

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson *Elder:* Al Rosendahl

Ushers: Paul Lentz; Brad Kitzman; Rick Nelson; Keith Radichel; Bob Vandever

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

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

Church Cleaners: Wales *School:* Wales

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Paul Lentz; Brad Kitzman; Rick Nelson; Keith Radichel; Bob Vandever

Counting Team 1: Dan Degnan; Dale Enns; Larry Nelson; Ryan Oman; Pat Paplow; Phil Radichel

Hospitality Team 4: James & April Bomber; Rachelle Kanneh; Heidi Nelson; Bob & Suki Vandever

Church Cleaners: Wales *School:* Volunteer?

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., May 21:** 9:00 am – Confirmation Examination
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Confirmation
11:15 am – Hospitality
- Wed., May 24:** 4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
7:00 pm – Grace School Program (Radichel Retirement)
- Thu., May 25:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer
7:00 pm – Ascension Day Worship
- Sun., May 28:** Summer Schedule Begins
9:00 am – Summer Worship Schedule Begins (Graduation)
10:00 am – Hospitality (last one, honoring graduates)
- Sun., June 4:** 3:00 pm – Minnesota Delegate Conference (New Ulm, MN)
- Thu., June 8:** 5:45 pm – Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade
- June 13-15:** CLC General Pastoral Conference (Eau Claire, WI)
- July 24-28:** 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School
- Mon., Aug. 28:** Opening Day at Grace Lutheran School

Last Week's Stats: May 14, 2017 Sun.: 88 S.S.: 13 B.Cl.: 38

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,919.25	CLC:	\$815.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	950.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-1,380.75	CLC:	-135.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$64,428.65	CLC:	\$18,203.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	66,000.00	CLC:	19,000.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,571.35	CLC:	-797.00	
GLC Other:	340.00	Living Faith:	100.00	Tuition Aid:	75.00
SAF Endowment:	0.00	MDF:	0.00	Kinship:	50.00
ILC Student Aid:	45.00	ILC Bldg.	120.00	IIF: 100.00	CEF: 0.00
Current Balances:	Parking Lot:	24,405.25	Tuition Aid:	2,109.12	

Grace Lutheran Church & School



Confirmation 2017

✠ Kathleen Baker ✠

Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432



Email: jphein@clclutheran.com

Home Page: www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

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

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Easter 6/Confirmation

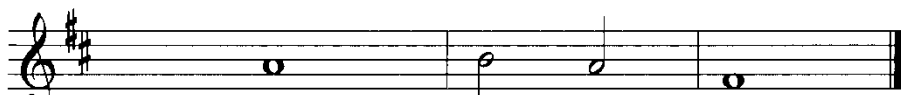
Date: May 21, 2017

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymn: TLH 338: *Thine Forever, God of Love*

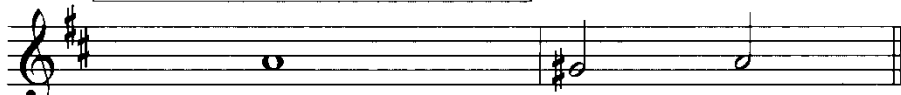
Liturgy: TLH, p. 32 ff., *The Order of Matins*

P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

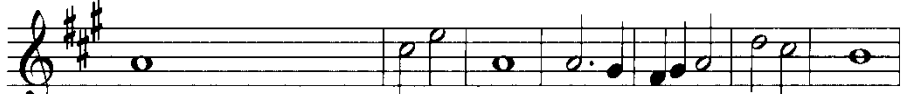


C: And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

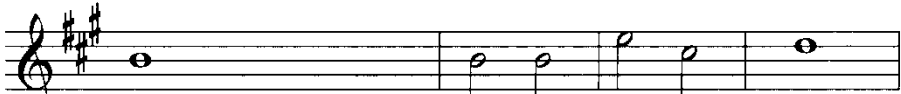
P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.



C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

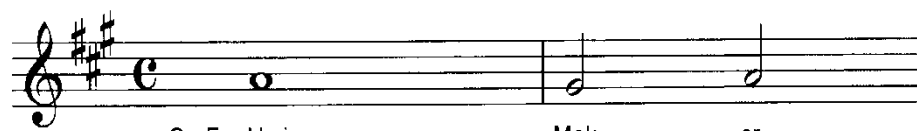


As it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

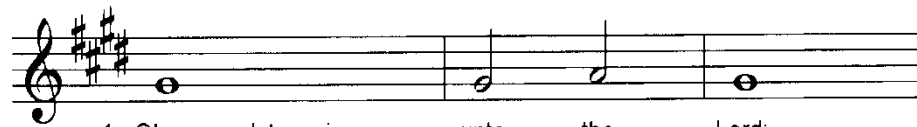


world with-out end. A - men. Hal - le - lu - jah!

P: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

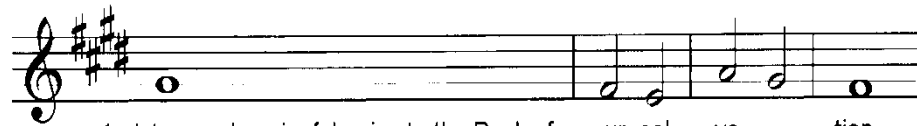


C: For He is our Mak - er.



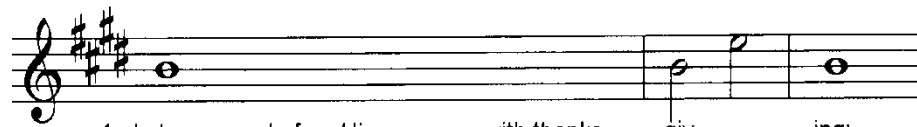
1. Oh, come, let us sing unto the Lord:
2. For the Lord is a great God:
3. The sea is His, and He made it:

5. Glory be to the Father and to the Son:



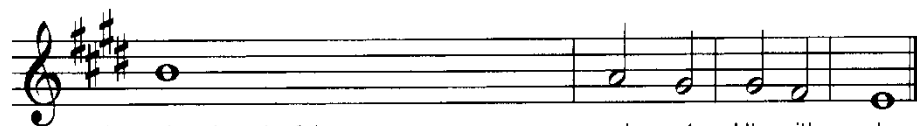
1. let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our sal - va - tion.
2. and a great King a - bove all gods.
3. and His hands form-ed the dry land.

5. and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



1. Let us come before His presence with thanks - giv - ing:
2. In His hand are the deep places of the earth:
3. Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

4. For He is our God:
5. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,



1. and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.
2. the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3. let us kneel before the Lord, our Mak - er.
4. and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5. world with - out end. A - men.

Responsive Psalm: *Psalm 78:1-7*

P: Give ear, O my people, to my law;

C: Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

P: I will open my mouth in a parable;

C: I will utter dark sayings of old,

P: Which we have heard and known,

C: And our fathers have told us.

P: We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,

C: And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

P: For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers,

C: That they should make them known to their children;

P: That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born,

C: That they may arise and declare them to their children,

P: That they may set their hope in God,

C: And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments.

Choir:..... *Grace*

First Scripture Reading: *Joshua 1:1-9*

Second Scripture Reading: *2 Timothy 3:1-16*

Confession of Faith: *Luther's Explanation to the 3rd Article*

C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified, and kept me in true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the last day He will raise me and all the dead and give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

Hymn:..... *TLH 410: Jesus, Lead Thou On*

Sermon: *John 10:27-28*

²⁷ "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸

"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand." (NKJVTM)

"Follow the Real Voice of Your Faithful Shepherd"

Hymn:..... *WS 783: Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep*

Offering, Prayer, Lord's Prayer:

Hymn:..... *TLH 288: Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain*

Rite of Confirmation:

Note: These vows are included so that our communicants may be able to privately reaffirm their own vows made on their confirmation day.

- 1) Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this Christian congregation, confirm the solemn covenant which the Triune God made with you at your Baptism? *Answer: I do.*
- 2) Do you, then, renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways? *Answer: I do.*
- 3) Do you believe in God the Father? *Answer: Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.*
- 4) Do you believe in God the Son? *Answer: Yes, I believe 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 hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*
- 5) Do you believe in God the Holy Ghost? *Answer: Yes, 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.*
- 6) Do you desire to be a member of Grace Lutheran Church and of the Church of the Lutheran Confession? *Answer: I do.*
- 7) Do you hold all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of Grace Lutheran Church, drawn from the Bible, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, to be the true and correct one? *Answer: I do.*
- 8) Do you also, as a member of Grace Lutheran Church, intend to continue steadfast in the confession of this Church and suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it? *Answer: I do so intend, with the help of God.*
- 9) Finally, do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the rule of the divine Word, to be diligent in the use of the Means of Grace (the Gospel in Word and Sacrament), to walk as it becomes the Gospel of Christ, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to the Triune God, even unto death? *Answer: I do so intend, by the grace of God.*

Memory Passage:..... *Kathleen Karen Baker*

John 10:27-28: "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."

CDS Children:..... *TLH 54: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Benediction:

Hymn: *TLH 370: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*



✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Confirmation:** We congratulate Kathleen Baker for completing her catechetical instruction so that she understands all the foundational doctrines revealed in Scripture about our Triune God. We also welcome her as a communicant at Grace. May the Lord continue to faithfully guide and direct her during her time of grace as she has promised to make faithful use of the Means of Grace. After worship there will be hospitality in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ **Grace Lutheran School** staff is planning for the 2017-18 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child in our school, please speak to one of the teachers for an enrollment form.
- ◆ **Grace School Program:** This Wed., May 24, 7 pm, the children of our day school will be putting on their play, "The Case of the Missing Part of Speech." All members and friends of Grace are invited to show support of the children's efforts and of our school. Refreshments will follow as we honor Ann Radichel's retirement.
- ◆ **Kindergarten:** With Ann Radichel's retirement we have a vacancy for a Kindergarten teacher starting this fall. Due to budget constraints at this time, we are looking for a volunteer. If anyone is interested, or knows anyone in the CLC who might be interested in serving the Lord in this manner, please let the Board of Education (Chad Hestekin, James Bomber, Michael Ude) or Pastor know.
- ◆ **Ascension Worship:** 40 days after Jesus' resurrection He ascended into heaven visibly from His disciples. Knowing that He was now seated at the right hand of the Father in full glory and ruling over all things, they worshipped Him with great joy. Our opportunity to worship Him is this Thurs., May 25, 7 pm.
- ◆ **Summer Schedule:** Today is the last time this season that worship will be held at 10 am. Next Sunday, May 28, the summer schedule will begin with worship service held at 9 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will be suspended for the summer. Hospitality hour will also be suspended after honoring the graduates next week. If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, they may sign up on the list located on the fellowship hall's bulletin board.
- ◆ **Graduates:** Next Sunday is Graduation Sunday. Kathleen Baker will graduate from Grace School that day. We will also honor David Hein (Immanuel H.S.) and Tessa Enns (U of MN - Carlson School of Management)
- ◆ **Lutheran Spokesman:** The Lutheran Spokesman is a CLC publication which is dedicated to sharing 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.

- ◆ **The Branches:** It is time to renew your subscription to "The Branches." Please verify that all your information is correct on the list by the guest book and then check your name. Make any corrections to the information if necessary. If you are not receiving "The Branches" publication and would like to start a subscription, please add your information to the sign up list.
- ◆ **Spring Lake Park Parade:** On Thurs., June 8, 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. We will meet at 5:45 pm on Thurs. at Woodcrest Elementary School (intersection of Osborne & Able). The parade begins at 6:30 pm. Please speak with Chad Hestekin for questions.
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 24-28, 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. 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.
- ◆ **Installation:** We are thankful that the Holy Spirit has provided a pastor for Immanuel Lutheran of Winter Haven, FL. The installation/Ordination service of Samuel Rodebaugh is planned for Sunday July 2 at 10:15 am. We extend an invitation to anyone who would like to attend the service to join us for a covered dish meal following the service.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Emeritus David Koenig has been called to serve at St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran in Lemmon, SD. ✠ Teacher David Bernthal of Lutheran Memorial in Fond du Lac, WI, has returned the call to be teacher/principal at Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN. ✠ Miss Carly Meyer of Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI, has been called to teach grades 3-4 at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI. ✠ Teacher Paul Tiefel III of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to be teacher/principal at St. Stephen Lutheran in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco area). ✠ Teacher Neil Bernthal of Immanuel Lutheran in Winter Haven, FL, has been called as principal/teacher at Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI.



WHAT ARE WE DOING TO OUR CHILDREN?

We live in an age when people are easily offended. Even speaking the truth offends. However, Scripture says to all who are “created according to God in righteousness and holiness” (Ephesians 4:24), “Therefore, putting away lying *‘Let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor,’* for we are members of one another” (4:25). The redeemed of God justified through faith in Christ resist speaking in anger, but are called to speak the truth in love. When we recognize one caught in the snares of sin or flirting with moral or eternal disaster, we are reflecting the Father’s love for our neighbor when we speak the truth to him in love. We speak the truth in love when as pastors, elders, baptismal god-parents, or faithful fellow Christians we address our neighbor about matters of personal faith and life, as well as about their responsibility toward their children. Speaking in love because we care about our neighbor is not speaking to offend, but to save. We are dishonest if we do not speak the truth.

It is in that vein we speak when we ask the question, “What are we doing to our children?” We look at the question from two perspectives. Our first concern is the responsibility before God of Christian parents toward their children. Our second is society in general in which many parents and other adults in authority neither listen to the Lord, nor feel responsible before Him for the children in their care.

Scripture reminds us that children are a gift of God; in our home, we are guardians of the children given to us. “Behold, children *are* a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb *is* a reward” (Psalm 127:3). Jacob acknowledged this when he told Esau, [These are] “the children whom God has graciously given your servant” (Genesis 33:5). We are instructed to bring our children to baptism through which being born again they are made His children in a very personal and special sense.

Children of flesh become children of God through the washing of water and the Word (John 3:5-6, Titus 3:5). This gift of the Spirit is called regeneration. Ours is not to question the miracle of baptism. Ours is to fulfill our responsibility to the Lord and His Word as well as to our children. “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them;

for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it” (Mark 10:13-15). But our responsibility does not end with their baptism. “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). Parents might give their children all the necessities and niceties of life, but if they have not faithfully brought them up in the faith of the Son of God or they neglect their God-given responsibility, the children are victims of the worst kind of abuse: spiritual abuse.

Parents cannot make their children believe or confess Christ any more than they can make the children grow physically. Spiritual growth and preservation in the faith are the Spirit’s work. In as much, however, as the Spirit works through the Word—law and gospel—*parents have the responsibility to **regularly** feed their children spiritually and/or see to it that they are nourished with the spiritual growth hormone which is the means of grace.* Before civil law, parents have the responsibility to see that their children are fed, clothed, and cared for. If before the law, it is criminal to abuse and neglect the physical welfare of children, *what is it before God to abuse and neglect the **spiritual and eternal** welfare of children?* With the best of physical care children will still die when God calls. Only as they die in faith in the Lord Jesus can they enter eternal life. But faith in Christ is not passed on to children at birth. It is born of the Spirit through the gospel. It is the parent’s responsibility to teach and expose them to the gospel.

As Christian parents, how are we doing in this regard? If parents themselves adopt a loose attitude toward hearing the Word of the Lord, and make Him nothing more than an add-on instead of the essential part of life, what message are we sending to our children? Do we not excite their wrath if we expect of them what we are not faithful to do, or if we do not spend family time sitting at the feet of Jesus?

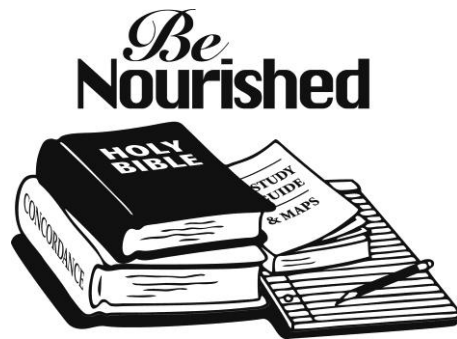
Oh, blest the house, whate’er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
Yea, if He were not dwelling there,
How dark and poor and void it were!

And yes, we expect our children to show respect to parents and elders as Scripture enjoins. “Honor your father and your mother ...” (Exodus 20:12). “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother” (Proverbs 1:8-9). “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right” (Ephesians 6:1). “But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God” (1 Timothy 5:4).

Now consider society in which there is little concern, if any, for the eternal welfare of children or for the Lord’s will or His instruction about rearing children. Yes, there are programs established for children. Yes, there is much talk and even handwringing over the plight of children. Yes,

money is spent as educational gurus and politicians think societal problems and children’s welfare is satisfied by simply spending more money. When is the last time you did not hear educators and politicians say we need more money for education? Obviously, expenses rise. Whatever throwing money at problems accomplishes, it certainly does not change the heart, or the spiritual and moral culture. Only the Lord can do that, and He works through the Word which society rejects and despises. “There are many plans in a man’s heart, nevertheless the LORD’S counsel—that will stand” (Proverbs 19:21), “For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding ... Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path” (Proverbs 2:5, 9).

When it comes to decency and respect for authority in home, society, or for law enforcement what are children being taught as they watch adults? What is the lesson when politicians trash police, or even boldly promote breaking the law? What is the lesson when teachers whom students are to respect walk out of the classroom to protest in the streets, shout vulgarities and carry placards to



promote their personal agenda? And then we wonder why youth rebel and take to the street? Absurdity is doubled when adults with an agenda put protest placards in hands of small children who have no idea what a protest is, much less what it is about. There is something untoward about “caring adults” using children to push adult agendas, including, no less, abortion. In short, what are we teaching our children if adults act like, shall we say, children?

There *are* issues in this land, starting with the moral decay and lack of decency. There *are* political and social issues. But surely adults, Christian or not, can find ways to address these issues without spawning by their example another generation that cannot distinguish between right and wrong, decency and indecency, and who believe by looking at their elders that raising havoc in the streets, in the workplace, and in school is the way to settle disputes.

Parenting (not an easy task) takes work. It takes commitment, first of all to the Lord, which is shown through exercising our best efforts in raising the children He has put into our home. It takes prayer which the Lord will answer as He has promised. Each day a Christian parent will seek forgiveness for sins of neglect toward God’s children. Parents will pray that the Lord will give strength and wisdom for the next day. Yes, pray for the will and ability to live the faith in the Son of God through which the children in your home will be encouraged by parental example to exercise their faith to the glory of the Lord. Finally, pray for the children whose adult examples in a godless society are leading them away from the Lord instead of to Him.

Yes, take seriously the question, “What are we doing to our children?” before in sorrow you ask here in time, and, God forbid, on judgment day, “**What have we done to our children?**”

“In the fear of the LORD there is confidence, and his children will have a place of refuge. The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to turn away from the snares of death” (Proverbs 14:26-27).

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer (3/2017)

