

Click here to open service webpage for: 2014/05/25/

✠ **TODAY AT GRACE** ✠

Organist: **Maureen Ochsner** Elder: **Phil Radichel**

Ushers: **Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Mike Dick, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter**

Counting Team 4: **Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner**

Hospitality Team 1: **Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner**

Church Cleaners: **Radichel**

✠ **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** ✠

Ushers: **Roger Ochsner, Jeremiah Boe, Mike Dick, Arnold Gehrls, Bob Maki, John Maki, Joel Stifter**

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

Church Cleaners: **Hein**

✠ **OUR SCHEDULE** ✠

- Sun., May 25:** 9:00 am – Worship Service (Graduation Recognition)
10:15 am – Hospitality for Graduate Recognition
- Wed., May 28:** 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
- Thu., May 29:** 7:00 pm – Ascension Worship Service
- Sun., June 1:** 9:00 am –Worship Service w/Lord’s Supper
3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference @ Sleepy Eye, MN
- Thu., June 5:** 6:00 pm – Meet for the Spring Lake Park Parade
- June 16-19:** CLC Convention @ Immanuel in Eau Claire, WI
- August 4-8:** Vacation Bible School

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)

Last Week’s Stats: May 18, 2014 Sun.: 120 S.S.: 17 B.Cl.: 54

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,815.25	CLC:	\$837.75	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,200.00	CLC:	1,040.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-384.75	CLC:	-202.25	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$67,286.68	CLC:	\$19,493.25	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	64,000.00	CLC:	20,800.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+3,286.68	CLC:	-1,306.75	
GLC Other:	460.34	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	165.00
SAF Endowment:	20.00	MDF:	145.00	Kinship:	20.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	165.00	IIF:	0.00
				CEF:	0.00
Current Balances:	Projection:	+160.32	Tuition Aid:	+3,707.42	

*Grace Lutheran
Church & School*

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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)

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Easter 6

Date: May 25, 2014

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

WS 732: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds
TLH 190, st. 1,4-7: Christ the Lord is Risen Again
TLH 346: Jesus! And Shall It Ever Be
TLH 199, st 4: Jesus Christ is Risen Today! Alleluia!
Choir: WS 784: Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me
Choir: You Are My All in All
CDS & Alumni Choir: Go Now in Peace

Worship Prep:

Psalms 66, TLH p. 136 f.

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5
Gloria: TLH 193, st.1,6

Scripture Readings:

Acts 17:22-31
John 14:15-21

Sermon: 1 Peter 3:15-22

(15) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always *be* ready to *give* a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; (16) having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. (17) For *it is* better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. (18) For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, (19) by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, (20) who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. (21) There is also an antitype which now saves us; baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, (22) who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. (NKJVTM)

“Be Ready to Defend Your Hope”

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Welcome!** After instruction in the Word of God, Rachele Kanneh is making her profession of faith today. What a joy to have her in our midst! Please kindly welcome her into our Grace family!
- ◆ **Graduates:** The following graduates are recognized today: Rachel Eichstadt (Coon Rapids HS), Brandon Wendland (Immanuel Lutheran), Adam Wales (Coon Rapids HS), Christina Hein (Anoka-Ramsey CC). May the Lord bless their journey ahead of them.
- ◆ **Ascension Worship:** 40 days after Jesus' resurrection He ascended into heaven visibly from His disciples. Knowing that He was now seated at the right hand of the Father in full glory and ruling over all things, they worshipped Him with great joy. Our opportunity to worship Him is this Thursday evening at 7 pm.
- ◆ **Invitation:** The Wendland family extends the following invitation: Brandon's Immanuel Graduation reception: Today. 2:00-5:00 pm. Country Inn and Suites: (3505 Vadnais Center Dr., Vadnais Hts., MN 55110)
- ◆ **Lutheran Spokesman:** The Lutheran Spokesman is a publication by the CLC which is dedicated to sharing rich, 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. The congregation covers the cost.
- ◆ **The Branches:** Subscriptions are available and/or due for renewal for the 2014-2015 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 daily walk with Christ and to reflect upon God's gift of Christian sisters. 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.
- ◆ **Parade:** On Thu., June 5, our school will be walking in the Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade. All members are invited to participate to help let the community know about the treasure of our Christian school! Please speak with Michael Ude for more details.
- ◆ **Invitation:** Pastor-elect Chad Seybt's ordination/installation service at Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church in Cheyenne, WY, is scheduled for July 13th, 1:30 pm. Refreshments will be served following the service.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Teacher graduate Ross Kok has received and accepted the call to be the upper grade teacher/principal at St. John's in Okabena, MN. ✠ Pastor Todd Ohlmann of Faith in Manchester, MO (St. Louis area), has returned the call to Grace in Sleepy Eye and Faith in New Ulm, MN.
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** This is scheduled for August 4-8.

GRADUATION or COMMENCEMENT exercises are upon us. Both words are used to describe what takes place at the end of each school year. *Graduation* is the bestowing of diplomas upon students who have completed the prescribed course of study. *Commencement* describes the same event with the emphasis on a new beginning. The graduates enter upon a new course, or new experience in life.

Schools invite guest speakers for the graduation or commencement exercise. In public universities and colleges many of the graduates do not even attend their graduation. We suspect that those who do attend forget in a short time most if not all that was laid on them by the speaker. Something tells us, and we have heard some, that for the most part the graduates did not lose much.

This writer has had three personal graduation or commencement experiences. One was missed because the conclusion of college was marked by the necessity to exercise conscience scruples as a witness of faith in a time of doctrinal turmoil in the church. And the fact is that we have forgotten who spoke as well as what was said at the high school graduation from a Lutheran high school. With help we remember who spoke at the conclusion of our seminary years. So what is the difference between graduation from a public institution as compared to one from a church institution, especially since forgetfulness is a common affliction of many.

The difference lies in the substance of the message delivered. Among us—and today we must distinguish ourselves from most, if not all, Lutheran institutions—the message brought to the graduates is a reiteration of what they have been taught in their education. The specifics may differ from year to year, but the source and substance of the message is the Word of God!

The education that young men and women receive at Immanuel in Eau Claire, as well as in Mankato, is priceless. The foundation of all that is taught in religion classes is Holy Scripture. How can it be otherwise? The foundation of every class from math to science as well as other classes is the Word of God to whom belongs the glory and praise for the creation to the orderliness of science and math, as well as the mind to assimilate and to teach what is necessary for the existence of life on earth, as well as the certainty of life in heaven through the grace of God manifest in the person and work of the Savior, Jesus Christ. How does one teach history without an acknowledgement that it is the Creator God, the God of justice and love, Who guides and directs the events of history to the accomplishment of His end, and the ultimate welfare of His redeemed children? Indeed the fount and source of what is taught in our school is the Word whereby students are confirmed in the knowledge that “The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring forever; The

judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether. More to be desired *are they* than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, *And* in keeping them *there is* great reward“(Psalm 19: 8 -11).

Graduates may not remember what they heard at their graduation or who said it. One thing they can remember is that what they were taught in their youth was of God, and that the address at their graduation did not contradict what they knew to be God’s Truth.

A prevailing thought of graduation addresses in the government schools is that students should go out and take the world by storm. Their fate lies in their hands. They should therefore be all that they can be. Nothing is beyond their reach. Be tolerant of every philosophy and life-style, and help bring the world together.

The graduates of our schools are reminded to go forth reflecting their Father in heaven. They are encouraged to utilize the gifts that God has given them to benefit the world in which they live, always reflecting who they are as His dear children through faith in Christ Jesus and bearing witness to truth in word and deed. As they reflect the will of God, and give glory to Him through His witness to the Gospel of salvation in the world, the Lord will bless them and give success to their labors. As their walk is heavenward and is focused on the Lord Jesus while earth-bound, they know that whatever befalls them they will attain the proffered joy as the Lord redeems His promise to them to take them at last to where He is (John 14:1-3).

Graduates who have been taught in and through the Word of God have been taught that they never graduate. There is no diploma in this life until they receive the ultimate diploma of grace upon God’s call. They further have been taught that each day is another day of opportunity, a day of new beginning, another day to live to the glory of the Lord until they enjoy the glory of heaven.

To *all* graduates of our schools or of public institutions in whom the Word of God lives and dwells we wish the Lord’s richest blessings as you walk the walk of faith in every pursuit of life. And whoever you forget and whatever you forget, *remember the Lord your God* and His Word. Keep close to your heart both the instruction and the promises of God spoken through Joshua to Israel:

“Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:7-9).”