



THE
MOUNTAIN
RANGE
OF THE LORD'S GLORY

MOUNT OF ASCENSION

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: Easter 7

Phone: 763-784-8784

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Date: May 29, 2022

✠ **WORSHIP INFORMATION** ✠

Hymns:

TLH 213: Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

Choir: Be Still, My Soul (after Collect)

TLH 218: See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

TLH 212, st 1-6: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Graduation Recognition (Alumni: Go Now in Peace)

TLH 212, st 7: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Worship Prep:

Psalm 47, TLH p. 134

Liturgy:

WS, p. 12 (Projected)

Psalm 2, WS p. 30

Scripture Readings:

Colossians 3:1-4, 12-17

Acts 1:1-11

Sermon: Luke 24:50-53

⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen. (NKJVTM)

**MOUNT OF ASCENSION:
WHERE JESUS GAVE HIS JOYOUS BLESSING**

CLC E-Devotion – May 26, 2022

Luke 24:44 Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.”

Ascension Fulfillment

Jesus divides the Old Testament Word of truth into three sections: the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms. Sure enough, if you look into any one of those places, you will see your ascended Savior present and still blessing His church.

In the Law of Moses you will find that it was necessary for Jesus to die and rise again in the first Gospel promise in Genesis 3:15:

*And I will put enmity Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her Seed;
He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.*

We find in the prophets what Jesus came to do, for example in Isaiah 53:4:

*Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.*

And in the Psalms you have the death of Jesus prophesied in Psalm 22 and learn of the resurrection in Psalm 16:9-10:

*Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also
will rest in hope.
For You will not leave my soul in Sheol,
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.*

We also now have the Gospels-and the entire New Testament-which show us how Jesus fulfilled the Scriptures and open our eyes to see our Savior with the eyes of faith. With the last words of Revelation we have the assurance that we have the complete Word of truth. There is nothing more to be added, and the Word will never change. Jesus continues to bless His church by preserving the Word so that we may know Him as our ascended Lord and ever-present Savior.



Grace School Update

This past Thursday Grace Lutheran School concluded its 2021-22 school year. The LORD certainly showered the school year with many blessings, including the opportunity to minister to the 28 young lambs of God that we were privileged to serve with the Good News of salvation through their Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.



The evening before closing there were over 100 people in attendance packed in the fellowship hall to watch the children perform their school play. A lot of conversation and support for the school followed. In fact, as school closed on Thursday, a grandmother of one of the non-member students gave a beautiful and encouraging speech in front of all the students and their parents to express her genuine appreciation for all that the school does in educating not only her grandchildren, but all the students. She had fondly observed the closeness and intimacy that the school offers with its family atmosphere and caring touch. The speech was quite inspiring to listen to as she thanked Grace Lutheran Church for providing and supporting this school. It would have been wonderful if this could have been relayed directly to the congregation and may have surprised many among us to hear such uplifting compliments.

Even before school closed, new and different contacts reached out to the teaching staff about potential registration for the 2022-23 school year. These parents met with Mrs. and Pastor Hein during this past week. One was a single mother of a potential 6th grader and then a set of parents with a 5th grader who also have a pre-schooler and a baby on the way. After learning about our school and church, these contacts had a sincere interest in sending their children. But according to Grace's current plan, Mrs. Hein had to inform them that their children would have to be placed on a waiting list as her 3rd-8th grade classroom had already reached maximum capacity at 20 students. The only classroom that could handle more students would be Mrs. Nelson's classroom for K-2nd grade as we expect 9 students. Last summer other families were placed on a waiting list since we believed the school had already reached capacity. But we are already at this point, amazingly even before our current school year had ended!

To announce this news to these eager parents was agonizing and devastating for the staff. It was heartbreaking to see the disappointment in the interested parents. These were quality contacts with a sincere interest in their children receiving a quality Christian education. In fact, even after being told that their children would likely be unable to attend our school, their interest continued as they asked what could possibly make it a reality. The single mother is already interested in instruction classes with Pastor given how our church fits many of the features for which she has been searching. The couple is also searching for church and could possibly be interested in learning more about us.

After praying and thinking about the current plans, Mrs. Hein conveyed to the Board of Education that she would be willing to do whatever could be done to accommodate these families. The Board of Education is now reevaluating its current plan and attempting to creatively come up with new plans to address the interest we are now observing. When phoning these contacts with this news, one parent started crying in appreciation for the opportunity her child had to attend Grace.

These situations are being reported to the congregation for a couple reasons:

- 1) To relay to the congregation and help it understand and be aware how keeping things as they have been in the school are making it quite challenging for the school's staff
- 2) To convey how turning away students may be impacting potential interest in our church and certainly the ministry of the Word to those who desire it for their children

For the past few years pastor has been reporting to the congregation how there has been a growing interest in the school and the great need for us to be prepared for this. Many concerned parents are seeking for their children a solid Christian education and Christ-centered foundation that isn't polluted with many of the ungodly and immoral philosophies being promoted in our current secular society. The contacts we've had have been surprised to find a Christian school like ours, even wondering why it is so small when it appears to be such a significant blessing. Those non-members who have sent their children have time and again expressed their sincere appreciation to the staff for what their children are receiving, eager to promote our school but knowing our potential inability to expand. Who knows what is being communicated in our

community when we end up turning away contacts to our school? What message are we giving to the world about our church? These are questions we all need to consider and be mindful about as we face and address this positive challenge that is before us.

This announcement is to open the door for more conversation in our congregation about the school. Some of the various issues have been raised, but not really discussed thoroughly or openly as a church even though the teaching staff and the Board of Education have certainly wrestled with the situation. As a result, there has been a “spinning of the wheels” as to how to proceed. Obviously the school is here primarily for our member children to have a thorough training in the Word of God. This is always communicated to our non-member families with the secondary goal to reach out to the world with the Word of God, thus including them in our school as well. But questions have been raised about what the ratio of member to non-member students should be. For a number of years it has been about 50% each. Would the congregation support having more non-members enrolled? Does the education of our members get negatively impacted should more non-members attend? Some of these questions are addressed during the non-member enrollment process as the staff always relays that Grace Lutheran will do what is necessary to retain the quality of education by a continuous evaluation of a student’s enrollment, even terminating enrollment if it means preserving the learning atmosphere that we offer all our students. Given that parents desire to have a first-rate Christian education, this is well understood and accepted as being necessary.

Also, can the congregation think of ways to expand the enrollment through other means, even for the upcoming year? Can we open Mrs. Hein’s sliding classroom door and expand into the fellowship hall? Should we ask for more volunteers from the congregation to help the teachers in their expanding workload? Our school has been greatly blessed by the many volunteers who already are engaged and helpful in their assistance to the teachers. Would there be enough support for another full-time teacher so that the classes could be divided up more equally in the three different classrooms? Should tuition for non-members be increased? Should tuition be charged to our members?

All these questions have been asked, reconsidered, and discussed by the teachers and the Board of Education. This summer we still have two upcoming events to help promote our school with the advertising we do

in the Spring Lake Park parade and with Vacation Bible School having been a boost to our school's enrollment in the past. These are two of the biggest ways that we make ourselves known in the community. Only the LORD knows what the interest level will be by the end of this summer as He lays before us opportunities to share the Good News of His marvelous salvation plan in which we ourselves find great delight.

It has become clear to the staff and Board of Education that our school is becoming a big draw as it shines as a beacon in the midst of the darkness that this world offers. Do we all understand this? Can we continue with things as they are? Are we ready to see how the LORD will lead us as we minister to these young lambs? Let us turn to Him in prayer, humbly seek His wisdom, and consider how we can address these issues as we rely on Him and His good pleasure. The Board of Education certainly welcomes your input and ideas regarding this: James Bomber, Roger Ochsner, Tom Graham.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! ⁵ "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸ "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Martin Luther on Christian Schools

"When schools prosper, the Church remains righteous and her doctrine pure Young pupils and students are the seed and source of the Church, If we were dead, whence would come our successors, if not from the schools? For the sake of the Church we must have and maintain Christian schools. They may not appear attractive, but they are useful and necessary. Children are taught the Lord's Prayer and the Creed, and thus the Church is wonderfully aided through the primary schools."



✝ ***THE ANNOUNCEMENTS*** ✝

- ➔ **Graduation Recognition:** Today we recognize our graduates from our Christian Day School. What a marvelous Christian foundation our congregation has been able to provide all the children who attend Grace Lutheran School. We also congratulate and wish the Lord's richest blessings upon the other graduates in our midst:

- ☆ Micah Rinne – Grace Lutheran School
- ☆ Naomi Story – Grace Lutheran School
- ☆ Alieu Kanneh – Fridley High School
- ☆ Daniel Hein – Immanuel Lutheran High School
- ☆ Julianna Hein – Minneapolis Community and Tech. (Dental Assistant)

- ➔ **Among Us:** At our Ascension service, it was reported that Alvin Jask would have a procedure to stop potentially bleeding in his head. This was suspended as the doctors try to figure out a new plan. May the LORD provide Alvin with the assurance that he is in His care.
- ➔ **Grace Lutheran School** staff is planning for the 2022-23 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child in our school, please speak to one of the teachers for an enrollment form.
- ➔ **Summer Hospitality:** If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.
- ➔ **Scanning:** The Council is looking for someone who might be willing to scan Grace's historical church records to archive for preservation purposes. If anyone is willing to do this, please speak with Eli Wales.
- ➔ **Parade:** The Spring Lake Park Tower Days parade is Thursday, June 9. We encourage all of our families to come and walk in the parade. There is a sign-up sheet for t-shirts by the guest book. We usually meet at 5:45 p.m. in the parking lot of Woodcrest School and together we walk down Able St. to the parade site. The parade starts at 6:30 and usually lasts a little more than an hour. Please speak with James Bomber for more details.



- ➔ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 25-29, 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.
- ➔ **Lutheran Spokesman:** Today is the last day to sign up on the sheet by the guest book. The cost is covered by the congregation.
- ➔ **Daily Rest:** Today is the last day to speak with Jan Davis about subscribing to this quarterly devotion book.

- ➔ **CLC Convention:** On June 23-26 the CLC Convention will be held on the ILC campus in Eau Claire, WI. Our two delegates – Benno Sydow and Tom Graham – will be attending with Pastor Hein. The Prospectus is the document to help people know what business will be coming before the Convention. You may find this and print your own copies at: tinyurl.com/CLC-Prosp-2022. Please pray for the kingdom work and speak to our delegates with any reactions you may want them to consider in their comments or decision making.
- ➔ **Book:** Pastor Emeritus Dale Redlin is publishing his final book, “My Father’s Business.” It is a small book with 244 pages. It, very briefly, covers our Savior’s life lived for us---from the manger-crib to His return to heaven to prepare a place for us. The price of the book is \$12.50 for each copy. Since Pastor needs to get an idea for number of copies for consignment, please sign up if you are interested. These should be available after the CLC Convention.
- ➔ **Black Hills Family Bible Camp:** Camping in the Black Hills, studies in God’s Word. The camp runs from the evening of Friday July 15 through the morning of Tuesday July 19. To sign up or for more info., contact Pastor Aaron Ude (605.393.1311/aaronude@gmail.com).
- ➔ **CLC News:** Pastor David Ude of Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton, WI, has returned the call to Redemption Lutheran in Lynnwood, WA (Seattle area). † Pastor Samuel Naumann of Resurrection Lutheran in Corpus Christi, TX, has received the call to Ascension Lutheran in Tacoma, WA.

WHY A CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL FOR OUR CHILDREN

1. A Christian Day School can assist parents to provide the answer to the question “How can I be saved?” Jesus says: “I am the Way.”
2. The Christian Day School assists the congregation of believers to carry out the responsibility to teach children the Word of God. “Feed My lambs.”
3. The Christian Day School uses God’s Word to give God’s perspective to all subjects generally taught in schools. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” Science must begin with the knowledge that God is the Creator and Preserver of the universe. Math is used to promote wise stewardship of our God-given goods and property. History is the record of how God guides the destinies of men and nations.
4. The Christian Day School makes the love of God the basis and motive in training character. “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”
5. The Christian Day School can spend the proper amount of time to the “one thing needful” - God’s Word.

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: **Janelle Hein**

Elder: **Dale Enns**

Ushers: **Eli Wales; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan; Ryan Oman; Bob Vandever**

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

Church Cleaners: **Volunteers?** School: **Wales**

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: **Eli Wales; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Degnan; Ryan Oman; Bob Vandever**

Counting Team 3: **Duane Enns; Tom Graham; Kevin Hulke; Dan Degnan; Benno Sydow**

Church Cleaners: **Volunteers?**

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., May 29: 9:00 am – Worship (Easter 7/Graduation Sunday)
Mon., May 30: Memorial Day
Sun., June 5: 9:00 am – Worship w/Lord's Supper (Pentecost Sunday)
Thu., June 9: 5:45 pm – Meet for Spring Lake Park Parade
Sat., June 11: 10:00 am – MN Delegate Conference @ Eagle Lake, MN
June 23-26: CLC Convention @ Eau Claire, WI
July 25-29: 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School
Sat., Aug. 6: 9:00 am – Grace School Work Day
Sun., Aug. 21: 3:00 pm – Immanuel Opening Service
Tues., Aug. 23: 7:00 pm – Grace School Ice Cream Social
Mon., Aug. 29: Opening Day of Grace School

Last Week's Stats: May 22, 2022 Sun.: 83 S.S.: 12 B.Cl.: 43 Thu.: 39

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,312	CLC:	\$1,495
Thu. Offering:	Grace:	\$564	CLC:	\$90
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,250	CLC:	1,020
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+9,276	CLC:	+3,060
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$93,617	CLC:	\$23,000
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	85,000	CLC:	20,400
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+8,617	CLC:	+2,600
GLC Other: 105	Living Faith: 0	Tuition Aid: 140		
SAF Endowment: 0	MDF: 0	Kinship: 114		
ILC Student Aid: 20	ILC Bldg. 20	IIF: 0 CEF: 0		
Current Balances:		Tuition Aid: \$1,612	Organ: \$55,617	



For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. - Ephesians 2:8-9