



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

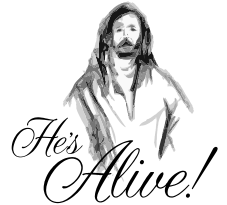
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763-784-8784

**Pastor:** John Hein  
**School Phone:** 763-784-6340  
**Church Year:** Easter

**Organists:** Sue Nelson  
**Grades:** Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup>  
**Date:** April 16, 2017

**Welcome** to our Festival Easter Service. Easter is one of the oldest of the Christian festivals and the most joyous to all those who are well grounded in faith and the knowledge of Jesus Christ. The Christians of apostolic times were often in sadness because they were repeatedly persecuted and in danger of losing their life. But on Easter Day they lifted up their heads; then they exhibited the air of triumph; they embraced each other, crying out to one another, "The Lord is Risen! He is Risen indeed!" This is the most blessed news in all the Gospel. He Who bled for our sins, Who for our guilt was laid in the tomb, cold and dead, He is risen from the dead. He is risen indeed and lives to die no more.



This is the true source of Christian joy supported by the very time of His resurrection. He was born in the night; in the night He was taken captive. When the sun was hiding in darkness He yielded up His soul. But when the sun was rising in the east, and a golden red hue painted the Eastern sky chasing away the shadows of night, then He broke forth from the grave. He threw off the shackles of death. He, the Son of Righteousness, arose with healing in His wings. The power of darkness and earth was broken. Christ was the Victor!

## † The Order of Easter Worship †

**Worship Preparation:** ..... *Psalm 30, TLH p. 129 f.*

### **Pre-Service Prayer:**

*Almighty God, I praise You for opening the gate of everlasting life to me, a sinner, through Jesus' victory over death. I pray, asking that You fill my heart, soul, and mind with unequaled joy as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection and to preserve that joy in me every day of my life. Amen.*

**Entrance:**..... *WS 733:1: The Joyful Eastertide*

*P: We begin our Easter Festival service in the name of our Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen. Our Savior, Jesus Christ ... He is risen!*

**C: He is risen indeed!**

**S.S. Children's Reading:** .....*Mark 16:1-8: The Resurrection Account*



Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary *the mother* of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first *day* of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples; and Peter; that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**S.S. Children:**..... *TLH 205: The Day of Resurrection*

**Opening Hymn:** ..... *TLH 191: Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!*

**Note:** Everyone sings unless noted otherwise.

**1. Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!**

**Christians, haste your vows to pay; Alleluia!**

**Offer ye your praises meet Alleluia!**

**At the Paschal Victim's feet. Alleluia!**

**2. For the sheep the Lamb hath bled,**

**Sinless in the sinners' stead.**

**"Christ is ris'n" today we cry;**

**Now He lives no more to die.**

**3. Christ, the Victim undefiled,**

**God and man hath reconciled.**

**While in strange and awefull strife**

**Met together Death and Life.**

4. [*Note: Women only*]

Christians, on this happy day

Haste with joy your vows to pay.

"Christ is ris'n," today we cry;

Now He lives no more to die.

5. [*Note: Men only*]

Christ, who once for sinners bled,

Now the First-born from the dead,

Throned in endless might and power,

Lives and reigns forevermore.

**6. Hail, eternal hope on high!**

**Hail, Thou King of victory!**

**Hail, Thou Prince of Life adored!**

**Help and save us, gracious Lord.**

## **Responsive Readings: ..... Based on "From the Dead" Passages & TLH 188**

*P: [Acts 13:30-33] God raised Him from the dead. ... And we declare to you glad tidings -- that promise which was made to the fathers.*

**C: God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus.**

*P: [Luke 24:46-47] Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,*

**C: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**

*P: [Colossians 2:12-13] You were buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him ...*

**C: through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.**

*P: And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh,*

**C: He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,**

*P: [1 Peter 1:3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

**C: Who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

**SING: Hallelujah! Jesus lives!  
He is now the living One;  
From the gloomy house of death  
Forth the Conqueror has gone,  
Bright Forerunner to the skies  
Of His people yet to rise.**

*P: [Acts 17:31] ... God has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained.*

**C: He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.**

*P: [Romans 4:24-25] Righteousness shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead,*

**C: Who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.**



*P: [Romans 6:13] And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin,*

**C: but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.**

*P: [Romans 6:4] Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death,*

**C: That just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

**SING: Jesus lives! Let all rejoice;  
Praise Him, ransomed ones of earth.  
Praise Him in a nobler song,  
Cherubim of heav'nly birth.  
Praise the Victor-King, whose sway  
Sin and death and hell obey.**

*P: [Romans 6:8-9] Now if we died with Christ,*

**C: We believe that we shall also live with Him,**

*P: ... knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more.*

**C: Death no longer has dominion over Him.**

*P: [Romans 8:11] But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,*

**C: He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

*P: [1 Corinthians 15:20] But now Christ is risen from the dead,*

**C: And has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

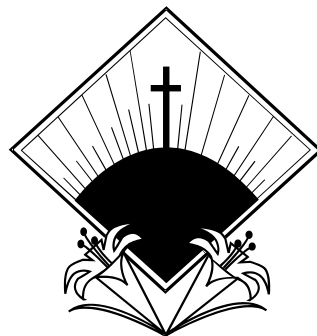
*P: [1 Thessalonians 1:10] And you wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead,*

**C: Even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.**

*P: [Colossians 1:18] And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,*

**C: That in all things He may have the preeminence.**

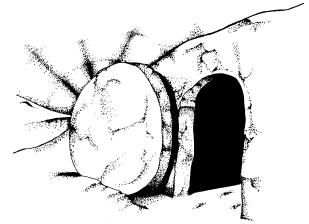
**SING: Jesus lives! And thus, my soul,  
Life eternal waits for thee;  
Joined to Him, thy living Head,  
Where He is, thou, too, shalt be;  
With Himself, at His right hand,  
Victor over death shalt stand.**



**First Reading:** ..... *John 20:1-9*

(1) Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. (2) Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." (3) Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. (4) So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. (5) And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. (6) Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, (7) and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. (8) Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. (9) For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.

**SING: Jesus lives! To Him my heart  
Draws with ever new delight.  
Earthly vanities, depart,  
Hinder not my heavenward flight.  
Let this spirit ever rise  
To its magnet in the skies.**



**Second Reading:** ..... *John 20:10-18*

(10) Then the disciples went away again to their own homes. (11) But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. (12) And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. (13) Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." (14) Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. (15) Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." (16) Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher). (17) Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'" (18) Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

**SING: Jesus lives! Why weepst thou?  
Why that sad and frequent sigh?  
He who died our Brother here  
Lives our Brother still on high,  
Lives forever to bestow  
Blessings on His Church below.**

**Third Reading:**..... *John 20:19-20*

(19) Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." (20) When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

**SING: Hallelujah, angels sing!**  
**Join us in our hymn of praise;**  
**Let your chorus swell the strain**  
**Which our feebler voices raise:**  
**Glory to our God above**  
**And on earth His peace and love!**

**Fourth Reading:** ..... *Romans 6:1-11*

(1) What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? (2) Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (3) Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? (4) Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, (6) knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. (7) For he who has died has been freed from sin. (8) Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, (9) knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. (10) For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. (11) Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**CDS Children's Hymn:**..... *TLH 198: He's Risen, He's Risen*

**5: [Congregation]**  
**Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice;**  
**Proclaim the blest tidings that all may rejoice.**  
**Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain,**  
**Who sitteth in glory and ever shall reign.**

**Confession of Faith:** ..... *Apostolic Creed*

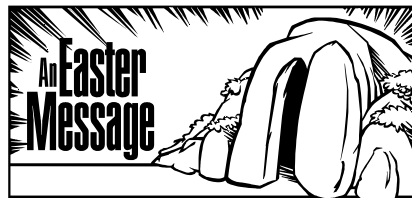
**C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right of God the Father almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn:** ..... *TLH 193: Christ the Lord is Risen Today!*

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| <p><b>1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n today,"<br/>Sons of men and angels say.<br/>Raise your joys and triumphs high;<br/>Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.</b></p> <p><b>3. [Women only]</b><br/>Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;<br/>Christ has burst the gates of hell.<br/>Death in vain forbids His rise;<br/>Christ has opened Paradise.</p> <p><b>5. Soar we now where Christ has led,<br/>Following our exalted Head.<br/>Made like Him, like Him we rise;<br/>Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.</b></p> | <p><b>2. Love's redeeming work is done,<br/>Fought the fight, the battle won.<br/>Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er;<br/>Lo, He sets in blood no more.</b></p> <p><b>4. [Men only]</b><br/>Lives again our glorious King;<br/>Where, O Death, is now thy sting?<br/>Once He died our souls to save;<br/>Where thy victory, O Grave?</p> <p><b>6. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!<br/>Praise to Thee by both be given!<br/>Thee we greet triumphant now:<br/>Hail, the Resurrection Thou!</b></p> |
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**Easter Sermon:**..... *Ephesians 1:15-23*

(15) Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, (16) do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: (17) that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, (18) the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, (19) and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power (20) which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, (21) far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. (22) And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, (23) which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.



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## **Christ is Raised OUT FROM the Dead!**

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**Sermon Response:** ..... *TLH 200:1-2: I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

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| <p>1. I know that my Redeemer lives;<br/>What comfort this sweet sentence gives!<br/>He lives, He lives, who once was dead;<br/>He lives, my ever-living Head.</p> | <p>2. He lives triumphant from the grave,<br/>He lives eternally to save,<br/>He lives all glorious in the sky,<br/>He lives exalted there on high.</p> |
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**Hymn:** ..... TLH 201:1-2,5: *Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won*

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| <p>1. <b>Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!</b><br/>Death no longer can appal me;<br/><b>Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!</b><br/>From the grave Christ will recall me.<br/><b>Brighter scenes will then commence;</b><br/><b>This shall be my confidence.</b></p> <p>5. <b>Jesus lives! and now is death</b><br/><b>But the gate of life immortal;</b><br/><b>This shall calm my trembling breath</b><br/><b>When I pass its gloomy portal.</b><br/><b>Faith shall cry, as fails each sense,</b><br/><b>Jesus is my confidence!</b></p> | <p>2. <b>Jesus lives! To Him the throne</b><br/><b>High o'er heav'n and earth is given.</b><br/><b>I shall go where He is gone,</b><br/><b>Live and reign with Him in heaven.</b><br/><b>God is faithful. Doubtings, hence!</b><br/><b>This shall be my confidence.</b></p> |
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*Alleluia!*

**Offering, Easter Prayer, and Lord's Prayer:**

**Choir:** ..... *Easter Carol*

**Easter Benediction:**

*P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.*

**C: [Sing] Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:** ..... TLH 199: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!*

**Note:** Everyone sings unless noted otherwise.

1. **Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!**  
**Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!**  
**Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!**  
**Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**
2. [*Note: Men only*]  
Hymns of praise, then, let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
3. [*Note: Women only*]  
But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured. Alleluia!  
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
4. **Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!**  
**Praise eternal as His love: Alleluia!**  
**Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!**  
**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**





**Welcome:** We welcome our visitors on this most joyous of Christian holidays. Please sign our guest register located by the entrance of the church. You are certainly welcome to talk with our Pastor to learn more about Grace Lutheran and what we believe Scripture teaches. We cordially invite you to come again, and please let us know how we may provide spiritual ministry to you!

## ✝ The Announcements ✝

- ◆ **Easter Greeting:** On this festival Easter day the Hein family would like to extend a greeting of a most blessed Easter to you. We also graciously thank those who have given their Easter greetings and extensions of kindness. As a family we are enjoying the companionship and the fellowship we share with you in Christ. May the Lord of Life grant you all a blessed Easter season! He is risen! - Pastor & Mrs. Hein and Family
- ◆ **Easter Thanks:** Thanks to all those who contributed to the gathering of Easter flowers in the church. Those who purchased flowers may pick them up following worship after consulting with Jackie Radichel. Another thanks to all who helped make the breakfast a special occasion.
- ◆ **Among Us:** Deb Ude, mother of Michael Ude, continues to deteriorate with her health, especially cognitively. Please keep her and the Ude family in your prayers.
- ◆ **Immanuel Visitors Day:** Students in grades 7 and up are invited to Immanuel Lutheran High School Visitor's Day in Eau Claire, WI, on Fri., April 28, 2017, starting at 8 am. Students will have an opportunity to experience firsthand what it would be like to attend Immanuel. Activities will include a campus tour, classroom experience, sports and co-curricular experience, Q & A time, team activities, band concert, and a play performance of Harvey. Speak with Pastor about your interest in this. You can also contact Prof. Joel Gullerud (715-544-8446/joel.gullerud@ilc.edu) for questions.
- ◆ **Financial Aid Applications:** Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary has a financial aid program that helps students to attend by assisting with loans, multi-student grants, college and seminary grants, and scholarships. While the scholarships are automatically applied based upon academic performance, these other items are provided upon application made by the responsible party. While in the past some have viewed the deadline as flexible, this has created problems managing the available funds which are particularly limited this year based upon recent reports. In order to be as helpful and as equitable to all, the Regents need to have these forms submitted by the deadline which is May 1, 2017, for the 2017-18 academic year. Late applications will not be considered. If any student is remotely considering Immanuel and needs financial assistance, it is recommended that an application be submitted by this deadline. The applications have been provided to the families of current students. If anyone needs an application, you may find them at [ilc.edu/resources/](http://ilc.edu/resources/), under the heading "Financial Assistance Forms & Info."
- ◆ **CLC News:** Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, MN, will be hosting a farewell service and meal for Pastor Paul Nolting on Sun., May 14 at its 9:30 am service. ✝ Pastor David Schaller of Redeemer Lutheran in Dowagiac, MI, has returned the call to Immanuel Lutheran in Winter Haven, FL. ✝ Pastor Neal Radichel of Luther Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI, has returned the call to Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN. ✝ Mr. Benjamin Hanel has received the call as high school Social Studies teacher at Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN. ✝ Teacher Paul Tiefel III of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to open the school at Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN. ✝ Teacher Ann Sprengeler of Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI, has returned the call to Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY.

# † Where the Risen Lord Has Gone †

Some of us stay at the cross,  
 some of us wait at the tomb,  
 Quickened and raised with Christ  
 yet lingering still in the gloom.  
 Some of us 'bide at the Passover feast  
 with Pentecost all unknown,  
 The triumphs of grace in the heavenly place  
 that our Lord has made His own.  
 If the Christ who died had stopped at the cross,  
 His work had been incomplete.  
 If the Christ who was buried had stayed in the tomb,  
 He had only known defeat,  
 But the way of the cross never stops at the cross  
 and the way of the tomb leads on  
 To victorious grace in the heavenly place  
 where the risen Lord has gone.



- Annie Johnson Flint

*But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.*

1 Corinthians 15:20-22



**Last Week's Stats:** Apr. 9, 2017 Sun.: 123 S.S.: 21 B.Cl.: 46 Fri.: 110

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,837.95	CLC:	\$700.00	
Fri. Offering:	Grace:	1,132.75	CLC:	250.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	950.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-329.30	CLC:	+0.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$50,826.92	CLC:	\$14,040.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	49,500.00	CLC:	14,250.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,326.92	CLC:	-210.00	
GLC Other:	476.54	Living Faith:	0.00	Tuition Aid:	190.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	65.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	20.00	ILC Bldg.	120.00	IIF: 0.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	22,974.25	Tuition Aid:	1,426.12	



# ✠ Easter Joy ✠

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, Who came to earth to save mankind,  
You perfectly fulfilled His will And saved us from our sin and shame.  
On this most precious holy day We worship You with joyful heart  
For you Who died have ris'n again.



Faith believes what reason cannot comprehend. "Faith is the substance [confidence, assurance] of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Luther said that faith does not explore the why and wherefore, and we would add the how, of what God has done. Faith trusts the word and promise of the Lord God.

The church properly speaking is the sum of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ through time. The union between Christ and the church is summed up succinctly in Scripture which says, "Christ is the head of the body, the Church ... (Colossians 1:18). Consequently when Jesus, the head, died on the cross so did the body, the church. Too deep to comprehend? Ask yourself, "Can a head die and the body live?" Not possible. Therefore believers through faith in Jesus died when He died. By the same token, "Can the head rise, and leave its members dead?" As believers died with Christ, likewise as members of His body they have also risen with Him. Too deep for us. We freely and unapologetically acknowledge that we are content to take the Lord at His word, and do not delve into the secret things of God. Nevertheless, what we believe is further confirmed in Scripture.

Colossians speaks of our being "*buried with Him* in baptism, in which you were *also raised with Him* through faith in the working of God Who raised Him from the dead" (Colossians 2:12). We believe Romans 6: "Do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin" (Romans 6:3-6). The reality of our union with Christ is the reality of blessings beyond measure, blessings to be enjoyed now while we wait for the regenerated being within us to put off the crate in which we are still packaged while we are on the earth. But death, the last enemy that confronts us, cannot hold us; for every believer in the Lord Jesus it has been turned into a plus, for it is the means of release from this evil world to the perfect life in heaven. As death has no dominion over Christ it has no dominion over us in that we are risen with Him. Jesus said, "And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die" (John 11:26). As one sainted professor said, "I don't plan to die."

We are the body, You the Head, So as You died, we died with You.  
And as You've risen from the dead We also are alive with You.  
The evil foe can harm us none, As now we wait for Your return  
To take us to our promised Home.

By our relationship to Christ sin no longer has dominion over us, that is, we are *not slaves* to sin. Crucified with Christ in baptism, we have been freed from sin (Romans 6:7). “The life that follows upon our death in baptism is a life of a new kind.” <sup>(1)</sup> The new life is manifested by walking in the newness of life that is reflective of the risen Christ with whom we have risen and overcome death. Yes, though free from *slavery* to sin we still sin because we are in the flesh; however, the Christ-believer does not delight in sin, but repents of it.

Help us, O Lord, to live the life That shuns the evil we detest.  
For as we are alive in you We are no longer slaves to sin.  
May ever now our words and life Reflect your love and grace to us,  
In thankful adoration.

From the cross of Calvary and the empty tomb flow riches in such measure that we can hardly contain them all, much less explain them to the satisfaction of our corrupted reason.

Martin Franzmann wrote: “The reality of Christ’s death and resurrection determines our whole existence; the controlling reality of our life now is the fact that we *shall* live. Our present life gets its character, direction, and purpose from the fact that we shall live with Him who lives a life beyond death, a life lived wholly to God, now that He has died an atoning death, once for all, to sin.” <sup>(2)</sup> Christ bore our sin and died, but never again. As He has united Himself to us and us to Him, in Him we are dead to sin because He died to sin. No longer does the believer live to sin, but he lives to God (Romans 6:9-11).

Christ has already paid our debt, and overcome our enemies, sin, death and the devil, and has made us participants in His victory since He has by His Spirit made each of us a member of His body. We believe what we cannot comprehend. It’s called faith. “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above ...” (Colossians 3:1). “Blessed are those who have not seen, but yet have believed” (John 20:29).

O, Christ the Lord who’s ris’n indeed, Who’s reconciled us to God.  
We thank You for the present joy And future bliss that now is ours.  
May we forever and again, Sing praise to you our Savior dear.  
O, keep us in the faith and sure. <sup>(3)</sup>

“Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen” (Hebrews 13: 20-21).

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 4/2017

1) Franzmann, Martin, *Concordia Commentary*—Romans p.111, 1968, CPH, St, Louis. MO

2) Ibid

3) Fleischer, Daniel, Hymn Verses (tune 375—*The Lutheran Hymnal*), 2017



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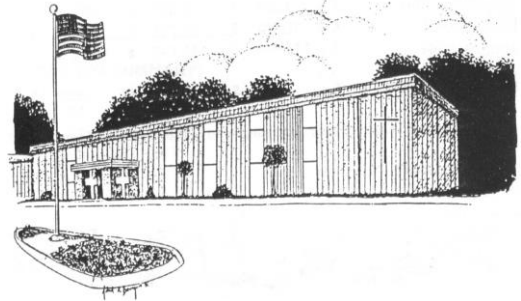
# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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*"God showed His own love for us by sending  
Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."  
Romans 5:8*

## Who are we?

We are a community of people who believe in Jesus Christ as our one, true Savior. We have been drawn together by the love of God who sent Jesus to be our Savior. By this same love we are preserved and guided every day.



The Bible is precious to us because in it He reveals His love and all that His love does for us. Since the Holy Spirit gives life through these Scriptures, that means His Word does more than merely talk about saving us. It actually is the antidote to guilt, fear, doubt, sin, and death that never ends. It is the power that can give life that never ends!

## Why are we here?

We seek to provide a setting in which we can come and worship. Our time of worship is a time to:

- ⇒ confess our spiritual weaknesses and sins,
- ⇒ receive the assuring message of God's love and forgiveness,
- ⇒ seek direction from God's Word for our lives,
- ⇒ become inspired to face the challenges before us, and
- ⇒ celebrate the life we have through Him.

Our fellowship is an uplifting source of encouragement and support, because we reassure and support each other with God's Word within the setting of the love He has created among us. Since God's Word is the only antidote to things like sin, guilt, and death, we don't ever want to lose it or allow it to be diluted.

Jesus announced:

*"I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."*

*John 13:34-35*

Love was shown by Jesus through His sacrificial death on the cross. By His love, He went into action on the basis that God desired to save us. Some of the main ways by which this love is shown among us is through:

- ⇒ preaching and hearing God's life-giving Word of love in every worship service;
- ⇒ teaching His Word: for instance, we offer Bible Classes, Sunday School, instruction classes custom made for every newcomer, our own elementary school for grades K-8;
- ⇒ living lives that emphasize kindness, patience, humbleness, and forgiving one another in love, while holding firmly to His Word;
- ⇒ endeavoring to share the comfort, encouragement, and joy of God's Word with others outside of our congregation.

We come together to receive blessings God offers us and to serve others ... That's why we are here!

### **How may we serve you?**

Please know that you are always welcome to visit our worship services and classes. If you have any questions about the order of liturgy that we follow during the service, one of the ushers would be glad to help you. If you would like more information on any of our classes, please contact Pastor Hein. Additionally, if you have any other questions or would simply like to talk with someone, please feel to contact the pastor after the service, by phone at (612) 408-1635, or via e-mail at [john.p.hein@gmail.com](mailto:john.p.hein@gmail.com).

### **Grace Lutheran School**

At Grace Lutheran s we highly value education, in particular Christian education.

*“Get wisdom! Get understanding! ... (wisdom) will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom ... Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her.”*

*Proverbs 4:5-8*

To this end we have our own elementary school including grades K - 8<sup>th</sup>. School is in session Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 3:15 PM. In our school we seek academic excellence in a Christ-centered setting. Our contact principal is Mrs. Janelle Hein. Some members of the congregation also volunteer in serving the school. More information about the school can be obtained by contacting Principal Hein at (763) 438-4877.

### **The Church of the Lutheran Confession**

Grace is a part of a larger body of believers known as the Church of the Lutheran Confession. In this way we are affiliated with other congregations across the United States, Canada, and the rest of the world. In Eau Claire, WI, there is Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary where young people are exposed to the Word and interested students are prepared to enter the teaching and preaching ministry in congregations of the CLC. More information regarding the Church of the Lutheran Confession can be found at the CLC web site: [clclutheran.org](http://clclutheran.org).

# ✝ Today At Grace ✝

Organist: **Sue Nelson**

Elder: **Benno Sydow**

Ushers: **Roger Ochsner; Bob Maki; Jack Maki; John Maki; Joel Stifter**

Counting Team 3: **Larry Brandt; Brian Eichstadt; Duane Enns; Phil Flesner; Chad Hestekin; Benno Sydow**

Hospitality Team: **None – Easter Breakfast**

Church Cleaners: **Volunteer?**      School: **LaDue**

# ✝ Next Week At Grace ✝

Ushers: **Roger Ochsner; Bob Maki; Jack Maki; John Maki; Joel Stifter**

Counting Team 4: **James Bomber; Brad Kitzman; Paul Lentz; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust**

Hospitality Team 6: **Alex & Bonnie Baker, Kevin & Tracy Baker; Phil & Rona Flesner**

Church Cleaners: **Sydow**      School: **Middleton**

# ✝ Our Schedule ✝

<p><b>Today:</b></p> <p><b>Tue., Apr. 18:</b></p> <p><b>Wed., Apr. 19:</b></p> <p><b>Sun., Apr. 23:</b></p> <p><b>April 24-28:</b></p> <p><b>Wed., Apr. 26:</b></p> <p><b>Fri., Apr. 28:</b></p> <p><b>Apr. 28-29:</b></p> <p><b>Sat., Apr. 29:</b></p> <p><b>Fri., May 12:</b></p> <p><b>Fri., May 19:</b></p> <p><b>Sat., May 20:</b></p> <p><b>Sun., May 21:</b></p> <p><b>Wed., May 24:</b></p> <p><b>Thu., May 25:</b></p> <p><b>Sun., May 28:</b></p> <p><b>Sun., June 4:</b></p> <p><b>June 13-15:</b></p> <p><b>July 24-28:</b></p>	<p>7:30 am – Easter Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 am – Easter Festival Service</p> <p>Grace School Resumes from Easter Break</p> <p>4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students</p> <p>8:30 am – Choir Practice</p> <p>9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class</p> <p>10:00 am – Worship Service</p> <p>11:15 am – Hospitality</p> <p>11:30 am – Voters Meeting (week later due to Easter)</p> <p>Grace School – Iowa Basics Testing</p> <p>CLC Coordinating Council Meeting @ Eau Claire, WI</p> <p>Immanuel High School Visitors' Day @ Eau Claire, WI</p> <p>7:30 pm – Immanuel Play, "Harvey"</p> <p>9:00 am – Work Day at Grace</p> <p>Field Day (5th-8th grade, by Berea in Inver Grove Hts.)</p> <p>12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal</p> <p>3:00 pm – Immanuel Class Day @ Fieldhouse</p> <p>7:30 pm – Immanuel Spring Concert @ Messiah Lutheran</p> <p>10:00 am – Immanuel Graduation Service @ Fieldhouse</p> <p>Confirmation Sunday</p> <p>7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program</p> <p>12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer</p> <p>7:00 pm – Ascension Day Worship</p> <p>9:00 am – Summer Worship Schedule Begins (Graduation Recognition)</p> <p>3:00 pm – Minnesota Delegate Conference (New Ulm, MN)</p> <p>CLC General Pastoral Conference (Eau Claire, WI)</p> <p>Vacation Bible School</p>
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