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Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432



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Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.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-8th

Church Year: Pentecost/Confirmation

Date: May 19, 2013

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation: Psalm 23, TLH p. 128

Hymn: TLH 224: Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord!

Liturgy: WS, p. 12 ff. (Pastor sings Lord Have Mercy, top of p. 13)

S.S. Children: WS 789: Consider How the Birds Above

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

The Holy Spirit comes on Pentecost.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 78:1-7

P: Give ear, O my people, to my law;

C: Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

P: I will open my mouth in a parable;

C: I will utter dark sayings of old,

P: Which we have heard and known,

C: And our fathers have told us.

P: We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,

C: And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

P: For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers,

C: That they should make them known to their children;

P: That the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born,

C: That they may arise and declare them to their children,

P: That they may set their hope in God.

Second Reading: John 15:9-27

Jesus promises His Spirit in the midst of our persecution in the world.

Alleluia: WS p. 14 f.

Confession of Faith: *Apostles' Creed, WS p. 15*

Hymn: TLH 200, st. 1, 5-8: I Know that My Redeemer Lives

Sermon: Romans 8:38-39

"Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me."

Offertory: WS p. 16

Hymn: TLH 528, st. 1-3, 12-15: If God Himself Be For Me

Offering & Prayers:

Rite of Confirmation:

Note: These vows are included so that our communicants may be able to privately reaffirm their own vows made on their confirmation day.

- 1) Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this Christian congregation, confirm the solemn covenant which the Triune God made with you at your Baptism? *Answer: I do.*
- 2) Do you, then, renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways? *Answer: I do.*
- 3) Do you believe in God the Father? *Answer: Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.*
- 4) Do you believe in God the Son? *Answer: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*
- 5) Do you believe in God the Holy Ghost? *Answer: Yes, I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting.*
- 6) Do you desire to be a member of Grace Lutheran Church and of the Church of the Lutheran Confession? *Answer: I do.*
- 7) Do you hold all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of Grace Lutheran Church, drawn from the Bible, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, to be the true and correct one? *Answer: I do.*
- 8) Do you also, as a member of Grace Lutheran Church, intend to continue steadfast in the confession of this Church and suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it? *Answer: I do so intend, with the help of God.*
- 9) Finally, do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the rule of the divine Word, to be diligent in the use of the means of grace (the Gospel in Word and Sacrament), to walk as it becomes the Gospel of Christ, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to the Triune God, even unto death? *Answer: I do so intend, by the grace of God.*

Benediction:

Choir: WS 751: *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It*

Hymn: TLH 337: Our Lord and God, Oh, Bless This Day

✠ *THE ANNOUNCEMENTS* ✠

◆ **Confirmation:** We congratulate David for completing his catechetical instruction so that he understands all the foundational doctrines revealed in Scripture about our Triune God. We also welcome him as a communicant member at Grace. May the Lord continue to faithfully guide and direct him during his time of grace as he has promised to make faithful use of the Means of Grace. Everyone is welcome to hospitality as a reception.



- ◆ **Summer Schedule:** Today is the last time this season that worship will be held at 10 am. Next Sunday, May 27, the summer schedule will begin with worship service held at 9 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will be suspended for the summer. Hospitality hour will also be suspended after honoring the graduates next week. If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, they may sign up on the list located on the fellowship hall's bulletin board.
- ◆ **Graduates:** David Hein will be graduating from Grace Lutheran next Sunday. Others being recognized this year are Eric Eichstadt from Coon Rapids H.S. and Abbie Hein from Immanuel Lutheran H.S.
- ◆ **School Program:** On May 23, 7 pm, the children of our day school will be putting on their play, "The Worldwide Dessert Contest." All members and friends of Grace are invited to show support of the children's efforts and of our school. Refreshments will follow the program.
- ◆ **Labels for Education:** Now is the time to bring in all those proofs that you have been saving at home. Those proofs would be from Campbell's, Prego, Post cereals, Pepperidge Farms, Bic products, Emerald nuts, Glad products, Swanson, Wolfgang Puck, Pop Secret, V8, Dannon yogurt, and People magazine. This year's program is coming to a close and we want to submit as many proofs as we can by June 30.
- ◆ **Parade:** On Thursday, June 6, our school will be walking in the Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade. We are hoping that many, if not all, of our students and parents will be able to participate in this. It is one of the ways that we can get our school's name out in the surrounding community. Please speak with Rick Nelson for more details.
- ◆ **Lutheran Spokesman:** The Lutheran Spokesman is a publication by the CLC which is dedicated to sharing devotional messages for our spiritual edification. Those who currently receive the publication are listed on a sheet by the guestbook. If you no longer wish to receive it, please cross out your name. If you don't receive it and would like to, please sign up for a copy. The congregation will cover the cost.

- ◆ **The Branches:** This is just a brief announcement that subscriptions are available and/or due for renewal for the 2013-2014 subscription year (July through June) for The Branches magazine, a quarterly publication for Christian women. The purpose of this publication is to encourage you in your personal and family Bible study, to edify you in your daily walk with Christ, to provide a means to use and share your God-given gifts, and to celebrate and reflect upon God's gift of Christian sisters, near and far. The cost of the subscription is paid by the congregation. Those who currently receive the publication are listed on a sheet by the guest book. Place a check by your name to continue receiving the magazine. If you don't receive it and would like to, please add your information to the list.
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** This is scheduled for August 5-9.
- ◆ **Fire Alarm Project:** The fire alarm in the school needs to be updated to bring it up to code. A dedicated project fund was created at the April voters' meeting to accept offerings for this project. Please mark your offering envelope with "Fire Alarm" if you want your offering directed towards this project.
- ◆ **Arise and Shine Retreat:** This retreat held in Pillager, MN, on June 13-16, is designed for men and women in their 20s & 30s. Singles, couples, and families are welcome. The cost is \$135.00 per adult, which includes a t-shirt, lodging, meals, snacks, and activities. This year's theme is "JOY. Jesus. Others. You." based on Philippians 2:1-16. You can find more information and register on their web site: www.AriseAndShineRetreat.com.
- ◆ **Bible Seminar:** Ascension Lutheran of Batavia, IL, is hosting a free seminar on the authority and reliability of the Bible, featuring guest speakers from Immanuel Lutheran Seminary. This will be held Sat., July 13, 1-4 pm at the Batavia Public Library, 10 S Batavia Ave, Batavia, IL.
- ◆ **Dorm Supervisor at ILC:** At the conclusion of this school year Immanuel Lutheran High School and College in Eau Claire, WI, will be in need of a boys' dormitory supervisor. Men who are CLC members and are able and willing to fill this position should ask the pastor for more information about the responsibilities and compensation for this position. The dormitory has a ground-floor apartment for its supervisor, which can house a married couple and even small family. Those who are interested in applying may contact the ILC president, Prof. Steve Sippert (steve.sippert@ilc.edu; 715-831-9104; 715-836-6620), for an application.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Michael Roehl of St. Paul in Bismarck, ND, has returned the call to serve as missionary in India. ✠ Mr. Stephen Sydow of Messiah in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to teach at Immanuel Lutheran High School in Mankato, MN.

FEAR ON THE OTHER SIDE?

Death is the common denominator among all people. Scripture tells us “Through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned ...” (Romans 5:12). That is an indisputable, observable truth! There is another indisputable truth of Scripture which however is not universally accepted. “For the hour is coming in which all who are in the grave will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation” (John 5: 28-29).

The rejection of the latter truth speaks to the subject about which we thought after the recent death of a media movie critic who had been ill for some years. During the course of his illness he said, “There is nothing to fear on the other side of death.” We do not know what the man’s faith was, or if he had faith so we wondered: Was the comment an expression of unbelief, or faith in Christ?

The unbeliever may live his life without fear of death but only because he willfully rejects the Lord God and His Word. In his unbelief he pursues life and all its pleasures with gusto under the delusion that death is the end all. Unbelief is ignorant of the consequences of dying without faith in Christ. But if there is still a conscience, lack of fear on the other side of death may be a “whistling past the cemetery” in the vain hope that there is nothing to fear if they don’t think about it or can stifle their conscience. So is the statement about nothing to fear on the other side of death a valid statement? What is the truth?

The catechism sums up Scripture truth when it says, “The unbelievers will rise to eternal death, that is, to everlasting shame, contempt, and torment in hell” (LC-MS Catechism, 1943 ed., P.142). The rich man who wasted his life in frivolity enjoyed his life to the max until he “died and was buried” (Luke 16:22), and lifted up his eyes from the torment of hell (Luke 16:23-24). He was “living” proof of what Scripture says, “For their worm does not die, and their fire is not quenched. They shall be abhorrence to all flesh” (Isaiah 66:24). Jesus, dying in the place of fallen mankind, gave expression to the reality of punishment in hell when He cried out, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?” (Matthew 27:46).

Summed up, they who die in unbelief and ignorance, having rejected the Lord Jesus Christ and His atonement, will have a rude awakening at the resurrection day. They who, for whatever reason, reject the Savior and His atoning substitutionary death, and consequently die in impenitence have a great deal to fear, for “He that does not believe shall be damned” (Matthew 16:16). That is the truth!

However, our Lord does not desire the death of the wicked (Ezekiel 18:23, 33:11). He is not willing that any should perish eternally (2 Peter 3:9). Therefore He has commissioned His children to preach repentance and remission of sins to all nations (Luke 24:47). We are to honestly preach the Law that uncovers sin

and convicts the heart. We are called to share the Gospel that wins and heals the heart. Through the Gospel--of which Jesus is the focal point-- the Lord would have His children know the comforting truth: “There is nothing to fear on the other side of death!”

The catechism also gives voice to this truth. “The believers will rise with glorified bodies to everlasting life in heaven.” Whoever believes in Jesus shall have everlasting life (John 3:16). Jesus Who on the cross paid for the sins of the world by His death was also the death of death as He rose again from the dead. Hence, whoever lives and believes in Jesus shall never die (John 11:26). We have the gracious promise through the pen of John, the disciple of the Lord, “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life ...” (John 3:36), and again, “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may *know* that *you have eternal life*, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God” (1 John 5:13). The same disciple/apostle quotes Jesus who said, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And *I give them eternal life*, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand” (John 10:27-29).

We have the Lord’s promise in time, as well as in the moment that we pass from time into eternity, “But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called *you* by your name; You *are* Mine. When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you. For I *am* the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior ...” (Isaiah 43:1-3). Awaiting us “on the other side” is the risen, glorified Savior with the invitation, “Come you blessed of My Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Matthew 25:34).

The Father’s promise is “Yea, and Amen” and is sealed to us through the Lord Jesus whose blood has cleansed us of all sin, and redeemed us freely by His grace. When He calls, all who are in the grave will hear His voice and come forth. In the midst of the teeth gnashing of those who in unbelief rejected Christ and His atonement, the believer of the same will hear the inviting and soothing voice of the Lord, “Enter into your rest.”

It is true. All who are alive in the Lord when they depart this mortal life in reality shall never die (John 11:25-26)! They can say with confidence, “There is nothing to fear on the other side of death.” Thanks be to God!

Jesus lives! and now is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my troubled breath
When I pass its gloomy portal!
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense,
Jesus is my confidence! (TLH, 201:5)

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson Elder: Phil Radichel
Ushers: Benno Sydow, Gary Gunther, Larry Nelson,
 Jacob Rhinesmith, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter
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: M & T Wales School Cleaners: Gillenwater

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Benno Sydow, Gary Gunther, Larry Nelson,
 Jacob Rhinesmith, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter
Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl;
 Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner
Hospitality Team 6: Richard & Shauna Rhinesmith; Brian &
 Maureen Eichstadt; Brandt Wendland
Church Cleaners: M & T Wales

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., May 19: 9:00 am – Confirmation Examination
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Confirmation/Pentecost)
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Wed., May 22: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students (Last one)
Thu., May 23: 7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program
Fri., May 24: 12:00 pm – Dismissal for Grace School's Last Day
Sun., May 26: 9:00 am – Worship Service (Summer Schedule Begins)
 Graduation Recognition (Trinity Sunday)
 10:15 am – Hospitality (Last one)
June 11-13: CLC Pastoral Conference @ Eau Claire, WI
Sun., June 16: 3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference @ Mankato, MN
August 5-9: Vacation Bible School

Last Week's Stats: May 12, 2013 Sun.: 103 S.S.: 14 B.Cl.: 38

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,899.05	CLC:	\$920.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,000.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-1,100.95	CLC:	-40.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$58,013.20	CLC:	\$20,004.25	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	57,000.00	CLC:	18,240.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,013.20	CLC:	+1,764.25	
GLC Other:	307.00*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	20.00
SAF Endowment:	65.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	50.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00

*\$300 Fire Alarm

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