. 15 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)

Introit (followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie): TLH, pp. 16-17

P: We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks,

C: For Your name is near, men tell of Your wonderful deeds.

P: Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,

C: Who finds great delight in His commands.

P: He will have no fear of bad news, his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

C: His heart is secure, he will have no fear; Splendor and majesty are before him. 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: Ecclesiastes 12:1-14

Remember your Creator in your youth before the difficulties of age come.

Gradual:

P: Oh the depths of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

C: How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!

P: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C: To Him be the glory forever! Amen.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death ...

C: And brought life and immortality to life through the Gospel. Alleluia.

Second Reading: Luke 2:25-35

Simeon holds the Savior by faith, declaring the salvation He brings.

Confession of Faith: Nicene Creed, TLH p. 22

Hymn: TLH 402: O God, Forsake Me Not

Sermon: Psalm 73:4-11, 17-18

⁴ Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked,
Out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

⁵ For You are my hope, O Lord GOD;

You are my trust from my youth.

⁶ By You I have been upheld from birth;

You are He who took me out of my mother's womb.

My praise *shall be* continually of You.

⁷ I have become as a wonder to many,

But You *are* my strong refuge.

⁸ Let my mouth be filled *with* Your praise

And with Your glory all the day.

⁹ Do not cast me off in the time of old age;

Do not forsake me when my strength fails.

¹⁰ For my enemies speak against me;

And those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together,

¹¹ Saying, "God has forsaken him;

Pursue and take him, for *there is none to deliver him.*"

¹⁷ O God, You have taught me from my youth;

And to this *day* I declare Your wondrous works.

¹⁸ Now also when *I am* old and grayheaded,

O God, do not forsake me,

Until I declare Your strength to *this* generation,

Your power to everyone *who* is to come. (NKJVTM)

BY YOU I HAVE BEEN UPHELD FROM BIRTH

1. Continue to be my strong refuge

2. I will declare Your strength

Offertory: TLH p. 22 f.

Hymn: TLH 427, st. 1-3, 6-7: How Firm a Foundation

Offering & Prayer:

Liturgy for the Lord's Supper: TLH p. 24 ff.

Distribution: TLH 310; TLH 314

Note: In obedience to God's Word, and out of concern for the welfare of souls (1 Corinthians 11:29), and finally that we may honestly express the unity of faith and hope that binds us, we ask that only such as have identified with Grace through public confession of faith or another CLC congregation, approach the altar at the usher's direction.

Nunc Dimittis, Prayer, Benediction: TLH 29 ff.

Hymn: TLH 648: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

✠ *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* ✠

- ♦ **Service Schedule:** Please keep in mind that the service schedule will be changing **NEXT SUNDAY, September 9.** Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9 am. with regular morning worship at 10 am.
- ♦ **Among Us:** Maynard Hammond will, God-willing, be having surgery to remove his tumor this coming Tuesday at the Veterans hospital. Alice Weibye had surgery this past Friday at Mercy to repair damage done from a year ago with her broken hip.
- ♦ **Church Picnic:** In two weeks, Sun. Sept. 16, there will be a church picnic here on the church grounds following our normal church service. Plans are to set up an inflatable jumping gym for the children. Grilled meat will be provided. Members are asked to bring salads, chips, and/or desserts.
- ♦ **Snell Memorial Golf Tournament:** This is scheduled for Sat., Sept. 15. More information is found in the brochures by the guest book.
- ♦ **The Christian Women Today Seminar** will be held at Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN, on Sat., Oct. 6, 2012. Seminar brochures with registration information are now available.
- ♦ **Immanuel Lutheran College Visitors Day** will be held on Nov. 9, beginning at 10:05 am in the ILC gymnasium for chapel. It will feature presentations and classroom visits until 2:50 pm. Come and learn more about your church's college and a continuing education with Christ. Lodging and meals will be provided. The ILC fall play will be performed both Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm with a band concert to precede at 7:00 pm. Speak with your pastor about questions and attendance. Please convey attendance information and any housing requests to Prof. John Ude, the ILC academic dean, before Nov. 6: work phone 715-836-6631; home phone: 715-955-4127; e-mail john.ude.ilc@gmail.com.
- ♦ **Invitation:** Everyone is invited to join the members of Prince of Peace congregation on Sun., Sept. 16, 4:00 pm, for our 50th Anniversary celebration to the glory of God's grace. The service will be held at the church: 207 Pine St. (SD 37), Hecla, SD 57446. A meal is planned following the service. It would assist our Ladies if they could learn an approximate number of guests to expect. Please contact Pastor Rick Grams at rrgams1534@yahoo.com or call 605-994-2145.

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!

CLC E-Devotion

Friday, August 16, 2012

Genesis 50:19 - But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God?"

FORGIVENESS IN THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

What do you do when someone hurts you? You take 'em to court! You sue the pants off 'em, right? Sadly, this is how many people behave. When they are wronged, the first thing they do is try to figure out how they're going to fight back or how they're going to get revenge.

Admittedly, when someone does us wrong our sinful nature wants to take revenge. It wants to see the other person "get what's coming to him." This is why Joseph's brothers went into a panic when their father Jacob died. With Jacob gone, the brothers were convinced that Joseph was now going to get back at them for selling him into slavery so many years before.

How they had misread and misunderstood Joseph's true heart! He knew it was not for him to take revenge. He was not in the place of God, and he had no intention at all of taking advantage of his brothers or of holding that sin over their heads for the rest of his life. He knew that God and forgiven him his wrongs and he gladly extended that forgiveness to them too. He freely forgave--no strings attached.

When we forgive someone it means we don't keep bringing up the sins they have committed against us. To forgive our neighbor means that if he has hurt us somewhere along the line, we do not keep dangling that in front of him every time we see him -- as though he continually "owes" us something for doing us wrong. Nor do we tell him by our actions, "We're not quite square yet, you know."

After all, Jesus doesn't do that with us, does He? How many times have we wronged Him? Countless. Yet when we come to Him looking for His forgiveness, even expecting it, He does not say, "Sorry, I remember what you did to me last month." No, Jesus keeps no record of wrongs. He wiped them all out on the cross. He does not hold grudges. We do not have to either.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Part 9

FORMAL EDUCATION: PUBLIC EDUCATION VERSUS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — NEUTRAL OR UNIONISTIC VERSUS CONFSSIONAL:

The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States declares that “congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” Since the adoption of this amendment, but especially in recent years, there has been disagreement as to the application of these basic principles — chiefly in the area of public schools. In recent Supreme Court decisions public, joint prayer and Bible reading for devotional purposes have been declared in violation of the First Amendment. The most recent decision has been to declare illegal compulsory attendance at religious services in the three military academies. Since our society is pluralistic, that is, composed of groups holding many and varied and opposing religious beliefs, the Supreme Court is attempting to achieve a stance of neutrality towards the practice of religion in the public schools. No group is to be aided in the practicing or spreading of its religious ideas; no group is to be put at a disadvantage or embarrassed. Both the right to believe and to disbelieve are protected. No student is to be pressured in any way to participate in religious practices that conflict with his or her conscience. This is the ideal — as it should be. Carrying it out in practice, however, is difficult due to the many popularly accepted semi-religious practices of long standing, such as the singing of religious music by public school choral groups, baccalaureate services, invocations, and benedictions at school functions, and so on.

One of the amazing inconsistencies of many church people is their vehement and violent objections to the attempts of the Supreme Court to achieve religious neutrality in the public schools — bitterly charging that the Supreme Court has thrown both God and the Bible out of the public schools — while at the same time being unconcerned that the Bible and God have been thrown out of their very churches — where both belong! President John Kennedy once said that the practice of religion is a matter for the home and the church — not the public schools. To that we say, “Amen.” Many church people find it much more easy to trace the

deterioration of public morals to the forbidding of joint prayer and devotional Bible reading in the public schools than painfully to examine the spiritual breakdown in their own homes and the growing apostasy in their own churches.

So what do we have now? We have supposedly concerned and law-abiding church people advocating and practicing civil disobedience by insisting on religious devotions in public schools. Any such group violates both the spirit of the First Amendment and the direct Word of the Lord. The basis for all worship of the Lord is to be unity of faith in His Word. When people refuse to accept what the Lord has to say to them in His Word and refuse to put that Word into public practice, then their joint worship becomes nothing less than an exercise in disrespect and rebellion against the Lord. Man likes to insist on worshipping God as **he wills** rather than as **the Lord wills**. But the Word of the Lord still stands:

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6:

Many private schools offer as an inducement to prospective students devotional exercises and the study of Bible stories. Enrolling a child in such a school exposes the child to the influence of a false prophet and involves the child in worship with such as insist on remaining disobedient to one or more of the words of the Lord.

Our Christian Day School [when having one] and our Immanuel Lutheran High School and College have regular devotional exercises as part of the daily school life — also the systematic study of the Word of God. Thus we emphasize the one thing needful, but all who teach the Word and lead the devotions are ONE in confession. [They all agree with what the Bible teaches.] So it is that both the study of the Word and the worship of the students is not a blasphemous babbling of self-willed individuals, but rather glorifying God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, with one mind and one mouth. So our Study and worship should always be!

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Maureen Ochsner Elder: Phil Radichel
Ushers: Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Don Dahlin, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter
Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandev eer; Clint Welker; Mark Wales
Church Cleaners: Dick/Englehorn School Cleaners: Bergstrom

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel, Bob Vandev eer, Bobby Vandev eer, Matt Vandev eer
Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland
Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick; Frank & Ann Radichel
Church Cleaners: ?? School Cleaners: A. Baker

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Sept. 2: 9:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper
Wed., Sept. 5: 4:00-5:45 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
Sun., Sept. 9: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Regular Schedule Resumes)
 11:15 am – Hospitality
 12:00 pm – Council Meeting
Wed., Sept. 12: 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes
Sun., Sept. 16: Annual Church Picnic

Last Week's Stats: Aug. 26, 2012 Sun.: 124

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,541.34	CLC:	\$963.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,030.00	CLC:	960.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+511.34	CLC:	+3.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$96,998.92	CLC:	\$30,846.00
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	106,050.00	CLC:	33,600.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-9,051.08	CLC:	-2,754.00
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	760.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	110.00
ILC Student Aid:	ILC Bldg.	265.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

SAF Endowment: 75.00

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



For thou art my
HOPE:
 O Lord GOD,
 thou art my
TRUST
 from my youth.

Psalm 71:5