

Click here to open service web page for: 2014/08/24/

✠ **TODAY AT GRACE** ✠

Organist: **Sue Nelson**

Elder: **Phil Radichel**

Ushers: **Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales,  
Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland**

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

Church Cleaners: **Fleischer**

✠ **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** ✠

Ushers: **Mark Wales, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Adam Wales,  
Eli Wales, Brandon Wendland, Brandt Wendland**

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

Church Cleaners: **Fleischer**

✠ **OUR SCHEDULE** ✠

**Sun., Aug. 24:** 9:00 am –Worship Service

**Mon., Aug. 25:** 8:00 am – Opening Service for Grace School  
10:00 am – Opening Service for Immanuel @ Eau Claire

**Wed., Aug. 27:** 4:30 pm – Catechism Begins for Public School Students

**Sun., Aug. 31:** 9:00 am –Worship Service

**Mon., Sept. 6:** Labor Day – No School

**Sun. Sept. 7:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School Begin  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Regular Schedule Resumes)  
11:15 am – Hospitality (Team 2)  
12:00 pm – Council Meeting (a week early due to picnic)

**Wed., Sept. 10:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class Resumes

**Sun., Sept. 14:** 11:15 am – Grace Church Picnic

**Oct. 7-8:** MN Pastoral Conference (Morris, MN)

**Sun., Oct. 19:** 8:30 am – Dr. Menton Seminar

**Last Week's Stats:** August 17, 2014 Sun.: 113

|                         |             |               |              |              |        |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| Sun. Offering:          | Grace:      | \$3,607.25    | CLC:         | \$1020.00    |        |
| Weekly Need:            | Grace:      | 3,200.00      | CLC:         | 1,040.00     |        |
| -Under / +Over:         | Grace:      | +407.25       | CLC:         | -20.00       |        |
| Year-to-Date Offering:: | Grace:      | \$104,650.59  | CLC:         | \$32,650.65  |        |
| Year-to-Date Need:      | Grace:      | 105,600.00    | CLC:         | 34,320.00    |        |
| Year-to-Date (+/-)      | Grace:      | -949.41       | CLC:         | -1,669.35    |        |
| GLC Other:              | 0.00        | Living Faith: | 0.00         | Tuition Aid: | 100.00 |
| SAF Endowment:          | 100.00      | MDF:          | 0.00         | Kinship:     | 100.00 |
| ILC Student Aid:        | 30.00       | ILC Bldg.     | 115.00       | IIF:         | 0.00   |
|                         |             |               |              | CEF:         | 0.00   |
| Current Balances:       | Projection: | -439.67       | Tuition Aid: | +6,590.12    |        |

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*Grace Lutheran  
Church & School*

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**As the deer pants for the water brooks,  
So pants my soul for You, O God.**

Psalm 42:1

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# Grace Lutheran Church & School



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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 11

**Date:** August 24, 2014

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 279: Today Thy Mercy Calls Us  
TLH 525: As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams  
TLH 522: When in the Hour of Utmost Need  
WS 764: God of Grace and God of Glory

### Worship Prep:

Psalm 42, TLH p. 133

### Liturgy:

WS, p. 12 (Projected)  
WS, p. 34, Psalm 30

### Scripture Readings:

Romans 8:35-39  
Matthew 14:13-21

### Sermon: Psalm 42

<sup>1</sup>As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. <sup>2</sup>My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? <sup>3</sup>My tears have been my food day and night, While they continually say to me, "Where is your God?" <sup>4</sup>When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast. <sup>5</sup>Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance. <sup>6</sup>O my God, my soul is cast down within me; Therefore I will remember You from the land of the Jordan, And from the heights of Hermon, From the Hill Mizar. <sup>7</sup>Deep calls unto deep at the noise of Your waterfalls; All Your waves and billows have gone over me. <sup>8</sup>The Lord will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night His song shall be with me— A prayer to the God of my life. <sup>9</sup>I will say to God my Rock, "Why have You forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" <sup>10</sup>As with a breaking of my bones, My enemies reproach me, While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?" <sup>11</sup>Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## When Your Soul is Cast Down

I. Remember God II. Pray to God III. Praise God

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Among Us:** Ellen Rust recently fell and suffered a broken vertebra. She is temporarily staying at Langton Place in Roseville for rehab.
- ◆ **Christian Day School Starts:** Tomorrow morning, at 8:00 am, there will be an opening service for the new school year. All members are invited to come. There are 15 children that will be attending this year: Kindergarten: Gavin Flesner & Uriah Wales; 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Alexandra Baker, Nathan DeBoer, Grace Gillenwater, & Naomi Story; 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Dayne Flesner; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Natalie Story; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Cole Flesner & Daniel Hein; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kathleen Baker & Matthew DeBoer; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Patrick Baker; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Megan DeBoer & Julianna Hein. We pray that our students will be richly blessed through the spiritual training they will receive through the daily immersion in God's Word.
- ◆ **Service Schedule:** Please keep in mind that the service schedule will be changing on **September 7**. Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9:00 am with regular morning worship at 10:00 am.
- ◆ **Sunday School Teachers:** Sunday School begins the Sunday after Labor Day. We are looking for volunteers to teach and need to fill three vacated spots. If you are interested, please speak to Rick Nelson.
- ◆ **Church Picnic:** On Sunday, September 14 there will be a church picnic here on the church grounds following our regular church service. Plans are to have some organized games for the children. Grilled meat will be provided. Members are asked to bring a dish to share, including things like salads, chips, and/or desserts. Folks may help out as needed with serving and cleanup.
- ◆ **Cleaning:** We are in need of cleaning volunteers for September.

### CLC Financial Report

| CLC Financial Report           | Balance            | Year to Date     | Year to Date     | FY 2015 Budget   | Balance            |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Operating Funds                | 7/1/2013           | Revenue          | Disbursed        | 1 Month          | 7/31/2014          |
| General Fund                   | 0                  | 76,346           | 84,091           | \$75,333         | -7,745             |
| ILC Operations                 | 0                  | 46,575           | 86,419           | \$113,000        | -39,844            |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$0</b>         | <b>\$122,921</b> | <b>\$170,510</b> | <b>\$188,333</b> | <b>-\$47,589</b>   |
| <b>Auxiliary Funds</b>         |                    |                  |                  |                  |                    |
| ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)     | 67,647             | 498              | 1,094            |                  | 67,051             |
| ILC Building Fund              | 14,168             | 7,560            | 7,984            |                  | 13,744             |
| Mission Development Fund (MDF) | 190,077            | 10,596           | 90,553           |                  | 110,120            |
| Kinship                        | 59,320             | 4,944            | 10,371           |                  | 53,893             |
| Church Extension Fund (CEF)    | 1,624,476          | 58,529           | 6,200            |                  | 1,676,805          |
| Student Aid Fund (SAF)         | 19,672             | 5,704            | 3,891            |                  | 21,485             |
| Reserve Fund                   | 89,769             | 0                | 0                |                  | 89,769             |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$2,065,129</b> | <b>\$87,831</b>  | <b>\$120,093</b> |                  | <b>\$2,032,867</b> |

## Cosmetic Cover:

Recently a friend whom we had not seen for some time passed away. He was not a member of our church. He had been ill for some time which it is assumed prompted another friend who attended the funeral to comment that the deceased looked good in the coffin. Perhaps we all have made such an observation when at a visitation of one who has passed from time into eternity. In the total scheme of things, however, what difference does it make? “Dust you are and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19).

We have recently been spending some retirement time assisting a maintenance man at a rental complex. The assigned task has been to paint gas meters with their exposed, rusty pipes. However, it was not required to prepare the surface, only to paint. Upon completion of the task the meters, including the rusty pipes, look attractive. The painting enhanced the building on which the meters hang. If there are more serious maintenance issues than rusty pipes, at least the pipes which still are rusty are attractive to the eye. It is possible to make something look good on the outside while the inside is rotten!

The two examples are sufficient to make the point. Many ills and sins in our life and in the life of the church can be masked cosmetically to hide reality.

As redeemed children of God, called to faith in the Lord Jesus by the Spirit, it is the desire of the new man to “live according to God in the spirit” (1Peter 4:6). But inasmuch as in this life we are still clothed in the flesh in which no good thing dwells (Romans 7:18), we are painfully aware of the struggle between desire of the new man to do what is good and pleasing in God’s sight, and the flesh (old man) which under the influence of the evil one pulls in the opposite direction.

Honesty compels us to admit what we prefer not to admit. While we cannot hide our sin and internal moral rot from God, we can and do frequently try to cover ourselves cosmetically to impress our neighbor. We try to present a different face, or paint over the rust in our lives by putting on appearances. We may attend church every Sunday to give an appearance of holiness. Or perhaps the opposite occurs. We claim to be Christians (or Lutherans) but seldom attend the worship service. We do “feel-good” things to impress others.

To put on a cosmetic appearance of holiness is the grossest hypocrisy and self deception. Cosmetic exercise of religion or piety to give the impression to others that we are something we are not only hides the reality of sin in a corrupt heart. Jesus addressed such false piety: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness” (Matthew 23:27).

To try to cover moral imperfections, lack of love, neglect, a life of sin, with pseudo-holiness is itself sin. Scripture says, “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy” (Proverbs 28:13). Proverbs 15:21 says, “Folly is joy to him who is destitute of discernment, but a man of understanding walks uprightly.” A fruit of sanctification is living honestly before men. Sanctification is not a show, but a way of life without hypocritical airs of holiness.

The child of God does not deny that in the flesh he is guilty of such sin and deception. He acknowledges the weakness of his flesh and lives in daily repentance toward God Who promises that if we confess our sins (known and

unknown, He knows) before Him “He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). Blessed are all who know and believe that it is the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that covers our unrighteousness, and indeed washes our sins away.

Unfortunately, cosmetic cover also applies to the church in the world. It is the will and command of God that His Word is proclaimed in all its truth, its beauty, and its blessing to the glory of God and to the salvation of mankind. It is the task of the Church to proclaim all that the Lord commands. This entails preaching the Law to the uncovering of sin, and the Gospel to the comfort of penitent sinners.

In many fellowships continuing in the old paths where the good way is as the prophet Jeremiah exhorts (Jeremiah 6:16) sadly has given way to the new ways of human opinion and modern thinking. Many who never knew the Truth, have forgotten it, or have chosen to ignore it, are drawn to such churches because such churches, having departed from the way, still have what many wrongfully identify as defining the Church.

A cathedral or well appointed church building, dynamic preachers, fine organs, beautiful choirs, friendly, energetic people, active fellowship groups and other accouterments—none of which are wrong in themselves—can still be found in these churches. The problem is that where the Bible is no longer the source of doctrine, where error is given equal standing with Truth, what remains is a shell that is made attractive to the undiscerning or uncaring by the otherwise acceptable things which now are nothing more than cosmetics hiding the reality that the glory of the Lord has departed (1 Samuel 4:21)! The heterodox church cosmetically covering the loss of substance and Truth is like the good looking corpse lying in the coffin. Or to draw on the other example, cosmetics cover the rust that is like cancer eating way the body from the inside.

We acknowledge with thanksgiving to the Lord that He still has His children in such fellowships so long as the Gospel of Christ is still present. Even as we happily acknowledge that, we must daily search our own heart, and join the Christians in Berea “who searched the Scripture daily to find out” (Acts 17:11) and confirm that what Paul was preaching was in fact the truth of God!

Whether in our personal life, or in the fellowship of like-minded believers let the Word of God dwell in you richly, desiring nothing less and nothing more than that the fellowship with which we identify values the Word above all else. Cosmetics serve a purpose, but let them never become a cover for living a lie in our personal life, or in the church a cover for teachings and practices that are contrary to the Lord and his Word.

Surely, as believers in Christ are members of His body individually through faith, and as surely as the sum total of believers in Christ constitute His Body, the Holy Christian Church, so will we want to have our lives and our confession honest before all.

Let us pray: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10).” We pray further, “Lord, help us that all words, deeds, and actions in our personal life and in our fellowship are spoken and done in honesty and truth to Your glory and honor so that what our neighbors see of us and hear from us is a true reflection of You in whom was no deceit or guile” (John1:47). Amen.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 8/2014