

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Jan Davis

Elder: Frank Radichel

Ushers: Larry Brandt; Jeremiah Boe; Nick Duehlmeier;
Dale Enns; Duane Enns

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

Hospitality Team 5: Bonnie Baker; Nick & Miranda
Duehlmeier; Jenny Kleifgen; Pat & Dawn Paplow

Church Cleaners: Fleischer School: Onyinge

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Brian Eichstadt; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan;
Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow

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

Hospitality Team 1: Brian & Maureen Eichstadt; Janelle
Hein; Chris Lentz

Church Cleaners: Oman School: Onyinge

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., Dec. 2: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School (Gospel of John)
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Advent 1)
11:00 am – Luncheon
12:00-2:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal

Tue., Dec. 4: 10:00 am – Pastoral Study Club @ Immanuel in Mankato, MN

Wed., Dec. 5: 4:30-6:15 – Catechism for Public School Students
7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service

Sun., Dec. 9: 8:30 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class & Sunday School (Gospel of John)
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 2)
11:00 am – Luncheon
12:00-2:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal
3:00 pm – ILC Piano & Organ Recital

Wed., Dec. 12: 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship

Fri., Dec. 14: 7:30 pm – ILC Christmas Concert

Sun., Dec. 16: 12:00-2:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal

Wed., Dec. 19: 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Dinner
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship
2:00 pm – Christian Day School Concert at Northtown Mall

Fri., Dec. 21: Grace School - Christmas Party & Christmas Break Begins

Sun., Dec. 23: 8:45 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal
12:00 Council Meeting
6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Worship

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

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

Sun., Dec. 30: 10:00 am – Worship Service (No Bible Class, Sunday School)

Mon., Dec. 31: 7:00 pm – New Year's Eve Worship w/Lord's Supper

Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75th Ave. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

Email: john.p.hein@gmail.com

Home Page: www.FridleyLutheran.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Church Year: Advent 1

Phone: 763-784-8784

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Date: December 2, 2018

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

WS 701: Prepare the Royal Highway
Profession of Faith: Vanessa Vandever
TLH 609: Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying
TLH 446:1-2,5-6: Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray
Communion: TLH 307; Meditative Music
WS 702:1,6-7: As Angels Joyed with One Accord

Worship Prep:

Psalm 24, TLH p. 128

Liturgy:

TLH, p. 15 (Communion)
Gloria: TLH 58 & 62

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 23:5-8
John 12:12-18

Sermon: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. ¹²The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts. (NKJVTM)

SLEEPERS, AWAKE!

I. OUR FLESH FOSTERS SLUGGISHNESS

II. OUR SAVIOR PRODUCES ALERTNESS

✠ THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠

- ◆ **Congratulations:** Following her adult baptism last Sunday, today Vanessa Vandever is prepared to make her profession of faith in the teachings of God's Word per her instruction with Pastor Hein. We welcome her as a communicant member at Grace, along with her three children (Madison, Harleigh, and Devin) who were baptized July 1, 2018. May the Lord keep them in their Christian faith unto eternity!
- ◆ **Midweek Advent Services:** This coming Wednesday, 7 pm, begins our Midweek Advent worship service. These will be held for the next three Wednesdays with our last one on Dec. 19 being our annual candlelight service preceded by the congregational Christmas meal at 6 pm. Our theme this year is "The Season of Advent," considering how it is a time of promise, preparation, and anticipation. Join us during this precious time of year to ponder our Savior's coming.
- ◆ **Christmas Eve Service:** This is the rehearsal schedule:
 - Sun., Dec. 2: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start & end a bit early)
 - Sun., Dec. 9: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start & end a bit early)
 - Sun., Dec. 16: 12-2 pm (luncheon at church and may start & end a bit early)
 - Sun., Dec. 23: 8:45-9:45 am (please be here at 8:45 am so that we can start promptly)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 23 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.
- ◆ **Christmas Meal:** Please join us for a fellowship meal at 6 pm prior to the Candlelight service on Dec. 19. Those attending may bring something to share. Dorcas Guild committee #2 is hosting.
- ◆ **ILC Recital:** The ILC Piano/Organ Recital will be held next Sun., Dec. 9, at 3:00 p.m. in the ILC Fieldhouse.
- ◆ **ILC Christmas Concert:** Immanuel's Christmas concert this year will be held on Fri., Dec. 14, 7:30 pm, at Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire.
- ◆ **Northtown Concert:** This year the Grace School children will be singing at the Northtown Mall on Thurs., Dec. 20, 2 pm.
- ◆ **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: *Flow, River, Flow*. The children 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.
- ◆ **Appreciation:** Thanks to all who contributed to decorating the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons.
- ◆ **Catechism Break:** We will be having a two-week break for midweek Catechism students on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.
- ◆ **Sunday School Teachers:** Perhaps something to consider this Christmas is extending our Sunday School teachers an expression of gratitude for what they do for our children each week.
- ◆ **From the Elders:** All loose offerings collected during December will be distributed equally among the congregation's called workers.
- ◆ **Liberia:** To make a contribution to the work in Liberia, write in "Liberia" on one of the Project lines of your offering envelope.
- ◆ **2019 Cleaning:** The 2019 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.
- ◆ **Large Print Hymnals:** As a reminder, there are three copies of The Lutheran Hymnal in large print. These are by the guest book. Feel free to use these and return at the end of the worship service.
- ◆ **Women's Retreat:** The Midwest Christian Women's Retreat, sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato, MN, will be held March 22-24, 2019, at the Riverport Inn & Suites, Winona, MN. Registration is \$75 and opens on January 1, 2019. Register at www.ladiesretreat.clclutheran.net. Choose the "Midwest Spring Retreat." Deadline to register is February 22, 2019 (with a late fee of \$25). Hotel reservations (separate from retreat registration) can be made by calling (507) 452-0606, beginning on 2/22/19. Be sure to say it is for the Christian Women's retreat to get the group rate!
- ◆ **KINSHIP Sponsors:** The CLC KINSHIP Committee is seeking sponsors to support overseas orphans and seminary students. There are both students and orphans that will not have financial support starting in January if we do not find new sponsors. Please give this prayerful consideration. For more information, please see, email, or text Dan Roehl (danroehl@hotmail.com / 507-381-2042).
- ◆ **Mission Helper Trip:** Applications for the upcoming CLC Mission Helper Trip to India will be accepted until January 7. You can apply online at: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org. There is still lots of room for more volunteers. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Missionary Todd Ohlmann at thohlmann@gmail.com/(314) 517-0177.
- ◆ **CLC News:** Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD, has received and now returned the call to Trinity Lutheran in Spokane, WA. ✠ The Lord in His grace and mercy called Pastor Emeritus Rollin Reim to his heavenly home this past Wednesday. We are grateful and thankful to the Lord that He has forever relieved Rollin of his earthly burdens and pains and that he is now with His Savior Jesus. Funeral plans are yet to be finalized.
- ◆ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Christmas Eve Grade-Level Parts

UNDERSTANDING OUR FAITH – JUDGEMENT

Advent is a season of preparation as we await the coming of the Lord. While it leads us into the Christmas season and the celebration of our Savior's birth, it also turns our thoughts to the end of the world, and the coming of our Lord in judgment. Many of the sermon texts assigned for this season of the church year address the subject of judgment.

No one will escape the judgment. Concerning the Lord's return to judgment we read in Scripture: "... for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ" (Romans 14:10); "And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats" (Matthew 25:32); "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ ..." (2 Corinthians 5:10) "The quick (living) and the dead" will be judged as we confess in the Apostolic Creed. According to Acts 10:42, the judge will be the Lord Jesus Christ for "He was ordained of God to be the Judge of the quick and the dead." Jesus did not come into the world to condemn it, but to save it.

Scripture tells us, "If Thou, Lord should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand" (Psalm 130:3)? According to the standard of the Law no one can be justified, (Psalm 143:2). According to the Law all people are condemned for that is the nature and force of the Law. The Judge Himself tells us by what standard people shall be judged. "The word, which I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12: 48). According to Romans 2:16 the word is the Gospel which is either received in faith or rejected in unbelief. "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved ..." (Mark 16:16). Death, which is of the Law, shall come upon all who have rejected life, which is in Christ. The debt of sins, which we have committed under the Law, was satisfied by the atonement of Christ. Joy and peace of Christmas for the faithful is not tied to the economy. It is anchored in the Child whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Joy and peace is a fruit of faith in Him whose blood has washed away sin, and whose death has removed the curse that hung over us. The Apostle John records the inspired word of God which says, "He that has the Son has life ..." (1 John 5:11). The believer in Christ, the Son of God and the promised Messiah, is saved! Scripture describes such believers in the Lord Jesus as "sheep," who on the Day of Judgment shall be invited into heaven. This Gospel promise is so broad in its reach that it includes people of all races and nations. It looks not at what sin one has committed. While the Gospel is for all, it embraces those who repent of their sins, and who believe in Jesus Christ. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that hears My word, and believes on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

On the other hand, they who will not repent of their sins can only give hypocritical lip service to Christ, if they speak of Him at all. They who use Christ as a cover for sin or who choose to pursue a life of sin and its deceitful pleasures will find that they will be on the outside looking in on judgment day, just as surely as those who believed that they could be saved by their own merit works. They will not be condemned, because Jesus did not die for them, or because He did not want to save them, or because they were sinners, or even greater sinners than others, but simply because they rejected the Gospel. They rejected Christ! They rejected the atonement. Their sins are still counted against them. "... He that does not believe shall be damned" (Mark 16:16).

It is quite clear to the comfort of penitent sinners, and to the chagrin of the impenitent. Judgment will be meted out on the basis of one's relationship to Christ, or lack thereof.

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer (12/2/2001)

Pastor Update: For the past three years Pastor has been struggling with unrelenting lower back and leg issues. In 2016 he had surgery to help provide relief to the nerves going down his right leg. That helped at the time, but the back pain continued and a nerve to the right leg likely has permanent damage which is causing more problems. Three different reputable orthopedic surgeons recommend fusion. However, insurance has also been unwilling to authorize surgery on the basis of technicalities. This week Pastor's surgeon made a direct phone call which made it clear to the insurance company that there was a need for this. As a result, things moved quite quickly in scheduling a fusion surgery for this coming Wednesday. It is said that 4-6 weeks is common for recovery with low-impact work. Pastor hopes that he can contribute some during the Advent and Christmas season. But there are a few different guest speakers lined up for preaching through January 6. If there is any emergency pastoral care, you can still call Pastor and he will line up pastoral care. He would appreciate your prayers! Psalm 103:2-3: Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, ...

Last Week's Stats: Nov. 25, 2018 Sun.: 85 S.S.: 12 B.Cl.: 33

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,197*	CLC:	\$1,280	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,700	CLC:	1,000	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-503	CLC:	+280	
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$166,490**	CLC:	\$46,892	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	173,900	CLC:	47,000	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-7,410	CLC:	-108	
GLC Other:	2	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	145
SAF Endowment:	0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	60
ILC Student Aid:	0	ILC Bldg.	100	IIF: 0	CEF: 0

Current Balances: Tuition Aid: \$2,609

* Includes \$0 in school tuition ** Includes \$4,342 school-year-to-date tuition