

Grace Lutheran Church & School

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Member: CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

Pastor: John Hein (Cell 612-408-1635) Phone: 763-784-8784
School Phone: 763-784-6340 Grades: Kindergarten-8th
Church Year: Pentecost 6 Date: July 4, 2010

† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

We, in the United States, enjoy many precious liberties. But no liberty is as wonderful as the blessed liberty we have in Christ Jesus! He has delivered us from the bondage of sin, death, and the power of the devil. Let us take the time to ponder this in our worship today.



† **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

Worship Preparation: *Psalm 139, TLH p. 154*
Hymn: *TLH 566: Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored*
Liturgy: *WS, p. 12 ff. (Pastor sings Lord Have Mercy, top of p. 13)*
First Reading: *1 Kings 19:14-21*
Elijah believes that he alone is the only follower of the LORD who is left. The Lord encourages this disparaging prophet by reminding him that there are still 7,000 people who have not bowed their knee in worship to the false god, Baal. Hope remains as we continue our service to God.
Second Reading: *Luke 9:51-62*
As Jesus travels to Jerusalem the climax of His redemptive work, He does so with determination and with the commitment to save sinners. In response, He explains how His followers are to "put their hand to the plow" in their dedication to Him.
Alleluia: *WS p. 14*
Confession of Faith: *Apostles' Creed, WS p. 15*
Hymn: *TLH 447: Fight the Good Fight*

Sermon: *Galatians 5:1-9, 13*
(1) Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. (2) Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. (3) And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. (4) You have become estranged from Christ, you who *attempt to* be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. (5) For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. (6) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. (7) You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? (8) This persuasion does not *come* from Him who calls you. (9) A little leaven leavens the whole lump. ... (13) For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (NKJVTM)

***LIBERTY IN CABINET CHALLENGED
BY BONDAGE OF INCREMENTALISM***

Offertory: *WS p. 16*
Hymn: *WS 777: Amazing Grace*
Offerings, Prayers:
Service of the Sacrament: *WS pp. 17-19*
Distribution: *TLH 373 and Meditative Music*
Note: In obedience to God's Word, and out of concern for the welfare of souls (1 Corinthians 11:29), and finally that we may honestly express the unity of faith and hope that binds us, we ask that only such as have identified with Grace through public confession of faith or another CLC congregation, approach the altar at the usher's direction.
Closing Liturgy: *WS pp. 20-21*
Closing Hymn: *TLH 577: God Bless Our Native Land*



† THE ANNOUNCEMENTS †

- ◆ **Vacation:** Pastor Hein will be on vacation beginning this Wednesday through next Sunday evening, July 7-11. During that time you may reach him by cell phone, 612-408-1635. In case of emergency, you may also contact retired pastor, Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 651-340-9231. Pastor Fleischer will also be our guest speaker next Sunday.
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School:** Please register your child(ren) who will be attending VBS this year. This will be held on August 2-6 from 9-11:30 am. Volunteers are also being sought to help. Please speak with Pastor Hein or one of the Board of Ed. members: Ole Olmanson, Mark Wales, and Benno Sydow.
- ◆ **Mission Helper Trip:** Some brochures are available for the July 2011 Mission Helper trip to Nepal, possibly to India as well. You may also contact Pastor Todd Ohlmann, chairman of the Board of Missions, at toddohlmann@clclutheran.com.
- ◆ **Bridal Shower:** A bridal shower will be held in honor of Jessica Fabian, fiancée of Michael Ude, on Sunday, July 25, after church. All the ladies of the congregation are invited to come and get to know her! See details on the invitation on the bulletin board. Please RSVP to Heidi Nelson by July 18.
- ◆ **Immanuel Athletic Booster Club:** Volunteers are requested to help out with the boosters at Country Jam on July 22-24. The duties would include grounds security. The club has done this the past few years to raise money for athletics. Please email Tom Beekman at thomas.beekman@dot.state.wi.us if you are able to help out.
- ◆ **CLC News:** St. John's Lutheran Church of Clarkston, WA, invites you to a service of worship and the Installation of its new pastor, David Naumann, on Sun., Aug. 1, 2 pm. Reception and meal will follow the service. † Professor Joe Lau published a daily "Convention Chronicles" each day of the recent CLC Convention, giving a short summary of the previous day's activities. These are online at www.CLClutheran.net - click on the PUBLICATIONS tab. Also, the Jubilee Service (commemorating the CLC's 50th Anniversary) is now online: <http://www.blip.tv/file/3815039/>. Pastor Terrel Kesterson was the speaker, and Pastor Aaron Ude was the liturgist. The Convention choir sang a rousing rendition of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus. A couple of hymns are not included in the video, due to copyright restrictions.

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!

E-Devotion - July 4, 2005

1 Timothy 2:1-4 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone -- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN AUTHORITY

On this day of the red, white, and blue, citizens of our country celebrate all things American. Surely God has given blessing, prosperity, comfort, and many other undeserved gifts to the people of our land. For this we are thankful. Now as we listen to Sousa marches and light our barbeque grills at the local park, let us not forget also our continued prayers for the nation.

Paul urges prayer "for kings and all those in authority." Pray for those who hold the earthly rule over you whether they be federal, state, or local officials. It does not matter to which political party they belong. It does not matter if you do not agree with every decision they make. The Apostle simply reminds you to pray for them. Pray that they would have the wisdom to rule justly; that they would be filled with love for the people they serve; that they would be kept free from corruption, greed, and other vices.

Why do we offer such prayers? Because if good earthly rule is not maintained, it becomes much more difficult for us as Christians to share the good news of Jesus. (How much harder it would be to talk to your neighbor about the hope that is in you if you had to dodge bullets while you walked across the street!) If the government is able to keep the peace, then the message of Christ's death and the forgiveness of sins that comes by it can spread more freely to every creature. This, of course, pleases God who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

God bless our native land!

You may sign up for daily email devotions written by CLC pastors at: www.redeemerclc.info/devotional.html

DEATH FROM THE INSIDE OUT:

A nation needs a viable economic system. It needs a strong national defense to defend and maintain freedoms, and its way of life. That means we need a strong military presence, as well as a sufficient defense budget to deter enemies who would attack us. We need a strong and active intelligence service to ferret out enemies, foreign and domestic, whose intent is to undo us. We need the political will to do what needs to be done to defend our nation, and maintain the principles upon which this nation was founded. Further we need to maintain moral principles without which it is easy for a nation to delude itself into thinking that all is well, when in reality insidious foes are imperceptibly destroying the nation. These foes -- indifference, neglect, lethargy and moral deterioration-- eat away the will and the moral principles without which a nation will not long endure. In reality political correctness, immorality, compromise, corruption, greed, selfishness and personal agendas are slowly eroding the foundation upon which our nation was built. What overt enemies have not succeeded in doing, the aforementioned enemies are doing! While Christ believers know that here they have no continuing city, for our citizenship is in the heaven for which we long, we do have a "love" for country and an appreciation for the blessings and freedoms we have enjoyed here while we wait. With heavy hearts we see the present deterioration and pray that the Lord will stem the tide of evil and grant us peace and safety until such time as He comes to deliver us from this vale of tears to Himself in heaven.

Further, we have all known someone, no doubt, who has been the picture of health, and who has done all the "right" things in an attempt to stay physically trim and healthy. But here too there can be foes unseen that work within. For example, often undetected cancer strikes down an individual. Hidden heart disease as well as other diseases can fell the healthiest looking individuals.

We know that the Holy Christian Church of which each believer in Christ is a member will endure into eternity. The Body of Christ, the Holy Christian Church will prevail (Matthew 16:18). That is the Christ believer's comfort in the midst of the deterioration of the "visible" church as we are witnessing it.

In 2010 we have been celebrating the 50th anniversary of many of our congregations, as well as that of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. Our existence for 50 years is not a time to falsely boast of how faithful we have been, but a time to recognize how faithful and gracious our Lord is! The Heavenly Father has been so gracious to defend and protect us in spite of ourselves.

As we consider the future, individuals and the church are called upon to guard even more strenuously against the increasingly insidious and fatal deceptions of Satan who suggests to us that we should imbibe the philosophy of the time—the suggestion that we should be more tolerant of false religions and of aberrant moral behavior. Satan suggests to us that we should not insist on Christ as the only Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14: 6), or on the truth that Christ is the only way unto eternal salvation (Acts: 4:12). Satan suggests that we should not insist on purity of doctrine, but that we should for the sake of a bigger cause be ready

to compromise our teaching. Finally he suggests that the Church should become more socially active, more politically involved and more responsive to what appeals to people.

Our Lord Who has redeemed us by His blood, and set our feet on the path to eternal life, will not forsake His children. He will not forsake those who hold fast to the faithful Word. And there is a key—hold fast to the faithful Word. The Word of God is spirit and it is life (John 6:63). Only the Lord has the Words of eternal life (John 6: 68). Blessed are they who hear them, trust in them and confess them. They shall not be denied on the Day of Judgment (Matthew 10:32).

Even as the Scripture asks whether there will be found faith on earth when the Lord returns (Luke 18:8), we are bold to ask will there be a confessional church in the future to which troubled hearts might repair for truth, comfort, and peace, or will neglect, indifference, lethargy, compromise, and personal agendas eat away the soul of the church even while it gives the appearance of piety and covers itself with the appearance of religiousness as it continues to meet in finely appointed church buildings, and engages in worship exercises and other realted church activities! And yes, will the Lord have to ask as He did at the healing of the lepers: "Were there not 10 cleansed, but where are the nine" (Luke 17: 17)?

Nations destroy themselves from within; unseen diseases ravage a body. Greater is the shame—and the loss-- if a confessional church such as ours should wither because of spiritual lethargy, indifference, and neglect!. As we must stand against the overt and identifiable attacks of Satan and his minions, we must as strenuously guard against dry rot from the inside. Brethren, be alert and

"Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints... (Ephesians 6: 10 – 18).

God forbid that our confession and faith becomes mere window dressing and we die from the inside out. Our Father is faithful! Will we remain faithful unto death? Will we be honest enough to search our heart, or will we succumb personally and as a church to the forces within that steal our resolve to stand for truth against the forces of evil within and without that seek our overthrow?

Rev. Daniel Fleischer, 7/2010

† **TODAY AT GRACE** †

Organist: **Janelle Hein** Elder: **Frank Radichel**
Ushers: **Benno Sydow, Brian Eichstadt, Gary Gunther, Rich Rhinesmith, Jeff Stifter, Larry Nelson**
Counting Team 1: **Dan Degnan; Larry Nelson; Phil Radichel; Pat Paplow**
Church Cleaners: **Hein**

† **NEXT WEEK AT GRACE** †

Ushers: **Mark Wales, Don Auel, Pete Fleischer, Ole Olmanson, Eli Wales, Brandt Wendland**
Counting Team 2: **Gary Gunther; Bill Rust; Bob Vandever; Clint Welker; Mark Wales**
Church Cleaners: **Hein**

† **OUR SCHEDULE** †

Today: 9:00 am – Worship Service w/Lord’s Supper
Sun., July 11: 9:00 am – Worship Service
 10:15 am – Board Meetings; 11:00 am – Council Meeting
Sun., July 18: 9:00 am – Worship Service
 10:15 am – Voters & Dorcas Guild Meetings
Sun., July 25: 10:15 am – Bridal Shower for Jessica Fabian
August 2-6: Vacation Bible School

Last Week’s Stats: June 27, 2010 Sun.: 107

Week’s Offering:	Grace:	\$3,491.25	CLC:	\$836.00	
Weekly Need:	Grace:	3,015.00	CLC:	960.00	
-Under / +Over:	Grace:	+476.25	CLC:	-124.00	
Year-to-Date Offering::	Grace:	\$79,519.15	CLC:	\$24,122.00	
Year-to-Date Need:	Grace:	78,390.00	CLC:	24,960.00	
Year-to-Date (+/-)	Grace:	+1,129.25	CLC:	-838.00	
Other Offerings:	Living Faith:	1.00	Tuition:	52.00	
GLC Other:	0.00	MDF:	2.00	Kinship:	100.00
ILC Student Aid:	52.00	ILC Bldg.	51.00	IIF: 21.00	CEF: 0.00
CLC 50 th	50.00				

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

GRACE

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Church & School*



It is
for
FREEDOM
that
CHRIST
has set
us
FREE.

Galatians 5:1