

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Member: *CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION*

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

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School Phone: 763-784-6340

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Easter 6

Date: May 5, 2024

✠ **WORSHIP INFORMATION** ✠

Hymns:

TLH 473: The Church's One Foundation
Sunday School: TLH 625: Oh, Blest the House
TLH 493: Thou Who the Night in Prayer Didst Spend
WS 764: God of Grace and God of Glory
Communion Distribution – WS 755
TLH 207, st. 6: Like the Golden Sun Ascending

Worship Prep:

Psalm 98, TLH p. 144

Liturgy:

WS p. 1 (Communion)

Scripture Readings:

1 John 4:1-11
John 15:9-17

Sermon: Acts 11:19-26

¹⁹ Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. ²⁰ But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. ²¹ And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. ²² Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. ²³ When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. ²⁴ For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. ²⁵ Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. ²⁶ And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. (NKJVTM)

The Hand of the Lord at Work in His Church

✝ **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS** ✝

- ➔ **Divine Call:** As reported last Sunday after worship, Laura Wales has accepted the divine call to serve as our Part-Time Kindergarten Teacher. The LORD bless her kingdom work with His young lambs.
- ➔ **Grace Lutheran School** staff is planning for the 2024-25 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child in our school, please speak to one of the teachers for an enrollment form.
- ➔ **Ascension Worship:** 40 days after Jesus' resurrection He ascended into heaven visibly from His disciples. Knowing that He was now seated at the right hand of the Father in full glory and ruling over all things, they worshipped Him with great joy. Our opportunity to worship Him is this Thursday, May 9, 7 pm.
- ➔ **Confirmation:** Confirmation for Lucas Boe, Cam Nelson, and Reagan Oman will be on Sunday, May 19. Examination will take place at 9 am followed by the worship service at 10 am. May the Lord bless their preparation! Following the worship service during our regular hospitality hour there will be a reception in the fellowship hall in which a light luncheon will be served. Invitations are on the bulletin board.
- ➔ **Graduates:** Please list any member of Grace that is graduating this year (Jan-Dec 2024) on the sheet by the guest book. Include the school's name and the degree. Our Graduation Sunday is May 26. Cam Nelson, Reagan Oman, Daniel Rinne, and Bella Roche will also graduate from Grace School that day.
- ➔ **Summer Worship Schedule:** On Sunday, May 26, the summer schedule will begin with worship service held at 9 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will be suspended for the summer.
- ➔ **Parade Outreach:** Our school will be participating in the Spring Lake Park parade on Thursday, June 6. The parade begins at 6:30 pm. We usually meet at Woodcrest Spanish Immersion School on Osborne Rd. at 5:45 and walk over to the designated area from there. Please put this on your calendar and consider joining us!
- ➔ **Vacation Bible School:** On July 22-26, 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.



- ➔ **Spring Planting:** Planting day is planned for Saturday, May 11 at 1 pm. Please contact Heidi Nelson with questions.
- ➔ **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. Jan Davis 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: Jan Davis, 7986 Van Buren Street NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432. Please contact her (davis7986@gmail.com/612-590-5354) for instructions if you wish to submit your payment electronically through Zelle® or Venmo®.
- ➔ **The Branches:** If you would like to start receiving *The Branches* magazine, please contact Sandy Hulke at thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com. All other subscriptions will automatically be renewed. Any changes, please let Sandy know.
- ➔ **ILC Finals Meal:** Berea and Grace in Fridley are combining efforts this year to collect money for a special Finals Feast at ILC for students and staff. Our goal is to collect \$1,400 to cover the cost of a Chick-fil-A meal. If you can contribute, please leave an envelope with cash or a check made out to Dave Aymond or ILC with Heidi Nelson within the next three weeks.
- ➔ **Concluding Activities at Immanuel:** Friday, May 17, 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 Concert Choir and Tour Choir at Messiah Lutheran Church. On Saturday, May 18, the concluding Graduation worship service will take place at 10 am at the ILC Fieldhouse. 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.



- ➔ **Retirement:** Quinn Sprengeler is retiring at the end of this current school year with 41 years in the teaching ministry and 29 years at Redemption Lutheran in Lynnwood, WA. A lifetime of service to the Lord and His flock for which we are all extremely grateful! A farewell celebration is on June 9 after a 11:30 am service. Contact: Pastor Jonah Albrecht at jonaalbr@gmail.com.
- ➔ **Retirement:** Teacher Ann Sprengeler has taught at Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI, for 35 years. A surprise retirement party is planned for Ann Sprengeler at 12:30 pm, Sunday, May 19. Questions? Contact: Rebecca Lillo at beccaday@gmail.com.
- ➔ **Retirement:** After 44 years of faithful service in the teaching ministry of Christ's lambs, Dan Barthels will be retiring at the end of this present school year. His retirement party will take place at Gethsemane Lutheran of Saginaw, MI, Sunday June 30, after the 10 am worship service. Contact: Pastor Wilke at 989-220-1266 or mikedwilke@gmail.com.
- ➔ **CLC News:** Mrs. Laura Wales has accepted the call to be Part-Time Kindergarten Teacher at Grace Lutheran in Fridley, MN.
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** #27 – Review of Sacraments



Last Week's Stats: Apr. 28, 2024 Sun.: 68 S.S.: 11 B.C.I.: 33

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$4,743	CLC:	\$1,240			
Weekly Need (est.):	Grace:	4,900	CLC:	1,135			
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-682	CLC:	-525			
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$76,931	CLC:	\$18,540			
Year-to-Date Need (est.):	Grace:	78,400	CLC:	18,160			
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-1,469	CLC:	+380			
GLC Other:	0	Living Faith:	10	Tuition Aid:	50	Sanctuary:	50
SAF Endowment:	0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	167	EduK8:	0
ILC Student Aid:	50	ILC Bldg.	0	IIF:	0	CEF:	0
Current Balances:	Tuition Aid:		\$1,642	Sanctuary:		\$4,480	

Welcome to our guests and visitors. We appreciate the opportunity to share God's Word with you today. Please come again! Those interested in learning more about the Scriptures and our doctrinal position, please speak with Pastor Hein. He would be delighted to speak with you!



CLC E-Devotion – August 11, 2016

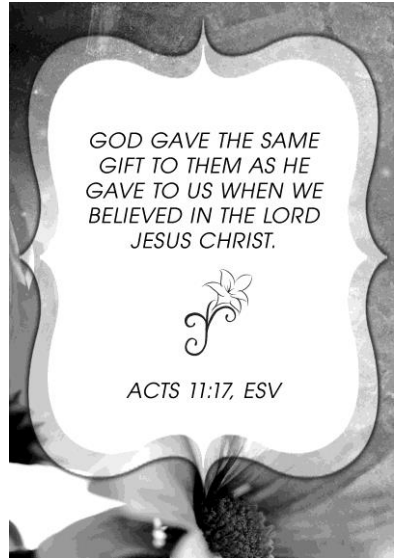
Acts 11:20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, evangelizing about the Lord Jesus...

CENTERS

In the eleventh chapter of Acts, we have an interesting bit of history: how the center of Christian witness shifted from Jerusalem to Antioch. This is interesting because it occasionally shifts also in our day. You and I may worship in America. But our ancestors came from around the world, and many studied God's Word far away from here. The center of our Christian witness can change.

Not that some church leaders sat down and decided, "We think that Antioch would serve as a better center for spreading Christianity." No, it was the persecution that followed Stephen's martyrdom that scattered the believers. But they took with them the good news of Jesus wherever they went. At first they conversed only with fellow Jews. Then some men from the Mediterranean island of Cypress and the African city of Cyrene came to Antioch and talked with non-Jews. It doesn't say they preached, but just that they talked with some non-Jews of Antioch, speaking the good news about Jesus, and the hand of the Lord was with them, and many believed.

Many times God has used his children in this way. They were not all preachers. But, scattered by a variety of circumstances (sometimes even disasters), people, talking with the people they met, have told them the history of Jesus and what a future that history had given them. They did this not because they felt guilty about their failures to do mission work, but from the joy that overflowed their hearts because the love of God had been poured out upon them in Jesus, their Savior and King.



CLC President's Letter – May 2024

"Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" – 1 Corinthians 15:57.

Dear Brothers,

I grew up at a time when Westerns ruled the silver screen. My brothers and I couldn't get enough of the likes of John Wayne, Jimmy Stewart, Gary Cooper, and many others. With their quick draw and a steady aim the bad guys didn't stand a chance. Every night we could also find a good western on our old black and white. TV series like Gunsmoke, Bonanza, and the Big Valley were some of our favorites; and, if we weren't throwing the football around, we were roaming the neighborhood, decked out in our Stetsons and cowboy boots, with our six shooters close by our side. And, no matter what, whether it was on the screen or in our play, the good guys always won.

In real life it sure doesn't seem to be that way, does it? In fact, most days it looks like evil is winning. Forty years ago, a writer described the culture back then as one which was slouching toward Gomorrah. Today, it would seem that we are living right smack dab in the middle of Gomorrah. While it's doubtful that our nation has ever been a truly Christian nation, yet, not so long ago, there was a much greater understanding among the general population about the difference between right and wrong. Not so day. We live in a time where evil is said to be good, and where good is labeled as evil. Nothing is sacred nowadays, and few know what it means to feel shame. It's not that people were any less sinful fifty years ago than they are today. It's that Satan, through media and other means, has managed to dull the collective conscience of our nation. The idea that humanity needs to be rescued from hell rings hollow in a culture where sin has become a foreign concept. Thus, the Gospel is regarded as an outdated message, not one that any intelligent person would ever take seriously.



No question about it, the days are growing increasingly evil. But does that mean Satan is winning? Does it mean we should throw up our

hands in defeat? Not at all! The truth of the matter is that Satan has already lost. On the cross the punishment that sin deserves was laid upon Christ. He paid it all for all. His death on the cross erases whatever guilty accusations that Satan may try to hurl our way. By our Savior's resurrection, Satan has been routed and death and hell have been forever vanquished. With His descent into hell, Christ has made a public demonstration to all there, showing his triumph over all evil. As the Ascended King of kings, Christ continues to win every moment of every day, working all things together for the good of His Church. Satan may think himself clever, but he's actually the biggest loser ever

While we dare never take that roaring lion lightly, let us remember that in Christ we are more than conquerors. Rather than sit back and shake our heads at the present state of affairs, let us take up the Sword of the Spirit and go on the offensive. Satan can only cower in fear as we take aim at him with God's mighty Word. It's high noon in this present evil age. The foes are fierce, and we seem greatly outnumbered. But they cannot win. Jesus has already gunned down all our enemies. While it is still day let us go forward proclaiming the victory of our God over sin, death and hell.

*Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us.
We tremble not, we fear no ill, They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none, He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him. – TLH #262:3*

In His Service,
Pastor Michael Wilke

Prayer Considerations:

- ◆ While we continue to pray for the Lord's help in meeting our Day School teacher needs, we are thankful that three of our six teacher vacancies have been filled. We also thank God that the Marquette/Iron River congregations have been blessed with a full-time pastor, namely, Seminary graduate, Paul Agenten.
- ◆ Please pray, also, for God's blessings upon our upcoming convention, that He may graciously guide and bless our deliberations and decisions to His glory and for the welfare of His kingdom.

✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: **Janelle Hein**

Elder: **Eli Wales**

Ushers: **Al Rosendahl; Kyle Aymond; Kevin Hulke; Jack Maki; John Maki; Keith Radichel; Grant Wells**

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

Hospitality Team 3: **Jan Davis, Ryan & Mikey Oman; Laura Wales; Janelle Hein**

Church Cleaners: **Volunteers?** School: **Vandever**

✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

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

Counting Team 4: **Gary Gunther; Roger Ochsner; Al Rosendahl; Dave Rust**

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

✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., May 5:** 8:45 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship w/Lord's Supper (Easter 6)
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 3)
12:00 pm – Council Meeting (to free up Mother's Day)
- Thu., May 9:** **ASCENSION DAY**
7:00 pm – Ascension Day Worship
- Fri., May 10:** Field Day @ Inver Grove Hts. (Grades 5-8) (K-4 No School)
- Sun., May 12:** 8:45 am – Choir Practice
9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship (Easter 7)
11:00-12:30 pm – Confirmation Prep
- Fri., May 17:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal
3:00 pm – Immanuel Class Day @ ILC Fieldhouse
7:30 pm – Immanuel Spring Concert @ Messiah Lutheran
- Sat., May 18:** 10:00 am – Immanuel Graduation Service @ ILC Fieldhouse
- Sun., May 19:** **PENTECOST/CONFIRMATION DAY**
9:00 am – Confirmation Examination
10:00 am – Worship (Pentecost/Confirmation)
11:00 am – Confirmation Reception/Hospitality (Team 4)
- Thu., May 23:** 7:00 pm – Grace School's Spring Program
- Fri., May 24:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal for Summer
- Sun., May 26:** **SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS**
9:00 am – Worship (Summer Schedule Begins, Grace Graduation)
5:45 pm – Meet for Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade
- Thu., June 6:** 10:00 am – Minnesota Delegate Conference (Fridley, MN)
- Sat., June 8:** 10:00 am – Minnesota Delegate Conference (Fridley, MN)
- June 20-23:** CLC Convention (Eau Claire, WI)
- July 22-26:** 9:00-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

