

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: Pentecost 4

Date: June 25, 2023

✠ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✠

Hymns:

TLH 1: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty
TLH 173: Lord Jesus, We Give Thanks to Thee
TLH 371: Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness
WS 769: Lift High the Cross

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

Worship Prep:

Psalm 46, TLH p. 134

Liturgy:

WS p. 12 (Projected)

Scripture Readings:

Job 38:1-11

Mark 4:35-41

Sermon: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

¹⁴ For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. ¹⁶ Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (NKJVTM)

**God Pleads through Us:
"Be Reconciled to God"**

† ***THE ANNOUNCEMENTS*** †

- ➔ **Special Voters Meeting:** Following worship today the Voters will have a special meeting to consider the possibility of calling a Part-Time Kindergarten Teacher. Please come for this important decision. May the LORD lead us with wisdom and may His will be done regarding this matter. We look to Him in all things.
- ➔ **Summer Hospitality:** If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.
- ➔ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 24-28, 9:00-11:30 am, we will hold our VBS. This includes children age 4 years, to children going into 8th 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.
- ➔ **Parenting Bible Study:** A parenting Bible Study is being planned this summer for Wed. evenings in July and 1st Wed. in August. The study will be based, in part, on the book "Shepherding a Child's Heart" by Ted Tripp. In preparation please purchase his book from Amazon (mindful that it is a NON-Lutheran source, so some of his teachings are off). Attendees should read the chapters ahead of time for in-class discussion. We are working to arrange child-care during each session through Youth Group volunteers. Contact Pastor Pfeiffer for more information (pastor@BereaCLC.org / 651-432-0101).
- ➔ **CLC Mission Helpers to Nepal:** Thirteen Mission Helpers will depart from Chicago tomorrow on their way to Kathmandu, Nepal, where they will be met by Pastor Raju Bhitrakoti, his family, and other pastors and members of the Himalayan Church of the Lutheran Confession of Nepal (HCLCN). The Mission Helpers will divide into three teams as they spend the next couple of weeks proclaiming the simple Gospel message to approx. 1,500 children in Himalayan villages where HCLCN congregations are located. You can follow along with the Mission Helpers blog at: 2023CLCMHTNepal.blogspot.com. Your prayers are requested and much appreciated.
- ➔ **Porcupine Mountains Youth Camping Trip:** August 5-9 for students entering grades 8-12. Info and registration at tinyurl.com/Porkies23. Questions? Contact Adam Schmid: (715) 514-9345, aschmidy2003@gmail.com.
- ➔ **Man Up! Weekend:** September 21-24, at Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. Register and send in your payment before Aug. 31 for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after Sept. 1. This includes lodging and meals. Register by going to: www.manup.clclutheran.org and clicking on the Registration Form.

CLC Email Devotion – March 10, 2022

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ. We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain.

The Grace of God

“Grace” is another biblical jewel which glistens from many different angles. Talk about words with big meanings, here’s one of the littlest with one of the biggest meanings:

“This word is very precious to believers. It tells why God would take all that time and go to all those pains to provide something good for human beings. The definition most learn already in Catechism serves well for our understanding of grace: ‘undeserved kindness.’ It’s in the general category with God’s love, good will, and mercy. Without the quality of grace on God’s part, there’s no reason in all the world for Him to save mankind ...” (Great Words of the Bible, p. 7ff, available through the CLC Bookhouse).

It was truly ‘undeserved kindness’ which moved God to make Jesus who knew no sin to be sin for us, to make Jesus undergo the agony of death in our stead, so that we might be considered as having undergone this agony ourselves-and all that only because of Christ’s sacrifice FOR US.

We Lutheran Christians talk and sing a lot about grace and grace alone. In Catechism class most of us memorized the passage Paul writes to the Ephesians: “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.” (2:8-9). Like was said of true “righteousness,” even so “grace” is truly a “gift of God.”

That means, whenever the term is used, know it is speaking of a quality of God, not of man (it is not a quality “infused” into believers-a false teaching of the Roman Catholic Church). When he speaks of the “election of grace,” Paul writes: “And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; otherwise grace is no longer grace” (Romans 11:6).

As an ambassador for Christ and a worker together with Him, the apostle pleads with his readers “not to receive the grace of God in vain.” False teachers then (known as “Judaizers”) and also today attempt to add their own merits to God’s grace. Any adding of merits to God’s grace ruins it! So as we sing of the blessings of God’s grace, we also warn ourselves against ruining it:

By grace God’s Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone
That brought Him from His heav’nly throne.
(Lutheran Service Book, 566:3)

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: **Maureen Ochsner**

Elder: **Eli Wales**

Ushers: **Gary Gunther; Daniel Hein; Alieu Kanneh; Bob Maki; Bill Rust; David Stifter; Jeff Stifter; Joel Stifter**

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

Church Cleaners: **Sydow**

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: **Gary Gunther; Daniel Hein; Alieu Kanneh; Bob Maki; Bill Rust; David Stifter; Jeff Stifter; Joel Stifter**

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

Church Cleaners: **B. & S. Vandever**

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

Sun., June 25: 9:00 am – Worship (Pentecost 4)

10:00 am – Special Voters Meeting

Sun., July 2: 9:00 am – Worship w/Lord's Supper (Pentecost 5)

Sun., July 9: 9:00 am – Worship (Pentecost 6)

July 24-28: 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

Sat., Aug. 5: 9:00 am – Grace School Work Day

Sun., Aug. 20: 3:00 pm – Immanuel Opening Service

Mon., Aug. 28: Grace School's Opening Day

Last Week's Stats: June 18, 2023 Sun.: 82

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$4,659	CLC:	\$810			
Weekly Need:	Grace:	4,500	CLC:	1,080			
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+159	CLC:	-270			
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$119,040	CLC:	\$27,702			
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	112,500	CLC:	27,000			
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+6,540	CLC:	+702			
GLC Other:	0	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	0	Sanctuary:	250
SAF Endowment:	0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	210	EduK8:	0
ILC Student Aid:	25	ILC Bldg.	0	IIF:	0	CEF:	0
Current Balances:	Tuition Aid:		\$2,801	Sanctuary:		\$12,225	



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