

# Grace Lutheran Church & School



460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432

Email: [john.p.hein@gmail.com](mailto:john.p.hein@gmail.com)

Home Page: [www.FridleyLutheran.org](http://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-8<sup>th</sup>

**Church Year:** Last Sunday/Christ the King

**Date:** November 24, 2024

## ✝ WORSHIP INFORMATION ✝

### Hymns:

TLH 17: Oh, Worship the King

Choir: All Glory be to God on High

WS 757: Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning

TLH 339: All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

TLH 657: Beautiful Savior

Listening assistance is available. Please ask an usher.

### Worship Prep:

Psalm 47, TLH p. 134

### Liturgy:

WS p. 12 (Projected)

WS p. 25, Psalm 24

### Scripture Readings:

Daniel 7:13-14

Revelation 1:4-8

### Sermon: Psalm 47:1-9

<sup>1</sup>Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph! <sup>2</sup>For the LORD Most High *is* awesome; *He is* a great King over all the earth. <sup>3</sup>He will subdue the peoples under us, And the nations under our feet. <sup>4</sup>He will choose our inheritance for us, The excellence of Jacob whom He loves. Selah <sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout, The LORD with the sound of a trumpet. <sup>6</sup>Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! <sup>7</sup>For God *is* the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding. <sup>8</sup>God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne. <sup>9</sup>The princes of the people have gathered together, The people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth *belong* to God; He is greatly exalted. (NKJV<sup>TM</sup>)

# Exercise Your Right to Vote for Your King!

## † **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS** †

- ➔ **Thanksgiving Service:** This Wed. evening, Nov. 27, 7:00 pm, we will be having our Thanksgiving worship service. We have a wonderful opportunity to bring our hearts and praises before the altar of our Lord to express our thanks to Him. Psalm 92:1-2: "It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night."
- ➔ **The Christmas Tree:** will be set up and decorated in the sanctuary on Fri., Nov. 29, 9 am. Anyone who would like to help is welcome!
- ➔ **Among Us:** Recently Cindy Bruckbauer had surgery at the St. Cloud hospital to repair digestive blockage plus to remove her appendix. Strangely, Tom Graham is at the hospital in Princeton with the same problems, having surgery to remove a ruptured appendix but now hoping the blockage will be resolved without surgery. "Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I *am* weak; O LORD, heal me, ..." (Psalm 6:2)
- ➔ **Midweek Advent Worship:** Beginning Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7 pm, we will hold Midweek Advent worship services with the theme: "Jesus Christ, the Light of Our Christmas." These services will focus on Jesus bringing us the light of righteousness in the midst of this dark world of sin. Our last one on Dec. 18 will be our annual candlelight service preceded by the congregational Christmas meal at 6 pm. Join us during this precious time of year to ponder our Savior's coming.
- ➔ **Liberia Update:** This week Missionary Todd Ohlmann and Board of Missions Chairman Joel Krafft both traveled to Liberia. They have been able to meet with most of our contacts there. Pastor Hein and Pastor Joseph Kwiwalazu organized the trip around a pastoral conference in Gbarnga. Pastor Hein was able to join the conference via video conference for about an hour in order to catch up with the attendees and encourage the group. It was a joy to see the pastors together and some progress was made toward a church body constitution of what will be called, God willing, the Liberian Church of the Lutheran Confession (LCLC) and toward establishing fellowship with some of those who have gone through training.
- ➔ **CLC News:** Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI, has returned the call to St. Stephen Lutheran in Mountain View, CA (San Francisco area). † Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Ev. Lutheran in Spokane, WA has received the call to Faith Lutheran in Manchester, MO (St. Louis area).
- ➔ **Sunday School Memory Work:** Christmas Eve Individual Parts



# JOY IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD:

Written by Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 11/2008

What is the best part of your day, or of your week? The answer of course will depend on what an individual thinks is important. For many of us days and weeks are very busy with legitimate pursuits. For others of us whose shadows are lengthening, the day and week is frequently consumed by contemplating how it used to be. In the former case joy is to a certain extent dictated by the success we have enjoyed in our pursuits. For the latter the joy frequently comes in memories and unexpected events as the day unfolds. But when all is said and done all that which brought joy in our lives comes to an end. We die and there is no joy in death.

To that extent our life is no different than that of the people of the earth through the ages. Frequently as one "mall-sits" and observes people, some rushing here and there, others resting on the bench simply putting in time until the day ends one wonders what lies behind the quick step and smiling face of the busy shopper, or within the heart of the weary bench-sitter.

One wonders. Is the busyness of the majority or the weariness of others indicative of something? Are some so busy that they have no time for the Lord God, if indeed they even know Him. Is the busyness they exhibit merely a mask for the insecurity they feel? Is their heart consumed with "getting", but void of meaning and hope? What about the weary and worn? Are they drowning in self-pity at the way it used to be when they were able to spend their time in chasing their dreams? We do not know, but this we *do* know. How dark and void the heart if Christ is not welcome and does not dwell in one's heart!

People die and there is no joy in death? Is that really so? Where Christ is not all in all it is so, but for the Christ believer who knows and believes that he is known of God having been redeemed by the blood of the Lord Jesus the sorrows we know and the loneliness we feel is supplanted by joy in remembering that the Lord Jesus Christ has not forgotten us. Even death itself cannot separate from God the trusting heart. There is sorrow of separation in the heart of those whom we leave behind in death, but there is joy for those who have departed in the Lord. The child of God can say, "Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness; To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever" (Psalm 30: 11- 12). There is joy in the presence of God for those who have died in the Lord. I wonder, and I wonder, how many of the busy shoppers and the weary bench-sitters know that and believe that!

Occasionally I wonder the same about ourselves- not because we do not believe, but because we do not take time during the day to come into the presence of God in our devotion, or pause on the day of worship to come into the presence of God around the Word and sacrament? Do we permit our legitimate pursuits and frequently our material and temporal concerns deprive us of the joy of being in God's kingdom even now? Are we so consumed by the past that we cannot appreciate the fact that our God is still with us, and has laid up for us an eternal inheritance? If our hearts are not filled with joy even in the midst of present sorrows might it be because we have trampled Him under foot in our daily pursuits or because we have placed the Lord on the back bench of our heart or have let Him in only at our convenience?

You are happy and joyful you say? Good! But only that joy is real that is rooted in the love of God who daily invites us to come into His presence now and hereafter.

# **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## **Christmas Season Worship Schedule**

### **Midweek Advent Services:**

Wed., Dec. 4 – 7:00 pm

Wed., Dec. 11 – 7:00 pm

“Jesus Christ, the Light of Our Christmas.” Special meditations to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child.

### **Candlelight Service:**

Wed., Dec. 18 – 7:00 pm

A service of readings & hymns along with the lighting of candles to celebrate the light of Christ’s rule in our hearts.

Preceded by Congregational Christmas Meal @ 6:00 pm

### **Christmas Eve Service:**

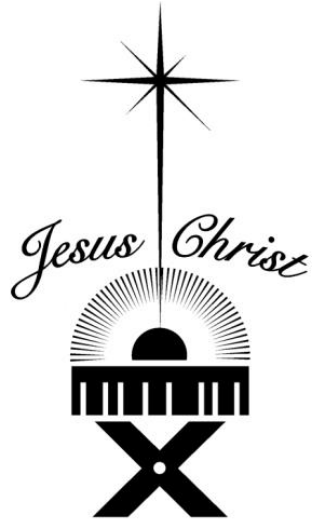
Tue., Dec. 24 – 6:00 pm

“The Cross in the Christmas Tree.” A service in which the children present the timeless and treasured Christmas message.

### **Christmas Day Service:**

Wed., Dec. 25 – 10:00 am

A service in which we ponder the fulfillment of Christ being born as True Man and True God in order to bring us salvation.



*The Light of Our Christmas*

**JESUS CHRIST**  
**THE LIGHT OF OUR CHRISTMAS**

## CLC Financial Report - October 2024

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2024	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 4 Months	Balance 10/31/2024
General Fund	0	310,892	410,440	437,660	(99,548)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	633,765	547,063	574,700	86,702
<b>Auxiliary Funds</b>					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	110,979	12,961	53,954		69,986
ILC Building Projects	1,560,282	228,857	0		1,789,139
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	120,784	64,003	42,113		142,674
Kinship	169,884	50,786	51,021		169,649
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,684,208	218,366	51,789		2,850,785
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	117,317	26,333	67,251		76,399
EduK8 Fund	47,692	12,005	0		59,697
Reserve Fund	79,964	76,837	0		156,801
<b>Auxiliary Funds Totals</b>	<b>\$4,891,110</b>	<b>\$690,148</b>	<b>\$266,128</b>		<b>\$5,315,130</b>

**General Fund** – In the month of October we spent about \$6,000 more than we received in contributions. This increased the deficit in the fund to just short of \$100,000. Compared to a year ago, contributions through October are down about \$44,000 and the deficit was about \$36,000.

**ILC Operations** – Revenue is up about \$46,000 over the same period as last year and disbursements down about \$10,000.

**ILC Building Projects** – Contributions were about \$110,000 this month. However, this was offset some by market losses in the investments which occurred for the first time in several months.

**Church Extension Fund** – Year to date revenue actually decreased as the losses in the market value of the investments was greater than other revenues.

**Other Auxiliary Funds** – The activity in the other funds in the table above is similar to the activity in the same period a year ago.

*Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer / Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees*

**Last Week's Stats:** Nov. 17, 2024 Sun.: 102 S.S.: 16 B.Cl.: 34

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$4,202	CLC:	\$660			
Weekly Need (est.):	Grace:	4,900	CLC:	1,135			
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	-698	CLC:	-475			
Year-to-Date Offering:	Grace:	\$221,476	CLC:	\$50,960			
Year-to-Date Need (est.):	Grace:	225,400	CLC:	52,210			
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-3,924	CLC:	-1,250			
GLC Other:	100	Living Faith:	0	Tuition Aid:	100	Sanctuary:	200
SAF Endowment:	0	MDF:	0	Kinship:	247	EduK8:	0
ILC Student Aid:	0	ILC Bldg.	0	IIF:	0	CEF:	0
Current Balances:		Tuition Aid:		\$1,820	Sanctuary:		\$8,800

## ✠ TODAY AT GRACE ✠

Organist: Sue Nelson

Elder: Eli Wales

Ushers: Eli Wales; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Kelley; Ryan Oman; Bob Vandever; Uriah Wales

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

Church Cleaners: A.Baker/Kelley School: Kelley

## ✠ NEXT WEEK AT GRACE ✠

Ushers: Eli Wales; Alex Baker; Kevin Baker; Dan Kelley; Ryan Oman; Bob Vandever; Uriah Wales

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

Hospitality Team 1: Dan & Cindy Degnan; Larry Nelson; Barb Sydow

Church Cleaners: A.Baker/Kelley School: NA

## ✠ OUR SCHEDULE ✠

- Sun., Nov. 24:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship (Last Sunday)
- Wed., Nov. 27:** 12:00 pm – Grace School Dismissal  
7:00 pm – Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
- Thu., Nov. 28:** **THANKSGIVING DAY** (No Worship)
- Fri., Nov. 29:** 9:00 am – Christmas Tree Decorating
- Sun., Dec. 1:** 8:30 am – Choir Practice  
9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship (Advent 1)  
11:00 am - Hospitality (Team 1)
- Mon., Dec. 2:** Grace School Resumes from Thanksgiving Break
- Wed., Dec. 4:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service
- Sun., Dec. 8:** 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 2)  
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 2)  
11:30-1:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal
- Wed., Dec. 11:** 7:00 pm – Midweek Advent Worship Service
- Sun., Dec. 15:** 9:00 am – Bible Class and Sunday School  
10:00 am – Worship Service (Advent 3)  
11:00 am – Hospitality (Team 3)  
11:30-1:00 pm – Christmas Eve Rehearsal  
3:00 pm – ILC Piano and Organ Concert (Eau Claire, WI)
- Wed., Dec. 18:** 6:00 pm – Congregational Christmas Meal (Dorcas Guild #3)  
7:00 pm – Candlelight Worship Service
- Thu., Dec. 19:** 2:00 pm – Grace School Concert (Northtown Mall by Best Buy)
- Fri., Dec. 20:** Grace School Christmas Party (dismisses until Jan. 6)  
7:30 pm – ILC Christmas Concert (Messiah – Eau Claire, WI)
- Sun., Dec. 22:** 8:45 am – Christmas Eve Rehearsal
- Tue., Dec. 24:** 6:00 pm – Christmas Eve Worship Service
- Wed., Dec. 25:** 10:00 am – Christmas Day Worship Service

