

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)

Phone: 763-784-8784

School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Palm Sunday

Date: March 28, 2021

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 161: Hosanna, Loud, Hosanna

WS 725: No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

TLH 656: Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

TLH 339:1-3, 7: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

Worship Prep:

Psalms 24, TLH p. 128

Liturgy:

WS p. 12 (Projected)

WS p. 25 Psalm 24

Scripture Readings:

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 11:1-10

Sermon: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ "They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (NKJVTM)

YOUR ULTIMATE PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION

✝ ***THE ANNOUNCEMENTS*** ✝

COVID-19 Pre-Cautions: If anyone is high risk, vulnerable, recently exposed to a COVID-19 patient, or has symptoms of illness (esp. high temp. and cough), the individual along with any others in that person's household are urged to stay home for one's own well-being and the well-being of others. Online worship is still available at **FridleyLutheran.org**. Due to the Governor's order, face coverings are required during worship at Grace. Children under the age of 2 are exempt. For physical distancing, post-its are on the pews that are to be used. Please remember to not block areas of foot traffic. Thank you for being mindful of your fellow Christians.

➔ **Good Friday:** This coming Friday, April 2, at 7 pm, we will be holding our Good Friday service. The Lord's Supper will also be celebrated. The Day our Savior died is very precious for us as redeemed sinners. Let's honor it by pondering His profound love for us.



GOOD FRIDAY

➔ **Easter:** Next Sunday, April 4, will be our Easter worship service at 9:00 am. What an opportunity we have to gather in worship on the day we commemorate our Lord's glorious resurrection from the dead! Given a likely larger-sized crowd, the Elders decided to cancel the Easter breakfast for this year given the pandemic.



EASTER SUNDAY

➔ **Easter Flowers:** A signup sheet is out by the guest book for anyone interested in purchasing Easter lilies or decorative flowers for Easter Sunday. Please see Mikey Oman for any questions.

➔ **Lenten Soup Suppers:** Thank you to all the hosts for the soup suppers during our Lenten season.

➔ **Communion:** Will be on Sunday, April 11, due to Easter falling on the 1st Sunday of the month.

➔ **School History Fair:** On Fri., April 16, at 7:00 pm the children of the Day School will be presenting a school fair with the theme centered on explorers. Each child will be making an individual presentation. Come and listen to our students who, along with the teachers, have prepared extensively for this event.

➔ **Seeking Recording Volunteers:** One of the great helps to those unable to attend has been to provide video of our worship services on our website. Given our limited number of people doing this, the Elders are seeking volunteers to help out with recording of the worship services. This would be "manning the booth" behind the organ, controlling the cameras, audio, and recording software. Those interested, please speak with Eli Wales or Dale Enns.

- ➔ **Invitation:** St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Okabena, MN, has extended an invitation to its 125th anniversary on Sun., July 4, 2021. There will be a 9:30 am service followed by a hog roast and picnic on the church grounds. Please RSVP to voitfarm@gmail.com or 507.822.0921. A card is posted by the member mailboxes.
- ➔ **The 2021 ManUp!** Men's Retreat will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2021, at Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. ManUp! offers strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The cost is \$75, including lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org.
- ➔ **ILC Dorm Supervisors:** ILC is accepting applicants for these two positions to begin the 2021-22 year, an adult male for the boys' dorm and an adult female for the girls' dorm. These roles are vital to our campus given how they provide spiritual counsel and a fatherly or motherly role to those students who are living away from home. Those who are CLC members in good standing and are able and willing to fill this position may contact ILC President Daniel Schierenbeck (dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660.864.9231) for more information about the responsibilities and compensation for this position. An application is available online at ilc.edu > Forms and Applications > ILC Employment Application. Please apply by April 6.
- ➔ **Call for Nominations:** Pastors, professors, male teachers, and voters of congregations within the CLC are invited to nominate individuals for those synodical offices to be elected at the 2021 CLC Convention. Nominations will be received through March 31. Nomination forms, lists of eligible called servants, and submission information are available on the clclutheran.org website.
- ➔ **CLC News:** Missionary Peter Evensen in Togo is currently being treated for Malaria. President Eichstadt encouraging us to "add your prayers to the Lord of grace for a quick recovery." †
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #15 – 1st Article (Part 2)

Last Week's Stats: Mar. 21, 2021 Sun.: 76 Bible Cl.: 30 S.S.: 13 Wed.: 40

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$5,038	CLC:	\$645
Wed. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,560	CLC:	\$840
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,125	CLC:	1,000
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+2,473	CLC:	+485
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$50,644	CLC:	\$11,945
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	49,500	CLC:	12,000
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,144	CLC:	-55
GLC Other: 382	Living Faith: 105	Tuition Aid: 6		
SAF Endowment: 5	MDF: 7	Kinship: 65		
ILC Student Aid: 106	ILC Bldg. 6	IIF: 5 CEF: 0		
Current Balances:		Tuition Aid: \$159		

BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED

As we move on to Good Friday, the day of our Savior's crucifixion, we are reminded many times of the abuse that was heaped upon the Savior.

Why was He even exposed to such treatment? We do not understand the passion suffering of our Lord, nor do we understand the meaning, and even less the blessing of Easter unless we penitently from the heart acknowledge the reality of what Isaiah declares in his prophecy in the 53rd chapter: "And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." These words penned by the prophet 750 years before Christ, were reiterated some 25 years after the fact when Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "For He [the Father] made Him Who knew no sin to be sin for us..." (2 Corinthians 5:21). We were not the immediate cause of the suffering of our Lord. We were the underlying cause of it! We, with the whole mass of humanity before Him, and after Him. We were and are responsible for Jesus being crucified.

The hymn writer, Johann Heermann, in his hymn (*The Lutheran Hymnal* -143), "*O dearest Jesus, What Law hast Thou Broken*" includes in the hymn, "It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish." Jesus suffered pain and anguish in body and soul from Gethsemane to Calvary for us, because of us!

We remind ourselves of these things, not to evoke sympathy for Christ. He does not want our sympathy. To the lamenting women on the way to Calvary He said, "Do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children" (Luke 23:28). We remind ourselves of these things because they speak to what we would have suffered in time and eternity had He not. "For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry" (Luke 23:31)? This is not a drama play, nor an attempt to be over dramatic. This was not a criminal lashing out to intimidate or get even. This was the innocent Son of God – the green wood – calling to repentance, sinners – dry wood – lest His pain and approaching death be in vain for them. If the fire of God's judgment "does not spare even God's Son...what will become of those who have refused God's mercy and have in their impenitence become dry wood ripe for judgment" (Franzmann, *Concordia Bible with Notes*, CPH, 1971, p. 159)?

In Isaiah 50 we find a prophecy, the fulfillment of which speaks to the payment for our sins. Jesus did not turn away from suffering, but “set His face like a flint” to accomplish His purpose. “I gave My back to those who struck *Me*, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting” (Isaiah 50:6). This found its fulfillment when “They spit in His face and beat Him; and others struck [slapped] Him with the palms of their hand” (Matthew 26:67). Imagine if you will, *spitting on and slapping the Lord Jesus!* Then later again after putting on him a crown of thorns and mocking Him, whereafter they spit on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head” (Matthew 27:28-30).

We expect that of the world for Christ and His cross are foolishness to the dry wood. But now pause. How different is what His captors did to Him than what we do when we sin? The very question smarts, does it not?

Or think of the ignominy He suffered without complaint when Pilate, despite his acknowledgement that Jesus was innocent, gave the Jews the choice between the innocent Son of God, and the seditionist and criminal, Barabbas. Ought we not think about that also when we are confronted with the choice between truth and error, right and wrong, Christ and the world?

One of the cruelest blows He bore was when “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11). Indeed He died for all, even those who did not and do not receive Him. But ought we who are called by His name, and Who by His grace He has claimed as His own (Isaiah 43:1), “put Him to an open shame” (Hebrews 6:6), and crucify Him again by our sins in thought, word, and deed?

Finally, the cruelest blow He bore for our sake was voiced when He said, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me” (Matthew 27:46)?

If what Jesus endured makes you uncomfortable, it is no more than he who is writing it. As much as we would like to deny reality, we cannot. We are compelled with the prodigal to say, “Father, I have sinned, against heaven and before You, and am no more worthy to be called Your son” (Luke 15:18-19), and say with the publican in the temple, “God, be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke 18:13).

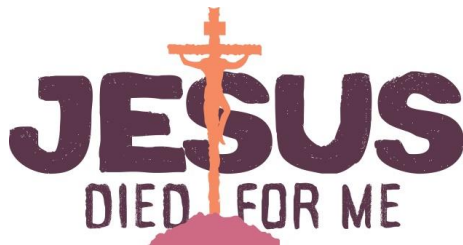
Thank God, there is another reality greater than our discomfort, our pain, our guilt. It is anchored in all that Jesus suffered in our behalf and for our salvation. The Lamb of God, bearing our sin, went uncomplaining forth to the cross to fulfill the task for which He had come. This was the greatest demonstration of love. Jesus was paid the wages we earned. The very God whom we offend with our sin recorded through the apostle Paul, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation" (Romans 5:8-11). The Law of God uncovers our sin and condemns, "But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more" (Romans 5:20). Grace covers our sin and forgives. The Law unclothes our ugliness. The grace of God clothes us in the righteousness of Christ, in robes fit for heaven.

By His stripes we are healed! "Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

In our experience we at one time had a young couple quit church because in their judgment we did not teach enough about how to live. The fact is that if we preach Law and Gospel we *are* teaching how to live as well as exposing the corruption called sin. What part of God's Law does not teach us how to live? Which part of God's Law does not show us where we have failed to live up to the standard of the holy God.

If we acknowledge that, which part of the Scriptural narrative does not show us how to live and by the Gospel – the cross of Christ – energize our faith and empower the will to live for the Lord? As we observe the Savior in His life, in His deepest agony, in His death as our substitute under the wrath of God, do we really have to tell one what to do and not to do beyond leading one back to the cross where in the crucified Christ is found the will and desire to live for Christ Who died for us. Can we walk away from Pilate's courtroom and from Calvary without assenting to "Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 1:10)?

Our Lord has borne our sin, our shame and our guilt. He has reconciled us unto the Father. Certainly as one penitently goes to the Lord seeking His forgiveness for sins past and present, and as certainly as one hears, “Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven you,” there is created the desire to “live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness” (Luther’s *Small Catechism*, 2nd Article).



Viewing our Savior suffering for our sins, bearing the cruelty of trial and cross, and recognizing that through His stripes we have been healed and given the hope of heaven, we pray:



“It is
finished.”
John 19:30

Grant that I Thy Passion view
With repentant grieving
Nor Thee crucify anew
By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun
Every sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son
Suffered without measure?

Yet with the apostle we must acknowledge, “In me (that is in my flesh) nothing good dwells” (Romans 7:18). Hearing the words of forgiveness from the cross, and knowing the victory over sin, death, and the devil through Christ and His resurrection, we pray with confident thanksgiving:

Grant that I may willingly
Bear with Thee my crosses,
Learning humbleness of Thee,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give Thee love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heaven above
Sing Thy praise forever (TLH-140, st.4,6).

✝ **TODAY AT GRACE** ✝

Organist: **Janelle Hein**

Elder: **Dale Enns**

Ushers: **Al Rosendahl; James Bomber; Jack Maki; John Maki; Keith Radichel; Grant Wells**

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

Church Cleaners: **Ochsner**

School: **Jankowski**

✝ **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** ✝

Ushers: **Al Rosendahl; James Bomber; Jack Maki; John Maki; Keith Radichel; Grant Wells**

Counting Team 2: **Gary Gunther; Rick Nelson; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker**

Church Cleaners: **Hein**

School: **Doucette**

✝ **OUR SCHEDULE** ✝

- Sun., Mar. 28:** 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service (Palm Sunday)
- Wed., Mar. 31:** 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
- Thu., Apr. 1:** **MAUNDY THURSDAY** (no worship service)
- Fri., Apr. 2:** **GOOD FRIDAY**
Grace School – Easter Break (resume class Tues., Apr. 6)
7:00 pm – Good Friday Worship w/Lord's Supper
- Sun., Apr. 4:** **EASTER**
Easter Breakfast Cancelled for This Year
9:00 am – Easter Festival Worship Service
- Sun., Apr. 11:** 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord's Supper (Easter 2)
12:00 pm – Council Meeting
- Wed., Apr. 14:** CLC Coordinating Council (Eau Claire, WI)
- Fri., Apr. 16:** 7:00 pm – Grace Student Fair (Theme: Explorers)
- Sun., Apr. 18:** Voters and Dorcas Guild Meetings
- Sat., April 24:** 9:00 am – Grace Work Day
- April 26-29:** Grace School – Iowa Basic Tests
- Fri., April 30:** Immanuel Lutheran High School Visitors' Day
Grace School – Kindergarten Round-up
- Apr. 30-May 1:** 7:30 pm – Immanuel Play (Eau Claire, WI)
- Thu., May 13:** 7:00 pm – Ascension Day Worship Service
- Fri., May 21:** 3:00 pm – Immanuel Class Day (Eau Claire, WI)
7:30 pm – Immanuel Spring Concert (Eau Claire, WI)
- Sat., May 22:** 10:00 am – Immanuel Graduation Service (Eau Claire, WI)
- Sun., May 23:** Confirmation Day
- Thu., May 27:** 7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program
- Fri., May 28:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer
- Sun., May 30:** Graduation Sunday & Summer Worship Schedule Begins
- Sat., June 5:** 10:00 am – MN Delegate Conference (Mankato, MN)
- June 24-27:** CLC Convention (Eau Claire, WI)
- July 19-23:** Vacation Bible School