

Click here to open service web page for: 2015/05/24/

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Benno Sydow

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

Counting Team 4: Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust; James Bomber

Hospitality Team 3: Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow; Ryan & Mikey Oman; Nick & Miranda Duehlmeier; Dan & Cindy Degnan

Church Cleaners: ??

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

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

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

Church Cleaners: Hein

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., May 24:** Pentecost/Graduation
9:00 am – Worship Service with Graduation Recognition
10:15 am – Hospitality (Last one for year, for graduates)
- Sun., May 31:** 9:00 am – Worship Service (Trinity Sunday)
- Thu., June 4:** Spring Lake Park Parade
- Sun., June 7:** 3:00 pm – MN Delegate Conference @ Eagle Lake, MN
- Sun., June 14:** **Grace Lutheran's 60th Anniversary Celebration**
9:00 am – Grace Lutheran 60th Anniversary Service
10:15 am – Potluck Meal
- June 16-18:** CLC General Pastoral Conference @ Eau Claire, WI
- Sun., June 21:** 4:00 pm – Pastor Rob Sauers Ordination @ Morris, MN
- Sat., June 27:** 9:00 am – Grace Work Day
- Sun., July 19:** Quarterly Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings
- August 3-7:** 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School
- Sat., Aug. 8:** 9:00 am – School Cleaning Day
- Mon. Aug. 10:** 7:00 pm – School Ice Cream Social
- Mon., Aug. 24:** 10:00 am – Immanuel Opening Service @ Eau Claire, WI
- Mon. Aug. 31:** 8:00 am – School Opening Service (First Day of 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)

GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: www.CLCCGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635)

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Church Year: Pentecost/Graduation

Phone: 763-784-8784

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Date: May 24, 2015

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 225: Come, Holy Spirit, Come
WS 749: Come to Living Word and Water
WS 751: God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It
TLH 412: May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill
Baptism: Chloe May Bomber
Choir: God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind
CDS & Alumni Choir: Go Now in Peace

Worship Prep:

Psalm 51, TLH p. 134 f.

Liturgy:

WS, p. 12 (Projected)

Scripture Readings:

Acts 2:1-21
John 14:25-27

Sermon: Titus 3:4-8

⁴But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men. (NKJVTM)

“Sanctified and Kept by the Holy Spirit”

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Baptism:** Praise to the Lord that Chloe May Bomber is born of the water and the Spirit today in the waters of Holy Baptism. We congratulate James and April for this precious child of God! Jessica and Andy Sydow are Chloe's sponsors.
- ◆ **Graduation Recognition:** Today we recognize Megan DeBoer and Julianna Hein as graduates from our Christian Day School. What a marvelous Christian foundation our congregation has been able to provide all the children who attend Grace Lutheran School. We also congratulate and wish the Lord's richest blessings upon the other graduates in our midst:
 - ★ Charles Davis - Spring Lake Park High School
 - ★ Emily Hein - Immanuel Lutheran High School
 - ★ John Maki - St. Francis High School
 - ★ Jack McDonald - Immanuel Lutheran High School
 - ★ Jacob Rhinesmith - Shakopee High School
 - ★ Ned Sandhoefner - Immanuel Lutheran High School
 - ★ Alvin Jask Kanneh - Globe University (MS, IT Management)
- ◆ **Grace Lutheran School** staff is beginning to plan for the 2015-16 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child in our school, please speak to one of the teachers for an enrollment form.
- ◆ **Parade:** On Thurs., June 4, 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! We are hoping that all our students and parents will be able to participate in this. More details will be available soon.
- ◆ **Grace's 60th Anniversary:** On Sun., June 14, 9 am, Grace Lutheran in Fridley, MN, will be celebrating "60 Years of the Lord's Grace." Pastor Neal Radichel, son of the congregation, will be our guest speaker and there will be a potluck meal following the worship service. We welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ to join us in thanking the Lord for all the wonderful blessings He has showered upon us!
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **Book:** "Steeple in the Distance," a novel by Deborah Ude, is now available. It may be purchased either directly from Deborah Ude at deborahude.com, through the CLC Book House at clcbookhouse.org, or through Michael and Jess Ude. The cost is \$20.00 per book.

◆ **Summer Hospitality:** Hospitality hour is suspended during the summer. Those who may wish to host a hospitality gathering on any Sunday, there is a signup sheet on the fellowship hall's bulletin board.



◆ **Vacation Bible School:** On August 3-7, 9:00 - 11:30 am, we will be having our VBS. This includes children age 4 years, to children going into eighth grade. Please register your children on the sheet by the guest book.

◆ **VBS Staff:** In preparing for VBS, we will need to put together a staff, including teachers and coordinators for crafts and music. Please consider this labor of love and let Pastor know of your willingness.

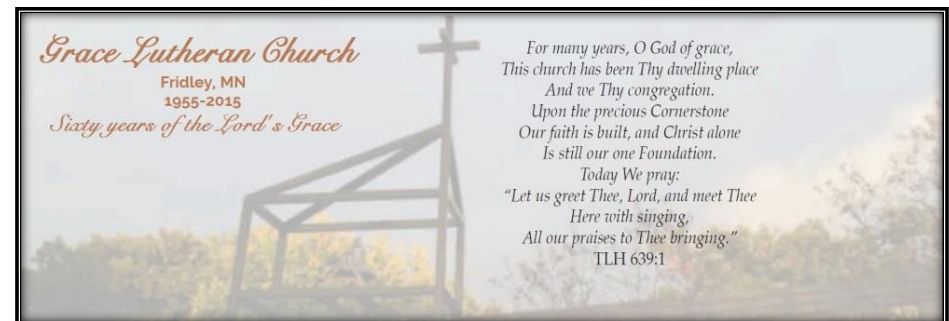


◆ **Youth Conference:** Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato is sponsoring a Youth Conference this summer (July 28-August 2) in Como, CO. The conference features sessions of Bible Study, outdoor recreation, Colorado River rafting and more. Brochures for the conference are available by the guest book. See www.youthconference.info.

◆ **Women's Seminar:** The Southeast churches of the CLC are hosting a Women's Retreat on Sept. 25-27 in Savannah, GA. Details are available on the bulletin board. For questions please contact: Amy Osborne (651-329-3662 /newyorker13@hotmail.com) or Pastor Nathanael Mayhew (404-729-4602/ndmayhew@juno.com).

◆ **Sauers Ordination:** Our vicar, Rob Sauers, will be installed and ordained on Sun., June 21, 4 pm, at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morris, MN. A fellowship meal will follow. Pastor John Hein will serve as Liturgist and Pastor Peter Evensen will be the Preacher. Please let Pastor know if you are attending so the congregation can prepare.

◆ **CLC News:** Teacher Quinn Sprengeler of Redemption in Lynnwood, WA (Seattle area), has returned the call to Gethsemane in Spokane Valley, WA. ✠ Mr. Matthew Kranz, member at Messiah in Eau Claire, WI, has received the call to serve as 5th and 6th grade teacher beginning in the Fall 2015 at Immanuel in Mankato, MN



Isaiah 44:5 One will say, "I am the LORD's"; Another will call himself by the name of Jacob; Another will write with his hand, "The LORD's," And name himself by the name of Israel.

A CONNECTION TO GOD HAS GREAT IMPLICATIONS EVEN IN THIS LIFE

It is critical to remember that you belong to God in every circumstance. It is especially true as we make these transitions in life. Graduates, you will find that more and more you will be asked to make your own decisions. Your mom and dad will soon be in advisory roles rather than commanding roles. In all the decisions that you will be making you will be influenced more and more by those that surround you, many of whom will have no connection to God. Some of you who are older may come to the point that you have to turn over your finances and other critical decision to your children.

You need remind yourself constantly that you belong to God--both to have comfort and not to be deceived. You may ask yourself, "Would I be living in sin if I belonged to God? Would I be avoiding God's Word and sacrament if I truly belonged to God? Would I be neglecting my prayer life if I belonged to God?" If these questions are not asked or not answered correctly, then soon you may not belong to God.

On the positive side, just think of all the blessings of belonging to God. You have protection against wicked and powerful spiritual forces. You have the assurance that you have no guilt before the Holy and Almighty Judge. You have the promise that you will not remain in the grave, but will conquer even death itself. The Holy Spirit has taken that forgiveness that was won for the world and made it personally your own by giving you faith in God. This has connected you to the blessings that God wishes to pour out upon you. Do not fear. You have a powerful ally as a Protector and Defender.

Last Week's Stats: May 17, 2015 Sun.: 147 B.Cl.: 106

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,875.98	CLC:	\$800.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,340.00	CLC:	1,060.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-464.02	CLC:	-260.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$61,897.32	CLC:	\$17,175.55
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	66,800.00	CLC:	21,200.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-4,902.68	CLC:	-4,024.45
GLC Other: 425.00	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	212.75
SAF Endowment: 0.00	MDF:	15.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid: 0.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	6,500.00	Tuition Aid:	1,533.12

Two highlights in the life of a Christian young person are confirmation and graduation. We have addressed the importance and meaning of confirmation in the life of the children whom God has placed into our home. What about graduation?

Whereas confirmation is essentially a Lutheran tradition, and is still practiced among us, if not in all Lutheran churches, graduation of itself has no religious significance in the public view. However, it does for graduates from our Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire, as well as for those of the high school in Mankato.

Graduation is also called commencement. It is defined as an act of beginning something or conferring a degree. In the common public understanding and practice, graduation is the conferring of a diploma or degree that testifies to the successful completion of a required course of study. We could assume then that graduation is recognizing the end of something, as well as the beginning of something else. While graduation is unfortunately seen by many only as the end of something, we prefer to see it as a beginning ... a beginning of the rest of one's life, which from Christian perspective, is a continuing growth in faith and sanctification to the honor and praise of our Lord and Savior.

We surely hope and pray for the best for all who are graduating and receiving their diploma, and who are receiving a degree in their chosen field of study. Whether they recognize and acknowledge that their gifts are from God or not, we pray that they will use their gifts to the best of their ability and for the common benefit of themselves and society. But the difference in graduation exercises between the public sector and our Lutheran High Schools is stark.

As to the graduation exercises themselves ... Graduation exercises to a great extent at public institutions, particularly from college, have become sounding-boards for protest, promoting personal social agendas, and furthering political aspirations. For some speakers, graduation has become an excuse to talk. Frequently people walk in before their person of interest receives the diploma, and walk out when the same person has received it. While having attended a few such graduations, and sitting through them and listening to the speech, one can understand why they do this. To this observer, however, it seemed disrespectful to walk out, and even more disrespectful as people in the seats were kibitzing during the exercises.

Much different is the graduation *service* at Immanuel in which graduates are acknowledged, but are sent on their way with instruction from the Word, and with the prayer that the Lord will bless them and keep them along their way to the ultimate graduation from earth to the commencement of heavenly joy. No one walks out. How different to observe the congregation of worshipers joining in song and praise to the Lord God, with thanksgiving to Him for having brought the graduates to this stage of their life. Yes, how different to hear the speaker exhort the graduates to confront their future with trust in the Lord, and to hear the graduates assured that their Heavenly Father will attend them as they meet the different vicissitudes and challenges of life. And not least of all the worship includes the graduates singing their valedictory of praise to God as they move on to the next aspect of their life, be it to more education or to the work-world. And then to go with the Lord's blessing. Finally the whole assembly sings the Alma Mater at Immanuel in Eau Claire:

Nestled in the quiet beauty of the tall green pines,
God has set our Alma Mater, guiding hearts and minds.
Built on Jesus' words of promise, oh Lord, bless her well!
Thus, may e're our Alma Mater be Immanuel!

There is a reason why many graduates and parents (and grandparents) come back for the spring concert at Immanuel and stay for the graduation day even though they have no family member graduating. It is an uplifting and pleasant experience to come back each year for the edification as well as the family camaraderie that has been created in a fellowship of faith over the years.

Graduates are entering into a hostile world, made more so if they will not identify with the world. They are entering a world in constant social turmoil. While all graduates face many of the same challenges, the Christian launching into the world will find it more difficult, given the fact that Christ and Scripture are rejected by the world, and confessors of Christ in their witness by word and deed are faced with various degrees of persecution.

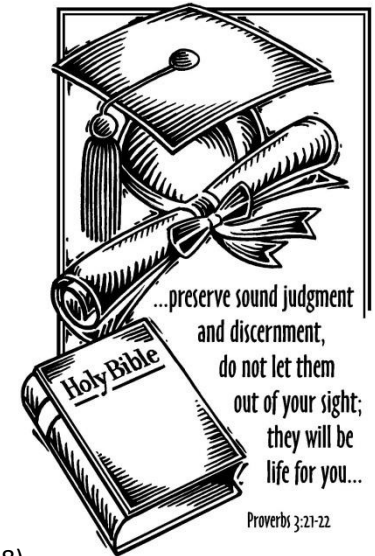
Education is essential to helping students prepare for life in the world in which they live. We do not think lightly of that. But we suggest on the basis of God's Word that the most important responsibility of education is to help students prepare for the life which is to come and while they are so preparing to live their life as children of God to the glory of God. For that reason the first major objective of Christian education in the *home, the church, the Christian Day School and our high schools* is to give the students confidence of their salvation through the love of their Savior, for at the end

of the road there are two possibilities, the living death of judgment in hell, or the living joy of bliss in the presence of God. Since they must, at least in the high school years, attend school, we unapologetically promote our Lutheran high school and college because they are a safe theological and social environment in which young people can continue their education in the high school years, and determine their future direction in college if they are still uncertain as to the vocation the Lord has in store for them. Education in our Christian schools does not displace or replace the education that is given in faithful Christian homes. It does assist the parents in strengthening the spiritual roots of young people who as they mature and leave the home must face the contrary winds of false teaching and social upheaval that undermines the sanctified life in Christ.

As students leave the campus of Immanuel at their graduation they go with the exhortation to continue in the things they have learned, and with the united prayer of fellow Christians that the Lord will bless them in their endeavors, as well as guide and protect them in the faith.

To all graduates who at their confirmation confessed their faith in Jesus, and whose hope of heaven is established upon the firm word and promise of the Lord, we leave this word from your Father in heaven. Who in Christ Jesus has redeemed you for heaven ...

My son, do not forget my law,
But let your heart keep my commands;
For length of days and long life
And peace they will add to you.
Let not mercy and truth forsake you;
Bind them around your neck,
Write them on the tablet of your heart,
And so find favor and high esteem
In the sight of God and man.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.
Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the Lord and depart from evil.
It will be health to your flesh,
And strength to your bones (Proverbs 3:1-8).



By Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 5/2015