

Click here to open service web page for: 2015/01/25/

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson Elder: Frank Radichel
Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel,
 Bob Vandever, Bobby Vandever, Matt Vandever
Counting Team 3: Don Auel; Brian Eichstadt; Jack
 Kirkham; Benno Sydow; Brandt Wendland
Hospitality Team 4: James & April Bomber; Rachelle
 Kanneh; Heidi Nelson; Bob & Suki Vandever
Church Cleaners: Anderson School: A. Baker

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Paul Lentz, Brad Kitzman, Rick Nelson, Keith Radichel,
 Bob Vandever, Bobby Vandever, Matt Vandever
Counting Team 4: Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl;
 Dave Rust; Lynn Sandhoefner
Hospitality Team 5: Pat & Dawn Paplow; Mike & Pat Dick;
 Frank & Ann Radichel
Church Cleaners: ?? School: A. Baker

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Jan. 25: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Mon., Jan. 26: No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wed., Jan. 28: 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Midweek Bible Class (Angels)
Sun., Feb. 1: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper
 11:15 am – Hospitality
Sat., Feb. 7: 11:00 am – Bridal Shower for Christina Hein
Wed., Feb. 18: 6:00 pm – Lenten Soup Suppers Begin
 7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Worship Services Begin

Last Week's Stats: Jan. 18, 2015 Sun.: 137 S.S.: 18 B.Cl.: 44 Wed.: 24

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,055.03	CLC:	\$730.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,340.00	CLC:	1,060.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-294.97	CLC:	-330.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$8,674.63	CLC:	\$2,001.60	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	10,020.00	CLC:	3,180.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,345.37	CLC:	-1,178.40	
GLC Other:	597.45*	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	550.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	50.00	Kinship:	100.00
ILC Student Aid:	0.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF:	0.00
				CEF:	0.00
Current Balances:		Parking Lot:	+3,590.00	Tuition Aid:	+7,099.12

* \$290 Pal Dauer Memorial

Grace Lutheran Church & School



"I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching."

2 Timothy 4:1-2

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: Epiphany 3

Date: January 25, 2015

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 489: Lord, of the Church, We Humbly Pray
TLH 289: The Law Commands and Makes Us Know
TLH 485: Lord Jesus, Who art Come
TLH 283: God's Word is Our Great Heritage
Installation of officers – after Lord's Prayer
Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

Worship Prep:

Psalm 62, TLH p. 136

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)
Gloria: WS 775:6

Scripture Readings:

1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Sermon: Jonah 3:1-10

(1) Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, (2) "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you." (3) So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey *in extent*. (4) And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" (5) So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. (6) Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered *himself* with sackcloth and sat in ashes. (7) And he caused *it* to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water. (8) But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. (9) Who can tell *if* God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish? (10) Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it. (NKJVTM)

Characteristics That Make One Whale of a Sermon

1. *The preaching of God's Law*
2. *The preaching of God's Gospel*
3. *The preaching of the Truth from God*
4. *The preaching which leaves the results to God*

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Directory:** Please check your contact information in the draft copy of the directory located in the narthex and make any necessary edits.
- ◆ **Anniversaries:** The newsletter team would like to include wedding anniversaries on the calendar. Please be sure to add yours on the sheet on the narthex table. Thanks!
- ◆ **Work Day:** Thanks to all who helped out!
- ◆ **Midweek Lenten Services:** This year our midweek services will begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18, 7 pm.
- ◆ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** These start on Feb. 18, 6 pm. There is a sign-up sheet for Lenten Soup Suppers as well as setup and cleanup.
- ◆ **2015 Cleaning:** A lot of slots are still open for the year! In fact, the next several weeks are open.
- ◆ **Bridal Shower:** A bridal shower will be held for Christina Hein on Saturday, Feb. 7 at 11:00 am here at the church. See the invitation on bulletin board for details. Please RSVP to Heidi Nelson by Feb. 1.
- ◆ **Grade School Tournament:** The basketball tournament for our CLC youth is held on the Immanuel campus in Eau Claire, WI. This year it will be held on March 13-15. This includes grades 5th through 8th. Those who are interested in playing may speak with Pastor Hein.
- ◆ **Evangelism Workshop:** All are invited to participate in this year's Evangelism Workshop on Sun., Feb. 15, 3:00 to 6:30 pm at Messiah, Eau Claire. The theme this year is "Prepared to Answer!" Questions come your way when people know you are a practicing Christian. Will you know what to say? Do you know how to use questions as an opportunity to share your faith in Christ? This workshop will leave you better equipped to serve the Lord, who first served you, by being His witness. Our format will feature presentations, as well as break-out sessions for discussion and application. A soup and chili fellowship supper will follow. Come and learn – Come and share!
- ◆ **CLC News:** St. John's in Clarkston, WA, has named its newly-opened school "Valley Bible Academy – St. John's Lutheran" and has called Desirae Naumann, a member of the congregation, to be its teacher. ✠ Pastor Richard Kanzenbach of Morning Star in Fairchild and Peace with God in Onalaska, WI, has received the call to Calvary in Marquette, MI. ✠ Teacher Candice Ohlmann of Faith in Markesan, WI, has been called to serve as principal and teacher of Grace in Valentine, NE, the school set to reopen this fall. ✠ Stephanie Purrington, a member of the congregation, has been called to teach Kindergarten at Immanuel in Mankato, MN, since Kathleen Olmanson is retiring this year.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #14 – First Article



FREEDOM OF SPEECH and RESPONSIBILITY

The 1st Amendment of the United States Constitution includes this clause: “Congress shall make no law ... **abridging the freedom of speech.**” Under this amendment we have enjoyed freedom of speech in political as well as religious expression and the press.

The Courts have, however, curtailed speech such as treason, obscenity, profanity (really?), perjury, pornography, among others. Nevertheless, we should cherish and protect the *right* of free speech which is seriously under attack, particularly from those who, defending their right of free speech, hypocritically deny it to others with whom they disagree.

This subject has come to the fore with the incident in France. Mockery of the Muslim prophet by a magazine was done under the claim of free speech. Consequently, Islamic terrorists engaged in a murderous response. The violence was only the latest incident of many to which followers of Allah have resorted in the name of their prophet and Allah.

As citizens of this nation we wholeheartedly defend the *right* guaranteed by the 1st Amendment. In principle, we will defend it even when it is abused by those whose political or religious views are obnoxious and contrary to decency, truth, or our personal political and/or religious views. While ruining it, we must suffer fools, not gladly, but nevertheless acknowledge their *right* under our constitution to demean our faith, and mock our God and Savior. In society, like it or not, that is the way it is. Denial of freedom of speech to such as offend us finally can be used to rob us of the opportunity and *necessity* to speak the truth to the glory of the God whom they mock. To deny freedom of speech to some is to deny freedom of speech to all.

In a general way, what should be the Christ-believers response to such speech that violates morals, common decency, and which manifests itself in ribald jokes and filthy language? In a practical sense, we can start by turning off the TV! Avoid such venues where offensive speech is the norm. We can choose our friends more carefully. Reality is that in this sin-sick world we will be exposed to godless behavior and speech daily. Further, not being of the world we will reflect who we are and whose we are, and *as manifestation of our life in Christ we will guard our own tongue.* Read James 3! Solomon wrote, “Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put perverse lips far from you” (Proverbs 4:24). In Ephesians 5:4 the apostle warns us against “foolish talking” as well as against conduct that hurts others or offends the Lord Who has purchased us with His own blood. As a fruit of faith we will use our right to free speech responsibly, to say nothing of guarding our speech lest we sin against the Lord, and tarnish His name.

As Christ-believers called to witness to the truth of God let us, however, not confuse speaking the truth with giving offense. As we speak the truth—law or gospel—people may be offended. We cannot control how they will react to truth. As we are alive in Christ we are compelled by honesty to speak, and in a civil sense we are *guaranteed the right* to speak the truth. Speaking the truth involves uncovering sin, exposing error, and naming false gods. Our weapon against evil is not arms, but the Word of God. We will speak the truth bearing in mind the instruction of our Lord who exhorts that our conduct be honest (1 Peter 2:12), and our “speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt” (Colossians 4:6). Speaking

the truth is not license to be obnoxious or demeaning. We add nothing to the truth by being unpleasant or brazenly overbearing.

The heathen in unbelief mock the Lord Jesus Christ and blaspheme His holy name. They make light of the God who desires their repentance and salvation. They ridicule the truth of the inspired Word of God. Such abuse of our Lord is hard on our ears, and offensive. They exercise their freedom of speech to demean the children of God and the Word by which we live and in which we hope. We will not win them by reacting in kind to their abuse. Our hope to win them lies in speaking the truth in an effort to change their hearts. Our response to heinous behavior and speech is not carnal (2 Corinthians 10:4).

The point is that while we cherish freedom of speech and will defend our constitutional right to exercise it, **such freedom is to be used responsibly!** This is particularly true and right because we have a responsibility in all things to glorify the Lord Jesus, and to do nothing or speak nothing that brings dishonor upon Him and the faith we hold!

The response to freedom of speech by Islamists is violence in the name of their “peaceful religion”. The response to the mockery of their religion as we have observed is poles apart from the response of Christianity to the mockery of the Triune God.

So then, how shall we react to those who under the guise of freedom of speech mock our Lord and who through false teaching, blasphemy, and plain unbelief or disrespect abuse the name of the Lord, our Redeemer?

1. **Pray** for those who abuse you and who mock the Lord. Pray **for their repentance.**
2. **Live your faith** honestly and confess it **with boldness.**
3. Use your freedom of speech to **speak the truth in love.**
4. **Speak the law** to the exposing of sin, **and the gospel** to the comfort of souls and the power to sanctified life and speech.
5. **Let your speech be the voice of God** as you speak in the stead and by the command of the Lord Jesus Christ.

While we will want to boldly confess our Lord against all evil speaking, He is perfectly capable of defending His name. He himself tells us, “Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows that he will also reap” (Galatians 6:7). Is there evidence of this truth? Indeed. Korah stood against the Lord, and the earth at the command of the Lord swallowed him and his supporters (Numbers 16). Whether the evil is spoken against the children of God or against the Lord himself, the Lord says, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay says the Lord” (Romans 12:19). They who speak against the Lord and his anointed will not escape (Psalm 2).

In summary, we have the civil right to free speech. Defend it! We have the command of our Lord to speak in His name. Exercise it! We are compelled to speak against sin, and proclaim the Savior from sin. Do it! But with friend or foe, whether in society or in the church, let us exercise our right to free speech responsibly, always to the glory of our Savor God. Let us always be careful in our conduct and in our speech. Freedom of speech under our constitution is always best exercised when it serves our neighbor according to the circumstance—law or gospel—and glorifies the Lord whose mouthpiece and representatives we are.

The Importance of Good Preaching by C.F.W. Walther

When Christ was about to return to the glory which He had with the Father before the foundation of the world, He gave His disciples, together with their commission, this instruction: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," or as Matthew puts it: "Go ye and teach all nations." Then He adds: "baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Not satisfied with having said this, He concluded His instruction with these words: "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Behold here the Alpha and Omega of the apostolic office, or the ministry of the Church: it is preaching and teaching.

This function, however, is not only the most important but also the most difficult function assigned to a minister of the Church. There are ministers who can imagine that preaching is easy to them, and the longer that they are in the ministry, the easier preaching becomes to them; for they reason that, if they are only careful to preach nothing but the pure Word of God, without any admixture of heresy, that must be sufficient. Such preachers are laboring under a great, an awful, a very pernicious [hurtful] error. A mere pious talk without aim and logical order is not real preaching. Genuine preaching is inspired by the Holy Ghost through His Word. Accordingly, a real sermon is produced only after all that spiritual and intellectual energy of a truly believing preacher has been exerted to the utmost, after fervent prayer, after all earthly cares have been chased from the mind, and after the preacher has been freed from all vain desires. That is a difficult task.

Administering Baptism properly is easy; anybody can do it. Likewise, pronouncing absolution correctly is quite easy; even a boy can do it. Administering Holy Communion is also very easy; any intelligent Christian can do it. But to preach properly is difficult. For this reason a student of theology ought to make proper preaching his highest aim. For if he is unable to preach, he does not belong in the ministry. In our orthodox Church a servant of God is a minister of Jesus Christ, and his worth does not lie in a certain undefined quality that has been imparted to him at his ordination or consecration, in something that other people have not and which, for that reason, makes him such a sacrosanct [sacred] and precious person. By no means; the worth of a true minister of the church lies exclusively in his ability to preach properly. If he has not the ability, the pulpit is not the place for him; for the pulpit is for preaching. Preaching is the central element of every divine service.

What is to be effected by preaching? Bear in mind that the preaching is to arouse secure souls from their sleep in sin; next, to lead those who have been aroused to faith; next, to give believers assurance of their state of grace and salvation; next, to lead those who have become assured of this to sanctification of their lives and lastly, to confirm the sanctified and to keep them in their holy and blessed state unto the end. What a task!

A preeminent point that we must not forget is this: To achieve the task, it is especially necessary rightly to divide the truth, as the apostle says, or properly to divide the Law and the Gospel from each other. When a person does not understand how to do this and always mingles either doctrine into the other, his preaching is utterly futile, in vain. More than this, a preacher of this kind does harm and leads the souls of men astray; he leads them to a false faith, a false hope, a false contrition, makes them mere hypocrites, and frequently hurls them into despair. To divide Law and Gospel properly is a very, very difficult task. As Luther says, all preachers cannot but remain mere apprentices in this art until death.



July 28 - August 2

(Group Transportation departing Mankato July 27 returning August 3)

Youth Conference 2015

Como, CO

(8th grade graduates and older)

Details to follow soon!



"Scripture—Thousands of Apps!"

Youth Conference 2015 is sponsored by
Immanuel Lutheran Church—Mankato, MN