Grace Lutheran Church & School





Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635) School Phone: 763-784-6340 Church Year: Palm Sunday Phone: 763-784-8784 Grades: Kindergarten-8th Date: April 5, 2020

ት The Order of Worship ት

Ride on, ride on, in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry.
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road,
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

2. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!In lowly pomp ride on to die.O Christ, Thy triumphs now beginO'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!The angel armies of the skyLook down with sad and wondering eyesTo see the approaching Sacrifice.

4. Ride on, ride on, in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh; The Father on His sapphire throne Expects His own anointed Son. 5. Ride on, ride on, in majesty!In lowly pomp ride on to die.Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain.Then take, O Christ, Thy power and reign.

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- *P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.*
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- *P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.*
- C: Amen.



Lord, Have Mercy:

Glory to God in the Highest:



Confession of Faith: The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Christian Day School: From Palm Sunday (April 9, 2017)

Children of the Heavenly Father / My Jesus is My Lasting Joy / Oh Lord, Be My Rock

Sermon: *Luke 1:68* "Blessed *is* the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people ..." (*NKJV*TM)

THE LORD HAS VISITED HIS PEOPLE Create in Me:



 Lord Jesus Christ, my Life, my Light, My Strength by day, my Trust by night, On earth I'm but a passing guest And sorely with my sins opprest.

2. Far off I see my fatherland,Where through Thy blood I hope to stand.But ere I reach that Paradise,A weary way before me lies.

3. My heart sulks at the journey's length,My wasted flesh has little strength;My soul alone still cries in me:"Lord, take me home, take me to Thee!"

4. Oh, let Thy sufferings give me pow'r To meet the last and darkest hour! Thy blood refresh and comfort me; Thy bonds and fetters make me free.

5. Oh, let Thy holy wounds for me Clefts in the rock forever be Where as a dove my soul can hide And safe from Satan's rage abide.

6. And when my spirit flies away,Thy dying words shall be my stay.Thy cross shall be my staff in life,Thy holy grave my rest from strife.

7. Lord, in Thy nail-prints let me read That Thou to save me hast decreed And grant that in Thine opened side My troubled soul may ever hide.

8. Since Thou hast died, the Pure, the Just.I take my homeward way in trust.The gates of heaven, Lord, open wideWhen here I may no more abide.

Offering, Prayer, Lord's Prayer:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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♬: Amen. Amen. Amen.

 Hosanna, loud hosanna, The little children sang; Through pillared court and Temple The lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, Close folded to His breast, The children sang their praises, The simplest and the best.

2. From Olivet they followed Mid an exultant crowd, The victor palm-branch waving And chanting clear and loud. The Lord of men and angels Rode on in lowly state Nor scorned that little children Should on His bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, For Christ is our Redeemer, The Lord of heaven our King. Oh, may we ever praise Him With heart and life and voice And in His blissful presence Eternally rejoice.

ት The Announcements ተ

Events at Grace: Recently the President's recommendations for COVID-19 have been extended and there are many signs that the Governor's stay-at-home order may likely be extended to the end of April. Therefore, the Elders are continuing the suspension of worship services and events until May, but will be reviewing this on a weekly basis. For now, we will be continuing to share an online package of spiritually edifying materials by email, also posted on Grace's website at <u>FridleyLutheran.org</u>. This includes:

- 1. A Sunday morning worship service from the archives
- 2. A brief family devotion recorded by Pastor
- 3. A brief children's devotion recorded by Pastor
- 4. Materials for a Sunday School lesson
- 5. A Bible Class from the archives

In addition, the following church events are postponed as well:

- Bible Class and Sunday School
- Lord's Supper during public worship services
- Hospitality
- Easter breakfast
- o Choir

Pastor is willing to serve private communion upon request. Instruction classes are being conducting online so long as each individual desires to do so. Also, please feel free to communicate with Pastor regarding any spiritual need you may have. His number is 612-408-1635.

Psalm 24:7-10 Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ⁸ Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. ⁹ Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ¹⁰ Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He *is* the King of glory. Selah

Today's Service: As we experience more online worship services, things are happening behind the scenes that you may or may not notice. This week our Palm Sunday worship service was taken from April 9, 2017, so that we could continue the tradition of having the Christian Day School mini-concert. However, Frank Radichel edited the video so that Pastor could provide a fresh sermon. In a sense, the video has been "spliced," as it used to be called. We actually started doing this last week with the benediction and the last hymn. The hope is that the online experience is more realistic with people in the church along with a timely sermon.

Online Fellowship: Join Pastor and other Grace members on Sunday, April 5, 11 am, via a Zoom conference. This will be informal, so come as you are. You can even brew a cup of coffee beforehand. Pastor will probably start off with a short devotion and prayer, followed by him moderating an informal visit with those who are present. Here's the link:

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/193269085?pwd=QmVxeGpSMHFITGJsdDd1TG11L3RPdz09 Meeting ID: 193 269 085 / Password: 416522

Or call with phone: 1-312-626-6799 and then 193269085#

Depending on the level of interest, there may be additional opportunities for this as we move forward.

Among Us: Even though we are not seeing each other, life is going on for our members. We need to pray for each other, even though we may not be aware of how this is impacting each one of us and our families. Each of us reacts to these kinds of situations in his or her own way. Some may seem to deal with these things just fine. In my contact with various members, I've noticed that the stress level of some is certainly increasing. With our lives changing so drastically, this is understandable as we live in a sinful world. However, the LORD is still in control and knows and understands His children. His love surpasses our understanding, something we need to rely upon during troubling times. This past week one of our members began exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. The individual has been in touch with a doctor who eventually told the person to come into the office for testing in order to rule out anything else. The doctor is guite certain the test result, likely to come early in the week, will be positive. While the person wishes to remain anonymous, please keep your fellow Christian in your prayers as they will be sincerely appreciated. Pastor has been in touch with the individual who has certainly exhibited a sincere child-like faith in God's promises.

◆ Offerings: During this time when services are suspended, the Lord is still doing all His work to keep our souls and bodies in His keeping. His Gospel work never ends, even as our pastor and teachers continue to function in their divine calls. Therefore, our gratitude continues for the Lord's boundless and bountiful blessings. Please remember this by giving a thank offering to Him. These may be sent by mail directly to the church at:

Grace Lutheran Church 460 75th Ave NE Fridley, MN 55432

The Council will ensure these are accounted for and deposited.

Reminder: Since the materials for the online experience are altogether, a couple of things may get overlooked. The Sunday School lessons have been purposely chosen for ease of instruction by the parents with their children. This is a wonderful opportunity to utilize your role as what Martin Luther once coined "the house pastor." This term was applied specifically to the fathers so that they would be aware of their responsibility to lead their families in God's Word. Also, please watch the children's and family devotions together as a family. Our current circumstances are providing you with an opportunity to really show your children how important the Word of God is. This will greatly impact them for the rest of their lives as they look back at this trying but memorable time.

Ephesians 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

- School: While perhaps not as optimal as teaching the students in-person, our teachers are still doing their best to provide a Christian education given the circumstances. Thanks to the parents for their assistance, understanding, and support of what the teachers are trying to do. May the Lord continue to bless our children with an enriching Christ-rendered education!
- Immanuel Update: Seminary and college classes at Immanuel Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, have both been doing instruction online. This week online instruction begins for the high school students. While Immanuel is having online instruction, the chapels are available at: www.ilc.edu/faith-worship/chapel-list/. At the bottom of this page you can also subscribe to a daily email which has the chapels and the daily bulletin.
- ➡ Invitation: St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church has its 125th anniversary celebration slated for July 4-5, with a 9:30 am worship service at 9:30 am. Memorabilia is available at OkabenaLutheran.org.
- CLC News: Pastor Samuel Rodebaugh of Immanuel Lutheran in Winter Haven, FL, has returned the call to Living Savior Lutheran in Eden Prairie, MN. + Teacher Ross Kok of Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ, has returned the call to serve as high school math and science teacher at Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN. He now has the call to be Upper Grade Teacher/Principal at Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC. + Miss Carly Meyer, member at St. Paul Lutheran in Denver, CO, has been called to be Teacher at Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY.
- S.S. Memory Work: #22 Review of the Three Articles

MINISTRIES FOUND ONLINE

www.FridleyLutheran.org

Some website links:

- → Grace Lutheran Church: <u>www.FridleyLutheran.org</u>
- → Grace on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/CLCGraceLutheranChurch</u>
- → Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC): <u>www.clclutheran.org</u>
- ➔ Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, & Seminary (ILC): <u>www.ilc.edu</u>
- → CLC Missions: <u>www.lutheranmissions.org</u>
- → The CLC Book House (CLC book store): <u>www.clcbookhouse.org</u>
- ➔ The Lutheran Spokesman (CLC publication): <u>www.lutheranspokesman.org</u>
- → The Branches (women's publication): <u>www.thebranchesonline.info</u>

Check out the following online devotional materials:

- ➔ Weekly video of the Grace Lutheran Church sermon: <u>www.clcgracelutheranchurch.org/category/sermons/</u>
- ➔ Weekly CLC "Ministry by Mail" sermon: <u>www.clclutheran.org/ministrybymail</u>
- ➔ Daily email devotions from The Bread of Life (The Lutheran Spokesman): <u>www.glcdailydevotion.wordpress.com</u>
- ➔ Daily email devotions from CLC pastors: <u>www.redeemerclc.info/devotional.html</u>
- ➔ Daily email for a CLC Three-Year Bible reading program: <u>www.threeyearbiblereadingplan.wordpress.com</u>
- ➔ Daily audio of the chapel address from our Immanuel campus: <u>www.ilc.edu/chapel.htm</u>

Also, check out the Grace Lutheran Church on Google Play for Android devices.

Facebook Page: If you're on Facebook, be sure to like or share items that are on the Grace Lutheran Church page. This can help promote the page to others, along with events that we publicize there.



The more shares, etc., the more Facebook promotes our church page to others.



From Palm Sunday Sermon by Martin Luther

From Martin Luther's House Postil, from a sermon on John 12:12-19

"We should get really well acquainted with this Christ-King, and place all our hope boldly in the life which is to come, where we will be forever happy, free of all sin and infirmity. It's for that reason that Christ came, and was crucified, died, rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven to occupy his kingdom. That's how he overcame sin, death, and the devil for us, and by his blood and Holy Spirit swept us clean of all filth, so that all who believe in him are righteous and blessed, and will someday pass through temporal death into his eternal, heavenly kingdom.

"That's why all of us should truly welcome this Christ-King, recognizing him as our righteous helper, and by the power of the Word, Sacraments, and faith, enjoy him now and forever! A Christian, you see, has not been baptized, so that he may collect treasure and get rich here on earth – all of which he can do as well without the gospel and baptism; instead he was baptized so that through Christ he may attain eternal life. To reach that life is why we should faithfully use the gospel and our baptism. I am a baptized Christian so that I may inherit and attain Christ's kingdom. And if I'm also blessed with possessions, I use these for my physical needs – certainly not to lift myself up into heaven!

"We should, therefore, mark all the difference between Christ's kingdom and worldly powers, as he himself clearly showed by his extraordinary entry into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey, without a saddle, the animal a borrowed one at that! He sat on it without pretense, just as he was, barefoot, without boots and spurs. From the human point of view the whole incident looked ridiculous, and yet this beggar-King, riding on a donkey, was Israel's King, promised by God and foretold by the prophets. That was evident also from the way his followers greeted him, "Hosanna!" Blessings on this King and upon his new kingdom! "Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" All of which made it crystal clear that he was in no way like worldly rulers who have amassed a lot of treasure and property for the purpose of displaying worldly pomp and circumstance for their public appearances. Christ was no such earthly king; on the contrary, he is an eternal King, with an everlasting kingdom where one needs neither gold or silver, and yet will never suffer any want or need in all eternity.

"The world has nothing but high disdain for this King and his kingdom with its eternal blessings; it is concerned only with temporal goods: power, honor, and riches on earth. We Christians, however, are to labor here and use the world's goods for our bodily needs, all the while not forgetting the other life. After all, we must in the end depart and leave behind the goods of this earthly life; that should help us remember where we really want to be, namely with Christ, our eternal King. For if we accept him here, that is, believe in him and heed his gospel, he will also receive us over there, saying to us, "Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

"This, then, is what our dear Lord Jesus Christ meant to show by his entrance into Jerusalem, so that we might truly understand him and his kingdom. On the left hand, as it were, we still live here in the kingdom of this world, but always on the right hand we reach forward and upward to his kingdom everlasting in the world to come. It was for that future life that we were baptized. May God grant us his grace so that we may joyously welcome and accept this King and remain with him forever. Amen!"



CLC President's Letter – April 1, 2020

Dear fellow shepherds privileged to announce, "He is risen!":

I had a haircut scheduled for last Tuesday. It didn't happen. By state order the barbershop has been closed for weeks. That is just one tiny drop in a tsunami of plans and events postponed or canceled. The Olympics, MLB, summer festivals, and major construction projects—all have been put on hold. Congregational activities have been affected as well. Holy Week services and our Easter celebration of Christ's triumph over Satan and death have to be modified for online purposes. Plans carefully organized and mapped out months or years in advance are totally unrealistic now. No life has been left untouched by the fallout from COVID-19.

It shouldn't really come as a surprise. James writes, "Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that'" (James 4:13-15).

It's unnerving when things don't go according to plan. I have my comfortable routine of ministry work and leisure activities, and to suddenly have that upended and be told to stay home is stressful. It reminds us of how little control we have over our earthly lives. If so much of the world can be brought to a standstill so quickly by an invisible virus, what long term hope do we have?

But then listen again to James. Our hope is not in our will and plans, but in the Lord's. "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." What is His will? It is that all be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. He planned it from eternity and in the fullness of time sent His Son to redeem the entire world of sinners. In Gethsemane Jesus prayed, "Father, Your will be done." "Yet it was the LORD'S will to crush him and cause him to suffer...He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors" (Is. 53:10, 12).

Among the blessings the Lord can provide through our plans falling through is a heightened awareness of our own helplessness in the face of crisis and a renewed appreciation for the Lord's unfailing promises.

From our human perspective and ability, there is no certainty in what lies ahead. The plans we make today as individuals, congregations, and a church body may need to be revised or even abandoned in the future. While social distancing restrictions prevent many customary fellowship and outreach activities, there are opportunities to think outside the box and try new avenues of ministry. Online services and Bible classes have become a lifeline for many of our members. We want to remind our fellow believers about the ongoing privilege and need for offerings as an expression of love for the Lord, a fruit of faith, and the means the Lord provides for His work to continue among us. The current situation can be an incentive for congregations to look into more options for giving such as some form of egiving.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, CLC board and Coordinating Council meetings have been rescheduled for June 8-10, 2020. The CLC Convention has been postponed to July 30-August 2, 2020. We pray that by these later dates it will be possible to travel and meet together in person to carry out the Lord's great commission.

No matter how dire the news, we don't have to withdraw in fear and hopelessness. David wrote, "My times are in your hands" (Ps. 31:15). There are no more loving or capable hands, for they are the same hands which were nailed to the cross in payment for our sin. They are the same hands the risen Lord showed to the disciples Easter night. They are the hands which safely hold all His children close to Him. Lord, Your will be done in us and through us!

In Jesus' name, Michael Eichstadt, CLC President

O CHILDREN, LISTEN TO THE LORD

O children, listen to the Lord, And heed His loving call. He beckons you to come to Him He has a Word for you. (Psalm 78:1ff)

"Confess your sins with honest heart, The ones you know, and don't. Come, hear the blessed Word and know, Christ Jesus died for you. (1 John:1:9)

"The Savior, Jesus, took your place, And shed His cleansing blood. He washed your sins away and said, 'Fear not, your sins are gone.' (Isaiah 53:5)

"He rose again from the dark tomb, But left your sins behind. I am your Father, reconciled, My Son has paid your debt. (Matthew 28)

"Through faith in Christ, you are My own, Your needs are on My heart. In every trial, fear, and woe, My ear is turned to you. (Galatians 3:26)

"The fervent prayer of righteous men I will not turn away. Cast all your cares upon Me now, Doubt not My love for you. (James 5:16)

"My love is sure as is My Word I know what's best for you. Did not the Savior die and rise, Just as I said He'd do? (Romans 8:28-30)

"So trust in Me, whate'er betide, In this day and the next. In pain and sorrow, even death, I'll see you through for aye. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

"Then when your time on earth is past, And you have kept the faith, The crown of righteousness laid up Is yours; the race is o'er. (2 Timothy 4:7-8)

"My Son, Christ Jesus, will be there, And He'll invite you in--, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, You're home at last, come in!'" (Matthew 25:34)

ት OUR SCHEDULE **ት**

Please keep in mind that this schedule is tentative given the circumstances. Stay tuned by the email announcements.

Sun., Apr. 5:	PALM SUNDAY		
	Online Worship Service		
Wed., Apr. 8:	4:30 pm – Catechism for Public School Students		
Thu., Apr. 9:	MAUNDY THURSDAY (No Worship)		
Fri., Apr. 10:	GOOD FRIDAY		
	Online Worship Service		
Sun., Apr. 12:	EASTER		
	Online Worship Service		
Sun. Apr. 19:	Council Meeting (delayed due to Easter)		
Sun., Apr. 26:	Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings (delayed due to Easter)		
Thu., May 21:	ASCENSION DAY		
	12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer		
June 8-10:	CLC Board & Coordinating Council (change of date)		
July 20-24:	Vacation Bible School		
July 30-Aug. 2: CLC Convention (change of date)			

Last Week's Stats: Mar. 29,	2020 Sun	.: Online	S.S.: Online B.Cl.: Online
Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$5,711	CLC: \$1,510
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,000	CLC: 950
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+1,711	CLC: +560
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$46,077	CLC: \$12,065
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	52,000	CLC: 12,350
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-5,923	CLC: -285
GLC Other: 50	Living Faith:	100	Tuition Aid: 50
SAF Endowment: 100	MDF:	0	Kinship: 170
ILC Student Aid: 0	ILC Bldg.	100	IIF: 0 CEF: 0
Current Balances:	Tuition Aid: \$835		

<u>Prayer</u>: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our wickedness and live. Graciously behold Your people who plead to You and spare us. Withdraw the scourge of Your wrath and be moved in mercy to turn away this pestilence from us; for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.