

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Ryan Mueller      Elder: Al Rosendahl  
Ushers: Larry Brandt; Nick Duehlmeier; Dale Enns; Duane Enns; Ned Sandhoefner  
Counting Team 4: James Bomber; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust  
Hospitality Team 6: Alex & Bonnie Baker, Kevin & Tracy Baker; Phil & Rona Flesner  
Church Cleaners: Anderson      School: Wales

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Larry Brandt; Nick Duehlmeier; Dale Enns; Duane Enns; Ned Sandhoefner  
Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Pat Paplow; Phil Radichel  
Hospitality Team 7: Jan Davis, Chad & Amanda Hestekin; Ryan & Mikey Oman; Eli & Laura Wales  
Church Cleaners: Anderson      School: Baker

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

**Sun., Feb. 26:** 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Transfiguration)  
11:15 am – Hospitality  
2:30 pm – Evangelism Seminar @ Eau Claire, WI

**Wed., Mar. 1:** Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins  
4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students  
6:00 pm – Soup Supper  
7:00 pm – Midweek Lenten Worship w/Lord's Supper

**Sun., Mar. 5:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class  
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Lent 1)  
11:15 am – Hospitality

**March 10-12:** Grade School Basketball Tournament for CLC Youth

**Sun., Mar. 19:** 7:00 pm – Immanuel Tour Choir Concert

**Fri., Apr. 7:** 7:00 pm – Grace Student Fair (Music theme)

**Sun., Apr. 9:** **PALM SUNDAY**

**Thu., Apr. 13:** **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**Fri., Apr. 14:** **GOOD FRIDAY**  
7:00 pm – Good Friday Worship

**Sun., Apr. 16:** **EASTER** (S.S., Bible Class, Hospitality Suspended)  
7:30 am – Easter Breakfast  
9:00 am – Easter Festival Worship

**Sun., May 21:** Confirmation Sunday

## Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

Email: [jphein@clclutheran.com](mailto:jphein@clclutheran.com)

Home Page: [www.JustifiedByGrace.org](http://www.JustifiedByGrace.org)

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

**School Phone:** 763-784-6340

**Church Year:** Transfiguration

**Phone:** 763-784-8784

**Grades:** Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>

**Date:** February 26, 2017

## ✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

### **Hymns:**

WS 719: Jesus on the Mountain Peak  
S.S. - TLH 37: Lord Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee  
TLH 135: 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here  
WS 720: Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair  
WS 738: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### **Worship Prep:**

Psalm 148, TLH p. 156 f.

### **Liturgy:**

TLH, p. 5 (Projected)  
Gloria: TLH 19:1

### **Scripture Reading:**

Exodus 24:12, 15-18  
2 Peter 1:16-21

### **Sermon: Matthew 17:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; <sup>2</sup> and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" <sup>6</sup> And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. <sup>9</sup> Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead." (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

## A Glimpse of Heavenly Glory

1. For Christ
2. For Us

## ✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

◆ **Midweek Lenten Services:** Our midweek services will begin this Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, March 1, 7 pm. Our theme is "Christ, Our Great High Priest," meditations based on various sections from the Book of Hebrews. These midweek services can deepen our appreciation of the redemptive work our Savior, Jesus Christ, accomplished in our behalf.



◆ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** These fellowship gatherings start this Wednesday, 6 pm, as a way for people to eat between work and worship. There is a sign-up sheet for soup in the fellowship hall.

◆ **Immanuel Tour Choir:** Grace is hosting the Immanuel Tour Choir for an evening concert at 7 pm, Sunday, March 19. This year's tour (March 10-19) will be going west to Washington. To support the choir's trip, you may designate "Tour Choir" on your offering. Dorcas Guild committee #2 will be hosting a meal for the choir beforehand. Please speak with Heidi Nelson about coordinating food for this meal. Following the concert there will be a time to fellowship with the choir and visitors. All members are invited to bring a dessert to share.

◆ **CLC Grade School Tourney:** The schedule is now finalized for the grade school basketball tournament held at Immanuel in Eau Claire, WI. This is available at: [www.clclutheran.net/tourney/](http://www.clclutheran.net/tourney/). Grace has two players playing with Berea of Inver Grove Hts. Here is their schedule:

- Fri., Mar. 10, 12:00 pm: IGH A (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade) vs. Eau Claire A1
- Fri., Mar. 10, 1:00 pm: IGH B (5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade) vs. Markesan B
- Fri., Mar. 10, 9:00 pm: IGH A vs. Markesan A
- Sat., Mar. 11, 3:30 pm: IGH B vs. Eau Claire B3
- Sat., Mar. 11, 4:30 pm: IGH A vs. Eau Claire A3
- Sun., Mar. 12, 3:00 pm: IGH B vs. Eau Claire B2

◆ **Evangelism Workshop:** Messiah Lutheran of Eau Claire is sponsoring an Evangelism Workshop today at 2:30 pm. We will be hearing and discussing how the truths which were brought to light once more in the Lutheran Reformation are the same truths that save today. The workshop will be followed by a chili supper at 5:30 pm.

◆ **Youth Camp:** Camp (and Pre-Camp) registration will open on Sun., March 19, 2 pm. You can register online at [youthcamp.clclutheran.net](http://youthcamp.clclutheran.net). The website should be updated within the next month and be ready for registration on that date. The Theme for this year's camp is "Back to the Future," thanking God for the Reformation 500 years and beyond. Camp will run from June 18-24 this year and will cost \$135 per camper. The camp will be for grades 6-9 this year. However, we have decided to add 5<sup>th</sup> graders to the Pre-Camp program. Pre-Camp will be \$60/camper. You can find more fairly up-to-date information about Pre-Camp on the website. Feel free to email any questions you have to us over at [youthcamp.clc@gmail.com](mailto:youthcamp.clc@gmail.com). Thanks! - Jonathan Gamble & Jocelyn Gamble

◆ **Ark Encounter/Creation Museum:** A trip has been scheduled for July 25-27 (Tue.-Thu) for seeing what the ark may have looked like first hand and to tour the Creation Museum in Kentucky. Full details, discounted blocked hotel rooms, and combo tickets may be found by going to <https://goo.gl/forms/m7LI28VJJXwPnQEh2> or emailing [nealradichel@gmail.com](mailto:nealradichel@gmail.com).

◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Paul Nolting of Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN, has accepted the call to the Tri-parish: Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE; Peace Lutheran in Mission, SD; and St. Paul's Lutheran in White River, SD. ✠ Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran in Vernon, BC, has received the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran in Lemmon, SD. ✠ Pastor John Schierenbeck of Immanuel Lutheran in Winter Haven, FL, has indicated his intention to retire from the public ministry in June. ✠ Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer of Trinity Lutheran in Spokane, WA, has received the call to Immanuel Lutheran of Winter Haven, FL. ✠ Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Lutheran in Dallas, TX, has returned the call to Mt. Zion Lutheran in Madison Heights, MI.

◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #17 – Second Article, Part 2.

**Last Week's Stats:** Feb. 19, 2017 Sun.: 120 S.S.: ?? B.Cl.: 40

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,804.40	CLC:	\$805.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	950.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-495.60	CLC:	-145.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$24,814.48	CLC:	\$6,767.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	26,400.00	CLC:	7,600.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,585.52	CLC:	-833.00	
GLC Other:	164.75	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	156.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	50.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	105.00	ILC Bldg.	100.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot: 21,060.25		Tuition Aid: 132.12*		
* \$1,000/each was sent to Immanuel for the 3 Grace students in the high school.					

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



# 2017 ILC Tour Choir Itinerary



Sunday, March 5	<b>Millston, WI</b> Trinity Lutheran Church W6634 Railroad Street	10:00 am
Saturday, March 11	<b>Bowdle, SD</b> Redeemer Lutheran Church 8074 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	3:00 pm
Saturday, March 11	<b>Lemmon, SD</b> St. Luke's Lutheran Church 208 11 <sup>th</sup> Street East	7:00 pm
Monday, March 13	<b>Spokane Valley, WA</b> Gethsemane Lutheran Church 11315 East Broadway Avenue	7:00 pm
Tuesday, March 14	<b>Clarkston, WA</b> St. John's Lutheran Church 1107 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 15	<b>Tacoma, WA</b> Ascension Lutheran Church 4501 Waller Road East	3:00 pm
Wednesday, March 15	<b>Lynnwood, WA</b> Redemption Lutheran Church 20120 24 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West	7:00 pm
Thursday, March 16	<b>Spokane, WA</b> Trinity Lutheran Church 4704 North Wall Street	7:00 pm
Saturday, March 18	<b>Bismarck, ND</b> St. Paul Lutheran Church 2510 East Divide Avenue	7:30 pm
Sunday, March 19	<b>Jamestown, ND</b> Our Savior's Lutheran Church 325 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast	10:00 am
Sunday, March 19	<b>Fridley, MN</b> Grace Lutheran Church 460 75 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 26	<b>Eau Claire, WI</b> Messiah Lutheran Church 2015 N. Hastings Way	6:30 pm

## THE ETERNAL SANCTUARY CITY

We are hearing more and more of sanctuary cities in the whole immigration brou-ha-ha in this country. It appears the issue is and will continue to be a source of irritation and political grandstanding for some time to come.

The concept of a sanctuary city is found in Christian history. Jesus had prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem (Luke 23:28-31). In AD 65, the Romans threatened the city. They retreated in the face of a Jewish rebellion. Under another Roman leader, the Romans regrouped and advanced on Jerusalem. Of this occurrence, Josephus (37-100), the Jewish historian (not a Christian) says, "without any reason in the world" Cestius withdrew his troops and departed." At this occurrence believers fled Jerusalem. Eusebius (325), the Greek historian and Christian polemicist wrote, "But the people of the church in Jerusalem had been commanded by a revelation, vouchsafed to approved men there before the war, to leave the city and to dwell in a certain town of Perea called Pella." (History of the Church 3:5:3) ... "The whole body, however, of the church at Jerusalem, having been commanded by a divine revelation, given to men of approved piety there before the war, removed from the city, and dwelt at a certain town beyond the Jordan, called Pella. ... For when the city was about to be captured and sacked by the Romans, all the disciples were warned beforehand by an angel to remove from the city." Christ's prophecy came to pass in AD 70. The marvelous escape of the Christians occurred by the grace and direction of the Lord.

In light of today's sanctuary city debate, we are interested in the spiritual application of the concept, one far removed from the distortion of politics and pious do-goodism. We look at it from three Scriptural perspectives.

Eden was the perfect home created for Adam and Eve by God who interacted with Adam and Eve within it. As there was no defilement in Eden, we cannot begin to comprehend the beauty of it. Perhaps even more difficult to comprehend is the love and grace of God that moved Him to rescue Adam and Eve and their offspring from the consequences of their sin that ruined them and robbed them of their garden paradise.

The Father by promise and ultimately by fulfillment promised them safety. It was in the arms of the Savior Jesus Christ, Who through His suffering and death in the sinner's place endured sin's consequence, and by His resurrection restored life. The Lord Jesus reconciled mankind to the Father. He restored peace between the offenders and the Offended. Furthermore, by His Spirit He brought us to faith, promising that there is now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit (Romans 8:1).

The Spirit invites us day by day to find security, safety, and peace in the Savior. "Our Savior Jesus Christ ... has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Timothy 1:10).

*“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heaven laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls”* (Matthew 11:28).

“The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever” (Psalm 23).

“The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe” (Proverbs 18:10).

Our blessed Savior is our sanctuary, our place of safety, our defense from the stormy blasts. The risen Lord says, “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you. ... Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (John 14:27).

Sanctuary, in its original meaning, is a sacred place. By extension the term has come to be used for any place of safety. Consequently, Christ-believers delight to be where peace, rest, and security are found. For daily life in this darkened and fallen world we have a place of security. We have it each time we read the Word of our Lord. Each Sunday and in each worship service as we gather around the Word and Sacrament, we are blessed with peace, rest, and security.

“I was glad when they said to me, ‘let us go into the house of the Lord’” (Psalm 122:1).

“Lord, I have loved the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells” (Psalm 26:8).

“For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness” (Psalm 84:10).

“Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely the Lord is in this place and, I did not know it.’ And he was afraid and said, ‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven’” (Genesis 28:16-17).



Upon Jacob’s flight from Esau he had an encounter with the Lord. The place where had his dream of the ladder that reached to heaven, at the top of which was the Lord, he called Bethel (House of God). Being in the house of God where the Lord speaks to us through His gospel Word, we can for that moment, at least, shut out the raucous noise and ugly racket, as well as the vulgarity of the world. Immersed in the Word of God we are in a safe place. Christ-believers who recognize that there is no real peace and no abiding happiness without Christ, are thankful for the opportunity to draw near to God Who promises to draw near to them (James 4:8). Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord” (2 Timothy 1:2).

We find peace, rest, and security in Christ, the living Word and in His house where He speaks to us and hears our prayers. “Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it” (Luke 11:28). How blessed we are to have the promise, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest” (Exodus 33:14). “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace” (Numbers 6: 24-26).

The peace, rest, and security that we have in Christ now, and in His house “which is the gate of heaven” where His Word is taught is but a precursor of the eternal and undisturbed peace, rest, and security that every Christ-believer will have in heaven.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal” (Matthew 6:19-20).

“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God” (Hebrews 4:9).

“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors” (Revelation 14:13).

“Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Matthew 25:34).

“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away” (Revelation 21:4). “There shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life” (Revelation 21:27).

So, shall we ever be with the Lord. Home at last. At peace. At rest. Secure. In heaven, the eternal sanctuary city.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 2/2017