

Click here to open service web page for: 2013/11/17/

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Phil Radichel

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel,
Bob Vandevener, Bobby Vandevener, Matt Vandevener

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

Hospitality Team 4: Mark & Trudy Wales; Karen Auel; Bob &
Suki Vandevener

Church Cleaners: Sandhoefner School: Gillenwater

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel,
Bob Vandevener, Bobby Vandevener, Matt Vandevener

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

Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick;
Frank & Ann Radichel

Church Cleaners: Sandhoefner School: Gillenwater

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., Nov. 17:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service
11:15 am – Hospitality
- Wed., Nov. 20:** 4:30 pm – Catechism
7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class
- Sun., Nov. 24:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship Service; 11:15 am - Hospitality
- Wed., Nov. 27:** 4:30 pm - Catechism
7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Eve Worship
- Sun., Dec. 1, 8, 15:** 12:00-2:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal
- Wed., Dec. 4, 11:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship
- Sun., Dec. 8:** 3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital
- Fri., Dec. 13:** 2:00 pm – Christian Day School Concert at Northtown Mall
- Wed., Dec. 18:** 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Dinner
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship
- Fri., Dec. 20:** 7:30 pm – ILC Christmas Concert
- Sun., Dec. 22:** 8:45 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal; 12:00 Council Meeting
- Tue., Dec. 24:** 6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Worship
- Wed., Dec. 25:** 10:00 am – Christmas Day Worship
- Sun., Dec. 29:** 10 am – Worship Service
(Bible Class, Sunday School, Hospitality suspended)
- Tue., Dec. 31:** 7:00 pm – New Years Eve Worship w/Lord's Supper

Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: 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-8th

Church Year: Pentecost 26/Saints Triumphant **Date:** November 17, 2013

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 463, st. 1, 4-8: For All the Saints
TLH 613: Jerusalem the Golden
TLH 660: I'm But a Stranger Here
TLH 54: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Worship Prep:

Psalm 150, p. 157

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)
Gloria: TLH 23, st. 4

Scripture Readings:

2 Thess. 2:13-3:5
Luke 20:27-38

Sermon: Isaiah 65:17-25

(17) "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. (18) But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, And her people a joy. (19) I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying. (20) "No more shall an infant from there *live but a few days*, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner *being* one hundred years old shall be accursed. (21) They shall build houses and inhabit *them*; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. (22) They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, *so shall be* the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. (23) They shall not labor in vain, Nor bring forth children for trouble; For they *shall be* the descendants of the blessed of the LORD, And their offspring with them. (24) "It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear. (25) The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust *shall be* the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD." (NKJV™)

"That's the Way It Should Be"

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Among Us:** Pal Dauer has returned home after being in the hospital. Barb Sydow's surgery was successful this past week. She is recovering at home. May the Lord provide His children with healing according to His mercy and grace.
- ◆ **Thanksgiving Service:** Wed. evening, Nov. 27, 7:00 pm, we will be having our Thanksgiving worship service. We have a wonderful opportunity to bring our hearts and praises before the altar of our Lord to express our thanks to Him. A few years ago the Elders of Berea and Grace agreed to a pulpit exchange on Thanksgiving. This year it is Pastor David Schierenbeck's turn to be our guest preacher.
- ◆ **Bread of Life:** Each December the Lutheran Spokesman publishes a Bible reading program for the following year. This December each subscriber will receive this as a 28 page supplement to the magazine. The compiler was Pastor Em. David Lau. More than a simple listing of Bible references, the pamphlet includes Pastor Lau's running commentary on the historical background of the referenced readings. Excellent for year-long devotional purposes. Should you desire an extra copy of this item, the 2014 Bread of Life, please request it of Benno Sydow (bennosydow@yahoo.com). Cost is \$2 for an extra copy.
- ◆ **Poinsettias:** There is a signup sheet for Christmas Poinsettias by the guest book. For any questions, please see Jackie Radichel.
- ◆ **ILC Christmas Concert:** Immanuel's Christmas concert this year will be held on Fri., Dec. 20, 7:30 pm, at Eau Claire. There is a signup list for the trip by the guestbook.
- ◆ **2014 Cleaning:** The 2014 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ◆ **New Online Course at ILC:** Beginning January 13, 2014, the ILC college course known as Religion 102: *A Survey of the Old Testament* will be available online. Up to ten applicants may take the online course for credit. There is no limit to the number of online applicants who choose to audit the course. For more information on the nature of the course in its online form, the costs involved, and how to register, visit the ILC website at the College Course Description page (http://www.ilc.edu/academics/co_course.htm); there you can click "Religion" and access the link to the online course information. You may also contact the academic dean, Prof. John Ude, at: john.ude@ilc.edu.
- ◆ **Update:** From Pastor John Schierenbeck of Immanuel in Winter Haven, FL: Thank you all for your concerns and prayers for Meleah. Meleah was severely injured and her sister killed in a car accident on Labor Day. The family has been overwhelmed by the interest and concern shown from congregations and individuals throughout the United States. They especially feel close to our CLC schools who have been involved with cards and prayers. Her injury

was to her lower brain stem. Her cognitive functions are fine. She is still on a feeding tube though her nose, because the doctors do not want her to aspirate on especially liquids. Her swallowing and tongue control are improving. It is hoped that she may be off the feeding tube this week. She is making remarkable progress. She is able to stand for 20 seconds and is able to lift her feet. Some of the large muscles still need a lot of work. She is still at Tampa General Hospital and the nurses consider her a miracle child. They are working on transferring her from her wheelchair to a car. It is hoped that she may be released from the hospital in December. She will continue her rehab at Tampa General as an outpatient. Her mother, Wendy, is planning to stay in an apartment in Tampa during the outpatient therapy. Last Sunday was a special day. One of the first places that her mother brought Meleah was to church on Sunday. There were many tears of joy. Meleah asked for the words to the song the children are singing this Sunday in church and plans to be there again. Continue to remember this family and Meleah in your prayers. It is going to be a long haul. Remember with thanksgiving the blessings our children enjoy and give thanks for their health that we so often take for granted.

- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Norman Greve from Salem in Eagle Lake, MN, has accepted the call to St. Peter's in Iron River, MI. ✠ Pastor Matthew Gurath of Gift of God in Mapleton, ND, has received the call to Rock of Ages in Grand Rapids, MI. ✠ Mr. Stephen Sydow has accepted a limited call to serve as lead part-time pastor and ministry coordination for our SW Metro effort in Eden Prairie.
- ◆ **From the Elders:** All loose offerings collected during December will be distributed equally among the congregation's called workers.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #10 – Eighth Commandment.

Last Week's Stats: Nov. 10, 2013		Sun.: ??	S.S.: 17	B.Cl.: ??	Wed.: 18
Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,450.76	CLC:	\$480.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,000.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-549.24	CLC:	-480.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$132,528.67	CLC:	\$43,678.75	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	135,000.00	CLC:	43,200.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-2,471.33	CLC:	+478.75	
GLC Other:	260.00*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	404.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	65.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	55.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:		Fire Alarm:	-1,844.19	Projection:	-112.93
		Tuition Aid:	+959.67	(\$9,350 would cover 6 students in Jan.)	
*\$225 Nada Christianson Memorial					

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!

are pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy --- meditate on these things” (Philippians 4:8).

Through the Gospel, “I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage” (Exodus 20:1-2) – the Lord has brought us out of our own Egypt and bondage — we delight in letting those things upon which we are to meditate be manifest so that our light may shine and the world “may see [our] *good works* and *glorify [our] Father* Who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

Martin Luther said that faith in Christ alone saves, but faith that saves is never alone. Faith is manifest through confession and life that shows that we are not of the world, but that our heart and mind, transformed by the Spirit, in word and deed “proves what is the acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:2).

The will of God is that which is His good pleasure, and which pleases Him. As children of God we identify with David who said, “I delight to do Your will, O my God ...” (Psalm 40:8).

When we speak of serving the Lord and doing the will of God, we will remember that *everything* that we do of faith — for without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:5) – including the most mundane things, glorifies God. The Lord said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15). “This is love that we walk according to His commandments” (2 John 6). And through the apostle He tells us, “Whether you eat or you drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). That spirit describes the mind-set, or shall we better say the heart-set, of the redeemed, regenerate, believing child of God. He delights in serving the Lord in gladness — in such fashion serving Him Who has delivered us from the bondage of sin, devil, and death. For the child of God no commandment of God is too harsh!

And yes, when in the weakness of our flesh we sin, or serve only grudgingly, we find comfort in the Lord’s invitation to enjoy the grace and mercy of forgiveness, from which we also are re-energized to manifest the life of sanctification to which we are called! “Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing” (Psalm 100:2). “Enter into His gates with thanksgiving ... For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.”

O, it is a struggle in this life! But we thank the Lord for the privilege to serve Him, and for the desire and strength He gives to do so ... gladly.

We serve the Lord when we come into His presence with thanksgiving for the blessings He has showered upon us, most chiefly for the grace and mercy of forgiveness in which we live and which sustains our hope.

“SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS ...”

(Psalm 100:2)

We know that the Law cannot save. The Law of God, given on Sinai, uncovers sin, exposes our sinfulness and condemns us. Ever since the fall into sin no man born of woman, except for the incarnate Lord Jesus Christ, has measured up to the perfection and holiness which the Law demands. All descendants of Adam are born in sin and are under the wrath of God as well as the indictment of eternal death.

That truth is as sure as is the fact that the Lord Jesus kept the Law in our stead, died in our place and for us under its curse, cleansed us from our sin, restored life through His resurrection and saved us from the condemnation and eternal judgment we deserved. What the *Law could not* accomplish, the *Gospel has*, for it is “the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16).

Only by virtue of Christ’s atonement can we speak of serving the Lord. Only those who are born of the Spirit, and by the new birth are born into Christ can “Serve the Lord with gladness, [and] come before His presence with singing” (Psalm 100:2).

From the creation, and before that in eternity, it has been the will of God to bless mankind. However, Adam and Eve wasted that blessing when they listened to the devil (Genesis 3). But the Lord in His grace intervened to restore blessing *in Christ* to fallen man, a blessing which indeed comes to as many as believe on His name!

The Law and Gospel are opposites and the purpose of each is different. The Law, before sin written only in the heart, at Sinai was recorded in written form. It reiterated the will of God, as well as recorded the consequence if the Law was transgressed. The people understood this as is evident from their fear at the sight of the smoking mountain and the thundering that accompanied the transmission of the Law (Exodus 20:18-19).

The Law of God is absolute. There is consequence for breaking it, and rejecting the will of God. The Law condemns. It shows man’s helplessness, hopelessness, and need for the Savior.

But, in the heart of God there is no desire to condemn the sinner. That is manifest from the fact that He had promised the Seed of the woman—the Savior Who would be born in due time (Genesis 3:15). In the service of His promise he chose the descendants of Abraham as the people through whom He would bring forth the fulfillment. They had suffered greatly in the Egyptian exile. The Lord God saw the oppression of His people and had compassion. So He Who is faithful in His time worked a mighty deliverance. In the course of the journey from Egypt to the Promised Land God gave various precepts to govern Israel, among which were the Ten Commandments.

God was not using the Law to force obedience and sanctification under threat. God wills that what is done in accord with His will is done

from a willing and thankful heart. Thus we see that when the 10 commandments were *introduced* it was not with “Do this or you will die,” but with a Gospel reality: “I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage” (Exodus 20:1-2). The Lord brought them out of Egypt (Exodus 13:3). The Lord their God alone was their Savior (Hosea 13:4). The will and power to perform what God commands is not inherent in fallen man, but is *born of the Lord who is gracious. Surely God’s goodness inspires a positive desire in the heart—a desire to serve Him!* God’s goodness elicited a response from Israel that makes our point: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; *for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt ... and preserved us in all the way that we went ...*” (Joshua 24:16-17).

Therefore, we are led to conclude that, when the Law of God is transgressed, it is not because the sinner has forgotten the Law; *it is because he has forgotten the Gospel!*

We, of course, remember Israel’s history. We also know our own! The good we would do, we don’t, and the evil we would not do, we do (Romans 7:18-19). Even as we acknowledge that we daily sin much, and indeed deserve nothing but punishment (5th Petition), shall we not thank the Father Who forgives us our sin and in His Son invigorates us anew to serve the Lord? In Christ He daily forgives us our sin so that, our flesh notwithstanding, the new man within us gladly serves the Lord.

“We are His workmanship, *created in Christ Jesus* unto good works ...” (Ephesians 2:10). No regenerated sinner, inasmuch as he is a child of God, will say no to the Lord, but will as a “**new creature**” (2 Corinthians 5:17) manifest the life of sanctification. What are such manifestations?

The **new creature** that we are:

- ➔ Loves God above all things with His whole heart
- ➔ Holds the name of God precious and calls on that name
- ➔ Loves the Word of God and holds it sacred
- ➔ Honors God by honoring father and mother, and those whom the Lord has placed over us
- ➔ Helps and befriends the neighbor in his need
- ➔ Honors God’s institution of marriage
- ➔ Helps the neighbor to improve and protect his property and livelihood
- ➔ Speaks well of his neighbor
- ➔ Is of service to his neighbor and respects what is rightfully his.

We serve the Lord when we come into His presence with thanksgiving for the blessings He has showered upon us, most chiefly for the grace and mercy of forgiveness in which we live and which sustains our hope.

The **new creature** that we are

- Confesses the Triune God as the only God Who lives
- Defends the name of God when it is abused
- Gladly gathers in God’s house around Word and Sacrament
- Faithfully trains up his children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord
- Is merciful and kind to the neighbor
- Out of respect for the Lord submits to the God’s will and order in marriage and in the church
- Works with the abilities God gives to earn his daily bread
- Speaks well of his neighbor, and defends him in keeping with truth
- Desires in his heart the welfare of his neighbor

We serve the Lord when we come into His presence with thanksgiving for the blessings He has showered upon us, most chiefly for the grace and mercy of forgiveness in which we live and which sustains our hope.

The **new creature** that we are

- Sits daily at the foot of the cross in sorrow over sin
- Trusts confidently in God’s promise for life in heaven through faith which is in Christ Jesus, the Savior
- Confesses Christ before the world
- Shares the message of Christ and salvation according to the command of the Lord, and prays for the success of the Gospel that through it the Spirit might succeed in converting other hearts (Mission work)
- Prays for the welfare of his neighbor, the nation, and the church
- Holds faithfully to the Truth of the Word of God and confesses it boldly before the world
- Manifests his faith through love (1 John)

We serve the Lord when we come into His presence with thanksgiving for the blessings He has showered upon us, most chiefly for the grace and mercy of forgiveness in which we live and which sustains our hope.

The regenerate child of God, redeemed by the precious blood of Christ and by His innocent suffering and death rejoices in His redemption and delights to “live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness” (2nd Article). Inasmuch as we are believers in Christ we understand the privilege to be called “Sons of God” (John 1:12). We take seriously the exhortation which says: “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things