

Grace Lutheran Church & School



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Fridley, MN 55432

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Home Page: www.CLGraceLutheranChurch.org

Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION



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

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Principal: Ryan Libby (Ph. 763-784-6340)

Grades: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: Easter 6

Date: May 17, 2009

✠ THE ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 98, TLH p. 144*

Hymn: *TLH 261: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word*

Liturgy: *TLH, p. 5 ff. (Also available on laminated sheet in pew)*

Introit (followed by Gloria Patri, The Kyrie): *TLH, pp. 6-7*

P: You will fill me with joy in Your presence,

C: With eternal pleasures at Your right hand.

P: I will exalt You, O Lord, for You lifted me out of the depths

C: And did not let my enemies gloat over me.

P: O Lord, You brought me up from the grave,

C: You spared me from going down into the pit. Glory be to God!

Gloria in Excelsis: *TLH 199, st. 4*

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

Praise eternal as His love: Alleluia!

Praise Him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

First Reading: *Acts 11:19-26*

The early New Testament church is established through the Word of God.

Gradual:

P: Christ has risen from the dead.

C: God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

P: He has made Him ruler over the works of His hands;

C: He has put everything under His feet.

P: Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen ...

C: And yet have believed. Alleluia.

Sunday School: *WS 784: Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

Second Reading: *John 15:9-17*

By abiding in the truths of God's commands found in Scripture, we are to abound in love toward one another, just as Christ loved us.

Confession of Faith: *Apostolic Creed, TLH p. 12*

Hymn: *TLH 292, st. 1-2, 6-9: Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide*

Sermon: *1 John 4:1-11*

(1) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. (2) By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, (3) and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. (4) You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. (5) They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. (6) We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. (7) Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. (8) He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (9) In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. (10) In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (11) Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (NKJVTM)

"Test the Spirits Whether They Are of God"

Offertory: *TLH p. 12 f.*

Hymn: *TLH 473: The Church's One Foundation*

Offering, Prayers, Benediction: *TLH p. 14*

Hymn: *TLH 290: We Have a Sure Prophetic Word*

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 visit with you!

† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Among Us:** Gil Maestas has had one of his lungs collapse due to interference and displacement of his diaphragm. He will be having surgery on June 15 at Veterans' hospital to repair the diaphragm and to reestablish his lung. Please keep our brother in your prayers.
- ◆ **School Program:** This Wednesday evening, May 20, 7 pm, the children of our day school will be putting on their play, "Rhumba-Tia," a rainforest Rumpelstiltskin. All members and friends of Grace are invited to show support of the children's efforts and of our school. Refreshments will follow the program.
- ◆ **Summer Schedule:** Today is the last time this season that worship will be held at 10 am. Next Sunday, May 24, the summer schedule will begin with worship service held at 9 am. Bible Class and Sunday School will be suspended for the summer. Hospitality hour will also be suspended after honoring the confirmands next week. If anyone wishes to host any of the Sundays in summer, they may sign up on the list located on the fellowship hall's bulletin board. The regular schedule convenes on September 13.
- ◆ **Confirmation & Graduation:** Confirmation will be next Sunday, May 24, the start of the summer worship schedule. Examination will take place during the 9 am service. The students are Eric Eichstadt and Abbie Hein. We will also be recognizing the graduates from the congregation. If you are graduating from high school or college, please list your name (and degree if in college) on the sheet by the guest book.
- ◆ **Invitation:** The congregation has been invited to an open house in honor of Dave and Norma Rust's 40th Anniversary next Sunday, 1:30-4:30 pm at the church fellowship hall. The invitation is posted on the bulletin board by the mailboxes.
- ◆ **Cleaning:** Please consider signing up to help clean the church.
- ◆ **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 for a copy. The congregation will cover the cost.
- ◆ **The Branches:** The women's monthly publication is up for renewal. Information is located in members' mailboxes. The congregation is covering the cost of the subscription through the budget. If you wish to receive this, please sign up on the list by the guest book.
- ◆ **Invitation:** Just another reminder that you are invited to a retirement party for Mrs. Gail Schaefer on Sunday, May 31st around 10:15 a.m.-- following the 9:00 a.m. worship services. If you plan on coming, please also RSVP to Pastor Mark Bernthal at MBern@juno.com
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** This is scheduled for August 3-7.

PRINCIPLE IS NOT FOR SALE!

As confessing Christians of the Lutheran faith we hold certain principles to be true and firm. As Christians of the Lutheran faith, we find fewer and fewer who are ready to stand on principle. A principle is a basic doctrine or tenet from which other principles are derived. For example, we believe, confess and hold true that the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. This is a principle among us that is not for sale! Either the Bible is God's Word in its totality or it is not. If it is, as we hold, then we cannot sacrifice it without sacrificing confidence in the Word, or sacrificing the confidence of our salvation. Our understanding of God and His person as well as of His saving will for us is predicated on holding fast the faithful Word. Unless we hold to the elementary principle that God's Word is truth we cannot be sure of creation or God's providence. We cannot understand the origin of the world and of mankind. We cannot comprehend the nature of the Law and its eternal consequence. We are left at sea with respect to God's grace and love and have no certainty of salvation. Nothing is sure about faith or life if we do not accept the whole Word of God! Without the Word, life itself is an unsolvable riddle!

Of course the heathen and the ungodly care not a wit about the principles we hold dear! But how can churches which claim the name of Christ give up the basic elementary principle that God is truth and that His Word is a perfect reflection of Him? They do this because they have bought into, and worse even sold the idea that the Bible is a wax nose, subject to be molded to the appearance or image they choose to display. Subsequently abortion, and homosexual unions masquerading as marriages, are easy to live with, if not adopt, because it is the safe and politically correct thing to do. In our melting pot of cultures we also have a melting pot of theological mush which suggests that in spite of what Scripture says, the way of salvation is to be found in whatever imagination, opinion, or whim makes people happy. They have traded the means of grace- the gospel in word and sacrament - for the latest fad and emotional appeal. They have turned the love of Christ- oh how they love Christ- into a caricature that Christ does not recognize, much less bless!

We expect in politics that principles are as firm as the next poll. Should we not be able have the confidence that they who claim to confess Christ would stand on principle and promote and defend the truth that one cannot claim to believe in Him and then twist the Word to save face in the world which in fact is interested in neither Christ nor His Word! There is a reason why judgment shall begin at the house of God!

The Lord said, "Let him that has my word, teach my word faithfully" (Jeremiah 23:28). The day - God forbid- that we trade principle for ease, safety or acceptance is the day we should cease to exist. If we are ready to offer our Scriptural principles, from the most elementary to all those derived from it, on the altar of expediency we have no right to exist. Should that happen, whatever purpose we claim to be serving, we will not be serving the Lord. The Lord is served by truth! - Rev. D. Fleischer

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: **Maureen Ochsner** Elder: **Frank Radichel**

Ushers: **Mark Wales, Pete Fleischer, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Brandt Wendland**

Counting Team 5: **Mike Dick; Brad Kitzman; Ed Lentz; Roger Ochsner**

Hospitality Team 1: **Phil & Jackie Radichel; Lynn & Janice Sandhoefner**

Church Cleaners: **Degnan** School Cleaners: **Sandhoefner**

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: **Mark Wales, Pete Fleischer, Don Auel, Ole Olmanson, Brandt Wendland**

Counting Team 1: **Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow**

Hospitality Team 2: **Janelle Hein; Chris Lentz; Peter Fleischer; Alice Weibye; Jeff & Sarah Radichel**

Church Cleaners: **Degnan**

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

Today: 9:00 am – Sunday School and Bible Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service (Easter 5)
 11:15 am – Hospitality

Wed., May 20: 6:00, 7:00 pm – Grace Softball Games (Field #1)
 4:00 pm – Catechism for Public School Students
 7:00 pm – Grace School Program, “Rhumba-Tia”

Thu., May 21: 7:00 pm – Ascension Service

Fri., May 22: Last Day of School at Grace
 3:00 pm – ILC Class Day; 7:30 pm – ILC Spring Concert

Sat., May 23: 10:00 am – ILC Graduation

Sun., May 24: Summer Schedule Begins
 9:00 am – Worship Service (Confirmation & Graduation)
 10:15 am – Hospitality (Last One of Year)

Last Week's Stats: May 10, 2009 Sun.: 125 S.S.: ?? B.Cl.: 48

Sun. Offering:	Grace:	\$3,335.25	CLC:	\$882.00
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,300.00	CLC:	1,000.00
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+35.25	CLC:	-118.00
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	56,871.45	CLC:	19,237.40
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	62,700.00	CLC:	19,000.00
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	-5,828.55	CLC:	+237.40
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	25.00	Tuition:	39.00
GLC Other:	MDF:	112.00	Kinship:	90.00
ILC Student Aid:	ILC Bldg.	52.00	IIF: 50.00	CEF: 0.00

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