

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: www.FridleyLutheran.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Easter 7/Ascension 1

Date: May 16, 2021

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

WS 737: Up Through Endless Ranks of Angels

TLH 214: Lo, God to Heaven Ascendeth

In Place of "Create in Me" after Sermon: TLH 200:6

TLH 219: The Head that Once was Crowned

WS 738: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

Worship Prep:

Psalms 2, TLH p. 123

Liturgy:

WS, p. 1 (Projected)

WS p. 30, Psalm 2

Scripture Readings:

Acts 1:15-26

John 17:11-19

Sermon: Ephesians 1:16-23

⁹ [I] 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. (NKJVTM)

CROSS TO GLORY

His Battlefield ← KING → His Throne

His Cauldron ← PRIEST → His Temple

His Pulpit ← PROPHET → His Mission Control

CLC E-Devotion – Ascension Day 2017

Luke 24:46-47, 51 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” ... Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

REJOICE! JESUS HAS ASCENDED TO BE YOUR KING!

When He was on this earth, Christ fulfilled what we call His three offices, namely those of Prophet, Priest, and King. He fulfilled those offices on earth, but He did not abandon them when His redemptive work was done. He continues to carry out these offices in eternity in behalf of the Church.

When Christ came into the world He left His throne in heaven, but He did not abdicate that throne. Jesus told Pilate, “‘My Kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate therefore said to Him, ‘Are you a king then?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.’”

It is the responsibility of king to defend the citizens of his kingdom, and so Christ, “Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them triumphing over them in [the cross]” (Colossians 2:15). As our King, Christ conquered all of our spiritual enemies when He died upon the cross--all of them--sin, death, and the devil were overcome in one blow at Christ’s death. We read in 1 John 3:8, “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

Having ascended into Heaven, “[God]...seated [Christ] at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power ... And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church...” (Colossians 1:20-22). Christ continues to carry out His office as King, not only ruling in the hearts of His people with His Word, but ruling over all things for His Church! Only the King of all Creation could make and *keep* this Promise: “... all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).

So Paul wrote these reassuring words to the Citizens of God’s Kingdom: “For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39).

✝ ***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**. Face coverings are optional. Thank you for being mindful of your fellow Christians, understanding that there are differing sensitivities about the pandemic.

- ➔ **Among Us:** Ryan Oman had successful back surgery the past Thursday to trim bulging discs. He is healing at home. Recently Larry Nelson was diagnosed with prostate cancer. He will be having surgery on Tuesday, May 18. May our brothers in Christ receive the medical care they need at this time as they rely on their heavenly Friend.
- ➔ **Confirmation:** Next Sunday, May 23, is the confirmation of Alexandra Baker, Sienna Boe, and Naomi Story. They have been putting in considerable time to prepare for their public exam which will be at 9 am in the sanctuary. During the worship service they will make their public confirmation vows. The congregation is invited to an outdoor reception following the worship service. May the Lord richly bless the day to His honor and glory.
- ➔ **School Program:** On Thursday, May 27, 7 pm, the children of our school will put on a play. For space purposes, only immediate family members of the students are permitted to attend. The event will be live-streamed at Grace's YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/channel/UCSiRrWC-R9H-hgJ1NVR2DJA.
- ➔ **Grace Lutheran School** staff is planning for the 2021-22 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child in our school, please speak to one of the teachers for an enrollment form.
- ➔ **Graduates:** Please list any member of Grace that is graduating this year (Jan-Dec 2021) on the sheet on the tract rack table. Include the school's name and the degree. Our Graduation Sunday is May 30. Alexandra Baker will also graduate from Grace School that day.
- ➔ **Graduation Invitations:** The bulletin board by Pastor's office includes some invitations from this year's graduates.



- ➔ **Summer Worship Schedule:** On Sunday, May 30, the summer schedule will begin with worship service held at 9 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will be suspended for the summer.



- ➔ **Lutheran Spokesman:** The *Lutheran Spokesman* is a publication by the CLC which is dedicated to sharing rich, 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.
- ➔ **Daily Rest:** *Daily Rest* is a daily devotion book printed quarterly by the CLC. It is time to renew subscriptions or get a new subscription if you would like to receive this edifying material. The deadline to subscribe is June 1. Norma Rust has graciously offered to collect the \$15 payments. You may give this payment to her directly or mail your payment in her name to her address: Norma Rust; 5735 Quincy St. NE; Fridley, MN 55432. Please contact her (sew410@att.net/763-571-5735) for instruction if you wish to submit your payment electronically through Zelle.
- ➔ **The Branches:** *The Branches* renewal list is by the guest book. This is a quarterly publication for Christian women. Please check your name if you want to continue receiving this publication, making any corrections to the listed information. If you are not receiving *The Branches* now is the time to add your name to the list. The congregation pays for the subscription.
- ➔ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 19-23, 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.



➔ **Concluding Activities at Immanuel:** Friday, May 21, will be the final day of classes at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary. In giving the LORD God glory for the various achievements by students and student groups, Class Day will be held at 3 pm. The band will play during this event. At 7:30 pm there will be a concert of sacred music sung by the Mass Choir and Tour Choir. On Saturday, May 22, there will be the concluding Graduation worship service at 10 am. Currently these are being planned for outside on the hill by the Fieldhouse. If there is inclement weather, these events could be held indoors with a limited attendance. As the dates get closer, more details and updates will be posted on the ILC website (ilc.edu). We pray that the students will take what they have learned from the Word of God and treasure the Gospel by expressing their gratitude to the LORD Immanuel in their daily walk with Him.

➔ **Installation:** Rev. Johnathan Schnose, recently received by colloquy into the CLC, will be installed at Bethel Lutheran in Morris, MN, at 4 pm today. Members are invited.

➔ **CLC News:** Pastor Chad Seybt of Morning Star Lutheran in Fairchild, Trinity Lutheran in Millston and Peace with God Lutheran in Onalaska has accepted the call to St. Paul's, Melrose, WI, now being part of a quad-parish. † Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran in Detroit, MI, has returned the call to Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY. † Mr. Caleb Noeldner, member of Messiah Lutheran in Hales Corners, WI, has received the call to be Teacher/Principal of Valley Bible Academy at St. John's Lutheran in Clarkston, WA.

➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #23 – Baptism 1 & 2

Last Week's Stats: May 9, 2021 Sun.: 79 Bible Cl.: 39 S.S.: 14 Thu.: 43

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$2,408	CLC:	\$820
Thu. Offering:	Grace:	\$1,119	CLC:	\$120
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,125	CLC:	1,000
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-7	CLC:	-915
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$70,626	CLC:	\$15,655
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	74,250	CLC:	18,000
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,624	CLC:	-2,345
GLC Other: 103	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	100
SAF Endowment: 0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	110
ILC Student Aid: 0	ILC Bldg.	0	IIF: 0	CEF: 0
Current Balances:	Tuition Aid: \$694			

India and Nepal Update:

Brothers,

Please keep India and Nepal in your prayers. Both countries are being devastated by covid-19. <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

India

Fortunately the state of Andhra Pradesh, where most of our brothers and sisters are located, has not been as touched by this wave (more like a wall) of cases. Tamil Nadu state (where I used to live), has imposed a lockdown until May 24th. We have a number of churches in this state. Bengaluru in Karnataka has also been severely hit. We have about 60 pastors in that area.



The health care system in India has basically collapsed. You may have seen some of the news. Hospitals are running out of oxygen and people in intensive care are dying as a result. People are trying to find oxygen canisters themselves to bring to their loved ones in the hospital (if they have even been able to find a hospital with a bed available). Many hospitals are putting two patients to a bed. This is especially bad in the rural areas (where a majority of our churches are located).

Nepal

Nepal is experiencing an even worse crisis. They are currently number 3 in new case world-wide (behind India and Iran), and this is especially striking because their population is so much smaller! In the recent several days they have reported over 9,000 new cases each day in a country with a population of just under 30 million (India has 1.37 billion). Although it actually ranks 7th world-wide in cases by 1000.

<https://kathmandupost.com> has a number of articles.

As bad as the medical situation is in India, it is even worse in Nepal.

Please keep these countries, and especially our brothers and sisters there in your prayers.

Missionary Peter Evensen

Liberia Update

This past week I had a few phone conversations with Pastor Joseph Kwiwalazu, our lead instructor in Liberia. Last month he attempted to venture to the remote area of Bopolu (BOE-poe-loo) in order to resume classes with pastors, evangelists, and Christian school teachers. This had to be put on hold due to local circumstances. Given all the other delays, I expected that this would be put on hold for a few more months.

But Pastor Kwiwalazu pleasantly surprised me early this week with a message that he had safely arrived at Bopolu. He was able to conduct doctrinal classes for much of the week with various interested contacts we have had there. On Friday this week, Pastor Kwiwalazu put his phone on speaker with the group there and myself. It was a true joy to listen to the group express their interest in what they were learning from the Word of God. They greatly appreciate the support they have received in having such instruction.

Also, a year ago the CLC Board of Missions extended a small token of help to all our brothers and sisters in the mission field. This group in Bopolu received a small amount at a trying time. They also expressed their surprise that we would think of them while we were also experiencing the pandemic. So they expressed gratitude for such an extension of Christian love. But overwhelmingly, the greatest appreciation they expressed was for gaining further insight into the Scriptures as they have been treasuring this as great spiritual wealth from the LORD.

As this group expands, Pastor Kwiwalazu informed me that we probably need to refer to this group as the Gbarpolu (they say “BAH-poe-loo”) group since the folks are coming from different places in Gbarpolu County, the county that the town of Bopolu is in. It personally took me some time to understand the difference as many speak as if the two are interchangeable.

Pastor Kwiwalazu also informed me that other contacts are regularly reaching out to him, including someone in a county that we haven’t done any work in. He believes we will be able to conduct a Bible seminar there next time I am able to travel to Liberia. We thank the LORD that our opportunities in Liberia are continuing to abound.

Also, Pastor Kwiwalazu’s own congregation in Paynesville (near Monrovia) is looking forward to laying the foundation of its church. They anticipate this happening quite soon. May the LORD lead them as they move ahead.

In Christ’s service,
Pastor John Hein
Part-Time Visiting Missionary to Liberia

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: **Janelle Hein**

Elder: **Dave Rust**

Ushers: **Larry Brandt; Jeremiah Boe; Nick Duehlmeier;
Dale Enns; Duane Enns; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow**

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

Church Cleaners: **Sandhoefner** School: **Vandever**

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: **Larry Brandt; Jeremiah Boe; Nick Duehlmeier;
Dale Enns; Duane Enns; Brandon Paplow; Pat Paplow**

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

Church Cleaners: **Sandhoefner** School: **Wales**

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

- Sun., May 16:** 9:00 am – Sunday School & Bible Class
10:00 am – Worship Service (Easter 7)
1:00 pm – Immanuel Keyboard Concert
- Wed., May 19:** 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
6:30-8:00 pm – Confirmation Preparation
- 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)
4:00-5:30 pm – Confirmation Preparation
- Sun., May 23: Confirmation Sunday**
9:00 am – Confirmation Examination
10:00 am – Worship Service (Confirmation/Pentecost)
11:00 am – Confirmation Reception (outdoor)
- Thu., May 27:** 7:00 pm – Grace School Spring Program (immediate family)
- Fri., May 28:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer
- Sun., May 30: Summer Worship Schedule Begins**
9:00 am – Worship Service (Graduation/Trinity Sunday)
- Mon., May 31:** Memorial Day
- Sat., June 5:** 10:00 am – MN Delegate Conference (Mankato, MN)
- June 24-27:** CLC Convention (Eau Claire, WI)
- July 19-23:** 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School
- Sun., Aug. 22:** 3:00 pm – Immanuel Opening Service
- Mon., Aug. 30:** Opening Day of Grace School

