

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Frank Radichel

Ushers: Benno Sydow; Gary Gunther; Larry Nelson; Bill Rust; Jeff Stifter

Counting Team 2: Gary Gunther; Rick Nelson; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker

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

Church Cleaners: Wales School: Kanneh

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Benno Sydow; Gary Gunther; Larry Nelson; Bill Rust; Jeff Stifter

Counting Team 3: Brian Eichstadt; Phil Flesner; Chad Hestekin; Benno Sydow

Hospitality Team 2: Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Janelle Hein; Jenny Kleifgen; Chris Lentz

Church Cleaners: Any Volunteers? School: Kanneh

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., Nov. 20:** 9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service  
11:00 am – Hospitality

**Wed., Nov. 23:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Thanksgiving Break Begins  
4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Worship Service

**Thu., Nov. 24:** **THANKSGIVING DAY**  
9:00 am – Thanksgiving Day Worship Service @ Berea

**Sun., Nov. 27:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 1)  
11:00 am – Hospitality

**Fri., Dec. 2:** Grace School Field Trip for “Peter and the Wolf”

**Sun., Dec. 4, 11:** 12:00-2:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal

**Wed., Dec. 7, 14:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship

**Sun., Dec. 11:** 3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital

**Fri., Dec. 16:** 2:00 pm – CDS Northtown Mall Concert  
7:30 pm – ILC Christmas Concert

**Sun., Dec. 18:** 8:45 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal; 12:00 Council Meeting

**Wed., Dec. 21:** 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Dinner  
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship

**Sat., Dec. 24:** 6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Worship

**Sun., Dec. 25:** 10:00 am – Christmas Day Worship

**Sat., Dec. 31:** New Year’s Eve (No Worship)

## *Grace Lutheran Church & School*



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: [www.JustifiedByGrace.org](http://www.JustifiedByGrace.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:** Last Sunday

**Date:** November 20, 2016

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### Hymns:

TLH 396: Oh, for a Faith That Will Not Shrink

CDS – TLH 36: Now Thank We All Our God

TLH 410: Jesus, Lead Thou On

TLH 614: For Thee, O Dear, Dear Country

TLH 660: I’m But a Stranger Here

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalms 33, TLH p. 131

### Liturgy:

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)

Gloria: TLH 570:1,8

### Scripture Reading:

Genesis 15:1-6

Luke 12:32-40

### Sermon: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. ... <sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; <sup>10</sup> for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God. <sup>11</sup> By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as *many* as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore. <sup>13</sup> These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. <sup>14</sup> For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. <sup>15</sup> And truly if they had called to mind that *country* from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

**“Faith: Our ‘Static Cling’ to  
Our Heavenly Home”**

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Thanksgiving Service:** The Psalmist cries out: "Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!" (Psalm 107:15). We have an opportunity to do this on Thanksgiving Eve, Wed., Nov. 23, 7 pm. Join your fellow Christians in bringing and singing thanks!
- ◆ **Poinsettias:** There is a signup sheet for Christmas Poinsettias by the guest book at the church entry. If anyone would like to purchase a plant for church, please indicate it by signing your name and plant information on the sheet. For questions, please contact Jackie Radichel.
- ◆ **Midweek Advent Services:** On Wed., Dec. 7, 14, and 21, at 7 pm. Our last midweek service on Dec. 21 will be our annual candlelight service preceded by the congregational Christmas meal at 6 pm.
- ◆ **Christmas Meal:** Please join us for a fellowship meal at 6 pm prior to the Candlelight service on December 21. Those attending may bring sandwiches, salads, or a dish to share.
- ◆ **Christmas Eve Service:** This is the rehearsal schedule:
  - Sun., Dec. 4: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
  - Sun., Dec. 11: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start a bit early)
  - Sun., Dec. 18: 8:45-9:45 am (please be here at 8:45 am so that we can start promptly in order to get through everything)December is a busy month, but please remember the importance of these rehearsals for a successful Christmas Eve service. It is quite helpful for the children to know their individual parts by the first rehearsal, grade level parts by second rehearsal, and entire children parts by the third rehearsal. The three "Luke 2" parts are all together as a group. Parents are encouraged not to have your children formally memorize Luke 2, but to simply say it with the children once or twice a day. By the time Christmas Eve comes around, they will know these well. Each child should attend at least 2 sessions, but attending all is obviously the most preferable. The last rehearsal on December 18 is the most critical as it is the dress rehearsal. The children have a wonderful opportunity to express the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ. The parents' help is greatly appreciated to make everything go well, as is evident by how well things have gone the past few years.
- ◆ **Christmas Worship:** Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 6:00 pm with our children presenting the Christmas Gospel. The theme this year is: *This Is Most Certainly True!* The kids are asked to be here 1/2 hour prior to the service so that we can take a group picture and run through things. Christmas Day worship will be held at 10:00 am.
- ◆ **ILC Recital:** The ILC Piano/Organ Recital will be held on Sun., Dec. 11, at 3:00 p.m. in the ILC Fieldhouse.
- ◆ **ILC Christmas Concert:** Immanuel's Christmas concert this year will be held on Fri., Dec. 16, 7:30 pm, at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. There is a signup list by the guestbook should you like to ride the bus to the concert.

- ◆ **Northtown Concert:** This year the Grace School children will be singing at the Northtown Mall on Thu., Dec. 16, 2 pm.
- ◆ **2017 Cleaning:** The 2017 cleaning sign-up list is now posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider signing up.
- ◆ **Parking Reminder:** For those members who are able, please park further away to permit those with physical impairments to be able to park closer to the church.
- ◆ **Parking Lot:** To make a contribution toward replacing this, write in "Parking Lot" on one of the Project lines of your offering envelope.
- ◆ **Liberia:** To make a contribution to the work in Liberia, write in "Liberia" on one of the Project lines of your offering envelope.
- ◆ **Address:** Andrea & John Dahl; 2729 Noel Dr.; Little Canada, MN 55117
- ◆ **From the Elders:** All loose offerings collected during December will be distributed equally among the congregation's called workers.
- ◆ **CLC Youth Camp at ILC:** Counselor applications for CLC Youth Camp 2017 are now open! The Youth Camp will be held at the ILC Campus in Eau Claire, WI, from June 18-24 this year. The link to the form and other important information can be found on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/summeryouthcamp](http://www.facebook.com/summeryouthcamp). Or, if you don't have Facebook, email us at [youthcamp.clc@gmail.com](mailto:youthcamp.clc@gmail.com) and we will send you the link. We are also looking for kitchen staff, and anyone who is interested in helping can email us. Thank you!
- ◆ **2017 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal:** Plans are underway for the CLC Mission Helper Trip to Nepal in July. More information can be found at: [www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/2017-nepal](http://www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/2017-nepal).
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Todd Ohlmann of Faith Lutheran in Manchester, MO (St. Louis area) has accepted the call to become the full time CLC Visiting Missionary. ✠ Foreign Missionary Matthew Ude has accepted the call to Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI. ✠ Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ, has returned the call to Zion Lutheran in Lawrenceville, GA (Atlanta area). Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran in Saginaw, MI, has now received this call. ✠ Pastor David Baker of Our Redeemer's Lutheran in Red Wing, MN, has returned the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran in Grand Rapids, MI. ✠ Pastor Luke Bernthal of Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran in Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Lutheran in White River, SD, has received the call to St. Stephen Lutheran in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco area) and St. Stephen Lutheran in Hayward, CA (Oakland area). ✠ Teacher Doug Libby of Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN, has received a one-year call to serve as part-time pastor at Living Savior in Eden Prairie. ✠ Pastor Timothy Wheaton of Living Word Lutheran in Blue Springs, MO (Kansas City area) has received the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran in Grand Rapids, MI.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #9 – Seventh Commandment



## From the CLC Board of Missions

### CLC Missionary Call / Commissioning Service

In a September call meeting of the Board of Missions chaired by our CLC President, Michael Eichstadt, a call was issued to Pastor Todd Ohlmann to become our CLC Visiting Missionary. After six weeks of prayerful deliberation, Pastor Ohlmann accepted that call. For this we give praise and thanks to the Lord of the harvest. Pastor Ohlmann will begin his service as CLC Missionary on January 1, 2017. We invite members of CLC congregations to attend a Commissioning service for Missionary Ohlmann at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, Wisconsin on Monday, January 2, 2017 at 7:00pm.

As presented to our CLC Convention this summer, this call is unlike previous CLC Missionary calls. Missionary Ohlmann will be stationed here in the United States (the Ohlmann's plan to remain in the St. Louis area), but will spend approximately 6 months each year making regular visitations to our sister church bodies and developing contacts in foreign fields. In the months that he is stateside his duties will include visits to domestic subsidized congregations, correspondence with foreign affiliates and new contacts, continuing development of the Online Theological Studies website, assisting with the CLC Mission Helper Program, attending Board of Missions meetings in an advisory capacity, guest preaching, attending area delegate conferences, and any other opportunities the Board of Missions deems appropriate and necessary.

The Board of Missions will be holding a special meeting on January 2-3, and working through Pastor Ohlmann's transition as chairman of the Board of Missions to serving the Board in an advisory capacity.

We rejoice in the opportunities that are before us as a church body, and give thanks to the Lord for providing this new worker in the harvest of souls. We ask for your prayers on behalf of Missionary Ohlmann and his family as they continue their service to their Lord and ours in this new way. May the Lord's name be hallowed, His Kingdom come, and His will done!



**Church of the Lutheran Confession**

Dedicated to proclaiming the Good News of Christ crucified for sinners.

## PRAISE THE LORD, ALL YOU WHO TRUST IN HIM

Israel was sorely oppressed in the land of Egypt. But the Lord heard their prayers. By the hand of Moses, He delivered them from the oppression. Upon the deliverance from Egypt, Moses and the children of Israel sang a song of praise and thanksgiving. (Exodus 15: 1-18). The words of Moses and Israel were echoed by Isaiah to Judah in face of its impending woe:

"And in that day you will say: 'O LORD, I will praise You; Though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me. Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, <sup>(1)</sup> the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.'" Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:1-3).

Isaiah (Jehovah is salvation) prophesied in Judah which was being threatened by Syria and Israel. Ahaz was told that the Lord God would help Judah, but the king spurned the Lord's help and turned instead to the heathen nation of Assyria. This was clearly a rejection of the covenant God. Consequently, God's punishment would fall upon Judah. It is in this context that the Lord gave the prophecy of the Messiah Who would be born of the virgin (Isaiah 7:14), and would bring an everlasting peace to the people of God.

At the time that Isaiah wrote these words, Judah's punishment still lay ahead. As it turned out, the very people to whom Ahaz turned for deliverance, were used by the Lord as a scourge to punish Judah for its unbelief. The punishment began with the invasion of Sennacherib, king of Assyria. By the grace of God, Sennacherib was defeated by Hezekiah, the son and successor of Ahaz.

During the difficult days, Judah could hark back to the previous history of the deliverance from Egypt and find assurance in the promise of the Heavenly Father. Yes, there is a price to pay for sin. God is not mocked. Judah had to suffer the chastisement and discipline of the Lord. It was not laid upon them in anger, but as an exercise of divine love to rescue them from destruction. But the chastisement was not in measure according to what they deserved. "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities" (Psalm 103:8-10). Consequently, like unto Israel delivered from Egypt, those delivered from the Assyrians would have reason to sing.

In the 5<sup>th</sup> petition of the Lord's Prayer we confess, "We daily sin much and indeed deserve nothing but punishment." Individually and collectively, we deserve only the wrath of God, in time and in eternity. All Scripture is written for our learning. As we wrestle with our own sin, living in an evil and corrupt world, the Lord finds it necessary also to send chastisement our way. While the world rebels against the Lord and mocks Him, and says to the child of God, "Where is your God?" God's children, believing the promise, know that God's chastisement has a loving purpose, for whom the Lord loves He chastens. "Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it" (Hebrews 12:11).

As we go to the Lord in a spirit of confession and mourning, the Lord has compassion. In the promised Messiah, the promised Redeemer, we have the promise of deliverance. Through faith in Christ, we find deliverance from fear. We find peace and deliverance in the promises of the Lord, and in the glorious final deliverance at the day of judgment. Salvation is a gift of God, the ultimate expression of God's love; it comes through Christ Jesus, the Son of God. In the promises of the Lord God, and in the proffered salvation, the penitent and trembling sinner has reason to hope in God.

The promises of our Lord move the troubled heart to draw "water from the wells of salvation." In the nourishing refreshing waters of salvation, the Holy Scriptures, the heart is made joyful. Blessed are all who drink deeply, and often from the well.

The world mocks and ridicules us as it will. But as is evident even in these days, the mockers wring their hands; they cry in the streets, they curse God and man. They live in fear of tomorrow, and of eternity. They find nothing to alleviate anxiety, fear, and hopelessness.

On the other hand, while the children of God cannot predict tomorrow, we can confidently view the future--our future lies in the hand of the Lord Who has left us with witness from the past, and assures us of the future: "For a mere moment I have forsaken you, but with great mercies I will gather you. With a little wrath I hid My face from you, but with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer" (Isaiah 54:7-8). He promises us further that though the mountains and hills be removed, His kindness shall not depart from us (Isaiah 54:10).

As we wait for the blessed day of deliverance from sin and the power of the devil, we live in confident hope. Our Savior Who took our sins upon Himself and Who has borne our punishment graciously has promised to take all who believe in Him to heaven where He is. Delivered from sin and the evils of this world, we can join in the ancient song:

"Praise the LORD, call upon His name; Declare His deeds among the peoples, make mention that His name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for He has done excellent things; This is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst" (Isaiah 12: 4-6).

"Thus this wonderful hymn, modeled after so many psalms of praise in the Old Testament, especially that sung upon the delivery of the children of Israel at the hands of Pharaoh, sets forth the joy of the redeemed of the Lord, of the Church Triumphant, when entering upon the blessings of eternal redemption."<sup>(2)</sup>

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 11/2016

1) Jehovah, God

2) Kretzmann, Paul-- *Popular Commentary of the Bible*, OT Vol II, CPH, St. Louis, 1924

## Council Meeting Notes – November 13, 2016

The meeting was called to order with a prayer. Roll was taken. The October council meeting minutes were read and approved as amended. The October treasurer's report was read and approved.

### Board of Trustees Report

- A light was installed on the east side of the building. Another will be installed by the front door.
- Other maintenance items were mentioned.
- Going to check into other companies for property insurance.

### Pastor's Report

- Reported on Liberia visit.

### Board of Elders Report

- No report.

### Board of Education Report

- Another 7th grade student has started at Grace.
- December 2 is the next field trip.
- Research is being performed regarding school tuition rates.

Adapted from minutes by Secretary Roger Ochsner

**Last Week's Stats:** Nov. 13, 2016 Sun.: 98 S.S.: 11 B.Cl.: 39 Wed.: 22

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,062.50	CLC:	\$665.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-1,237.50	CLC:	-335.00
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$132,715.48	CLC:	\$40,276.84
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	151,800.00	CLC:	46,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-19,084.52	CLC:	-5,723.16
GLC Other: 161.10	Living Faith:	10.00	Tuition Aid:	200.00
SAF Endowment: 0.00	MDF:	110.00	Kinship:	55.00
ILC Student Aid: 25.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	18,640.25	Tuition Aid:	959.62

**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 the Pastor. He would be delighted to visit with you!**

A severe struggle is required to hold to the Word in spite of what we feel and see.

We must learn to cling to the Word alone even though God acts with all creatures in a manner different from that recorded of Him in the Word. But, alas, how it hurts nature and reason so utterly to divest themselves of everything and to forsake all they feel and simply to cling to the bare Word, when they actually feel like doing the very opposite! God help us in times of trouble and at death to have such courage and faith. — Martin Luther (What Luther Says, ¶1437, 1438)