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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

Email: [jphein@clclutheran.com](mailto:jphein@clclutheran.com)

Home Page: [www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org](http://www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.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: Pentecost 15

Date: September 1, 2013

## ✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

**Worship Preparation:** ..... Psalm 19, TLH p. 126

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 541: O Blessed Holy Trinity

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

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

P: Trust in the LORD, and do good;

**C: Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.**

P: Delight yourself also in the LORD,

**C: And He shall give you the desires of your heart.**

P: Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him,

**C: And He shall bring it to pass.**

P: The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD;

**C: He is their stronghold in time of trouble. Glory be to God!**

**Gloria in Excelsis:** ..... TLH 244, st. 1,4

1. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit: Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!

4. Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;  
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.  
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!

**First Reading:** ..... Proverbs 9:8-12

One who is wise will receive the Lord's instruction and rebuke, understanding its benefit. Scoffers, on the other hand, will only reject it as nonsense, continuing their lives in foolishness.

## 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. Rejoice in the Lord always.

**C: I will say it again: Rejoice! Alleluia.**

**Second Reading:** ..... Philemon 1:1, 10-21

Receiving a brother is to be a voluntary act, not by compulsion.

**Confession of Faith:** ..... Nicene Creed, TLH p. 22

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 409: Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

**Sermon:** ..... Luke 14:25-33

<sup>25</sup> Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. <sup>27</sup> And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish it— <sup>29</sup> lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see *it* begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish'? <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. <sup>33</sup> So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## *Following Jesus Comes with a Cost*

**Offertory:** ..... TLH p. 22 f.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 423: Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

**Offering & Prayer:**

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

**Distribution:** ..... TLH 304 & Meditative Music

**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 207, st. 6: Like the Golden Sun Ascending

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ♦ **Service Schedule:** Please keep in mind that the service schedule will be changing next Sunday, Sept. 8. Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9:00 am with morning worship at 10:00 am.
- ♦ **Thanks:** To all those who helped with the funeral preparations for Corine Kirkham this past week!
- ♦ **Fire Alarm Update:** The fire alarm has been installed and inspected by the fire marshal. A bill should be arriving soon with final cost. Thanks to all who helped with being onsite while work was being done and cleanup afterwards. Total estimate for project was \$13,390.00; fire alarm fund balance is currently: \$8,995.
- ♦ **Commissioning Service:** On Monday evening, Sept. 23, there will be a commissioning service held at Messiah in Eau Claire, WI, for Pastor Edward Starkey, who has accepted the call to serve as a CLC foreign missionary in India. The service will begin at 6:30 pm, and all CLC members and friends are invited to attend. Pastor Starkey and his wife, Janice, plan to depart for India in late Sept. or early Oct.
- ♦ **Invitation:** Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sister Lakes, MI, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary as a congregation with special services on Sun., Sept. 22. Former pastors of Redeemer, James Albrecht and Paul Tiefel Jr., will serve as guest speakers. The schedule for the day is as follows: 9:00 am Anniversary Program; 10:00 am Morning Worship; 4:00 pm Afternoon Worship; 5:30 pm Fellowship Meal. All are invited to attend any of the day's events. Sister Lakes is in the Eastern time zone.
- ♦ **CLC News:** Pastor Luke Bernthal of Grace in Valentine, NE, has received the call to Living Hope in Appleton, WI. The congregation has also called Pastor Paul Krause of Faith in Markesan, WI, as vacancy pastor. ✠ Pastor David Fuerstenau of Holy Truth in Ketchikan, AK, has received the call to St. Peter's in Iron River, MI.

*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!*

## IN A SAFE PLACE:

F. Painter in his book, "Luther on Education" (Page 135), wrote "Luther perceived the truth, which has become a maxim in modern education that the welfare of the state depends on the intelligence and the virtue of its citizens." With that no right-minded citizen would disagree.

Unfortunately, today the public education system to which children across the land are returning in fall has largely degenerated into a system of social engineering, political agendas, philosophical meanderings, and self-aggrandizement. In the process, education has created a wasteland strewn with ill-educated and cheated children. While the purpose of the government schools is not to espouse religious positions, they have largely degenerated into active anti-Christian laboratories. The anti-Christian philosophy of government schools is a natural off-spring of secular humanism, which is an outlook or philosophy that advocates human rather than religious values. We do not advocate that government schools become religious warehouses. At the same time we detest that they have become from the elementary level to the college level places where Christian virtues are mocked, and where students with Christian principles are ridiculed.

An education that denies the existence of God or forbids the application of divine principles and truths to education does not serve the welfare of the child, or even the welfare of the state. We resist inclusiveness that demands, fosters, and force-feeds students with practices and philosophies that are contrary to Scripture, faith, and morality. We say that without apology! We live in an age of moral relativism which is largely promoted in our public education system as an extension of political types who know that if you can influence and win over the children eventually you will change the culture. We are seeing such efforts now, the results of which give credence to what President Theodore Roosevelt said, "To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."

Luther praised the study of music, languages, history, and math. But he said, "How I regret now that I did not read more poets and historians, and that no one taught me them! Instead of them, I had to read, at great cost, with labor and injury, that devil's filth, the writings of the philosophers and sophists, so that I have all I can do to purge myself of their falsehood" (WLS, Vol. I, para. 1325, p.449). For this reason Luther championed an education that had Scripture at its core!

As a concerned parent or grandparent, and a concerned citizen of this country, we are concerned about the future which our children will have in this deteriorating country and society. As a concerned Christ-believer, and a confessor of the Lord Jesus, we are even more concerned about the spiritual damage that secular humanism and moral relativism with its denial of Christ and His Word inflicts on young hearts and minds.

We thought about all this as we saw our grandchildren off to school this fall. But how thankful we are for those who have been able to attend a Christian Day School; how thankful we are that the high school age youth have been able to go off to a committed Christian school at Immanuel High School in Eau Claire. How thankful we are that the foundation of this school with its committed Christian teachers is built upon the “foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:20)! Since every word of the Holy Bible has come from the Triune God, Immanuel is committed to the proclamation of all its teachings. Furthermore, the teachers see the students as precious in the sight of the Lord; they see them as redeemed children of God whose well-being has been committed to them by the Lord, as well as by their primary caretakers, their parents.

At Immanuel (“God with us”) there are absolutes! At Immanuel God is! At Immanuel the law of God is not relative. Students are taught that God says what He means and means what He says, both with respect to what is right and wrong as well as to the eternal consequence of the wages of sin (Romans 6:23a). The gospel is also absolute! At Immanuel an unconditioned gospel is taught. The gospel declares the gracious love of God Who sent the Lord Jesus Christ to die for man’s sin, as well as to rise again to restore life in heaven, free of all the temptations, sorrow, and turmoil of this present world. At Immanuel the children learn that salvation is an absolute gift of God (Romans 6:23b) that is given unfailingly to all who believe in the Lord Jesus. The gospel message assures each believer that “you are complete in Him” (Colossians 2:10). The students are assured that the faculty labors “fervently for you in prayers that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God” (Colossians 4:12). By the Word of the gospel students are fitted out to serve the Lord in all things (Ephesians 2:10). The Word of God permeates the hearts of the youth from chapel in the morning and evening, and in each classroom through the day.

For our purpose now we will not trumpet the educational benefits which have contributed to the success of students over the years. Students who have been educated at Immanuel have served and are serving the welfare of society, the business world, and other worthwhile endeavors.

If the question is asked, “Is the devil not active at Immanuel?” Yes, the devil is active. He stalks the campus as a “roaring lion.” Students still have the sinful nature and need the discipline that is proper when they sin. But the advantage of campus life at Immanuel is that the Word of God is brought to bear for reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. The gospel can be shared student to student and teacher to student for comfort of the penitent heart. What a blessing that no one needs to fear reprisal for naming the name of God on campus or in the classroom!

There is no physically “safe place” in this life from the wiles of Satan, and the temptations of the flesh. But inasmuch as on the Immanuel campus the students are fitted with the “shield of faith,” given “the helmet of salvation,” and armed with the “sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God” (Ephesians 6), we are confident that they are in an educationally safe place for Scripture tells us, “The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it, and is safe” (Proverbs 18:10).

How different for those young people who by choice or circumstance are in a school environment where God’s Word is not and where they are subjected to educational philosophies and social influences that war against the soul. The Lord can protect His believing children under such conditions, but the task of parents surely increases — and so must their concern — as their children are subjected to educational and social influences that run counter to the good and gracious will of God.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 8/2013



## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Phil Radichel

Ushers: Larry Brandt, Roger Brandt, Charles Davis, Nick Duehlmeier,  
Dale Enns, Lynn Sandhoefner, Ned Sandhoefner

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

Church Cleaners: Gerald Anderson

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Pat Paplow, Dan Degnan, Brian Eichstadt, Ryan  
Oman, Brandon Paplow

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: P. Radichel      School: Bergstrom

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., Sept. 1:** 9:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper  
**Mon., Sept. 2:** Labor Day – No School  
**Wed., Sept. 4:** 4:30 pm – Catechism  
**Sun., Sept. 8:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
                          10:00 am – Worship Service (Regular Schedule Resumes)  
                          11:15 am – Hospitality  
                          12:00 pm – Council Meeting  
**Mon., Sept. 9:** 7:00 pm – Grace School Open House  
**Wed., Sept. 11:** 4:30 pm – Catechism  
                          7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes  
**Sun., Sept. 15:** Grace Church Picnic  
**Sun., Sept. 22:** 3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference @ New Ulm, MN  
**Wed., Sept. 25:** CLC Coordinating Council Meeting  
**October 8-9:** MN Pastoral Conference  
**Sun., Oct. 13:** Mission Festival w/Raju Bhitrakoti

**Last Week's Stats:** Aug. 25, 2013    Sun.: 108

|                         |               |              |              |             |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Sun. Offering:          | Grace:        | \$2,790.80   | CLC:         | \$650.00    |
| Weekly Need:            | Grace:        | 3,000.00     | CLC:         | 960.00      |
| -Under / +Over:         | Grace:        | -209.20      | CLC:         | -310.00     |
| Year-to-Date Offering:: | Grace:        | \$100,556.37 | CLC:         | \$33,387.50 |
| Year-to-Date Need:      | Grace:        | 102,000.00   | CLC:         | 32,640.00   |
| Year-to-Date (+/-)      | Grace:        | -1,443.63    | CLC:         | +747.50     |
| GLC Other: 475.00       | Living Faith: | 0.00         | Tuition Aid: | 450.00      |
| SAF Endowment: 100.00   | MDF:          | 0.00         | Kinship:     | 50.00       |
| ILC Student Aid: 0.00   | ILC Bldg.     | 0.00         | IIF: 0.00    | CEF: 0.00   |

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# The Cost of ✠ DISCIPLESHIP