

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

710 4th Ave SW, Sleepy Eye, Minnesota 56085

A member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)



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On the Web at: www.sleepyeyelutheran.com



April 17, 2016

Third Sunday after Easter

Welcome to all in the name of our risen Savior Jesus Christ! We pray that the message of Christ's willing death and victorious resurrection will lead you to trust in Him so that you may receive the wondrous result of His resurrection – the assurance of your own resurrection and eternal life in heaven!



If you are looking for a church home we would invite you to join us as we gather to worship our ever-living Savior Jesus every Sunday morning! Please sign our guest book at the back of the church, and if you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Mayhew.

Pre-service Devotion: Psalm 23 (*p.128 in the front of the red hymnal*)

Note: We will be following the order of service found on the colored bulletin.
The hymns and readings for the service can be found inside this bulletin.

Servants of Grace Today:

Organist: Laura Heinze

Ushers for March: Joel Schauman, Howard Engholm, Andrew Geiger, Ron Geiger, Charles Lendt, Ryan Maher, Tony Schauman

Today's Hymns: 436; 210; 656; 51

Scripture Reading: Acts:20:17-35 (NKJV)

17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. 18 And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, 19 serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; 20 how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, 21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. 22 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. 24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. 25 And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. 28 Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. 31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. 32 So

now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. ³⁵ I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Gospel Reading: John 10:22-30 (NKJV)

²² Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. ²³ And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. ²⁴ Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. ²⁶ But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. ²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. ³⁰ I and My Father are one."

Sermon Text: Revelation 7:9-17 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir,

you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Theme: The Lamb Becomes our Shepherd

Introduction

Part 1 - The Lamb Cleanses Sinners With His Own Blood

The Great White Host -

Great number; of all people; standing before the throne;
clothed in white robes; palm branches in hand (v.9);
crying out with a loud voice (v.10);
coming out of the great tribulation (v.14); serve Him (v.15)

The Lamb -

Cleanses the saints through the shedding of His blood

Part 2 - The Lamb Feeds and Tends His People For Eternity

The Shepherd's Care of His People -

He gives freedom from sin and its effects (v.16)

Hunger, thirst, pain and sorrow are removed

The presence of God is the believer's joy and comfort (v.17)

Conclusion

† *This Week at Grace* †

Today - 4/17 - 8:00 A.M. Sunday School (*God Uses Gideon*)
 8:00 A.M. Bible Class (*Synergism*)
 9:00 A.M. Family worship service at Grace
 10:00 A.M. Grace worship on TV channel 8
 10:45 A.M. Family Worship at Faith, New Ulm

Monday 4/18 - 3:15 P.M. Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Wednesday 4/20 - 3:15 P.M. After School Bible Study
 4:00 P.M. Confirmation
 7:00 P.M. Women of Grace Meeting
 7:00 P.M. Grace worship on TV channel 8

Thursday 4/21 - 9:30 A.M. Countryside Bible Study (*Genesis 3*)

Friday 4/22 - 10:00 A.M. Ross Park Bible Study (*Genesis 3*)

Sunday 4/24 - 8:00 A.M. Sunday School (*God Remains Faithful*)
 8:00 A.M. Bible Class (*Synergism*)
 9:00 A.M. Family worship service at Grace
 10:00 A.M. Grace worship on TV channel 8
 10:45 A.M. Family Worship at Faith, New Ulm

Serving Us This Coming Week:

April Ushers: Joel Schauman, Howard Engholm, Andrew Geiger,
 Ron Geiger, Charles Lendt, Ryan Maher, Tony Schauman

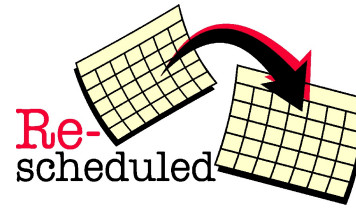
Organist: Debra Mayhew; **Church Cleaning:** Nason

April Tellers: Jon Riederer and Shaun Nason

Announcements

A Saint Called Home - This past Wednesday morning, the Lord in His wisdom took the soul of Adeline Enns out of this vale of tears. Adeline's victory service was held yesterday morning and her body was laid to rest at Home Cemetery next to her sister Arlene and brother Armin. We thank the Lord for blessings He poured out on so many through Adeline, and rejoice in the victory that is her's in Jesus!

Outreach Meeting and Fellowship Night - We have rescheduled our Grace Outreach meeting until Friday, April 29th. We will have our Outreach meeting at 6pm and Fellowship Night will follow the same evening at 7pm. Please adjust your church calendar, and plan to join us! †



Quarterly Voters' Meeting - Our Quarterly Voters' Meeting is tomorrow night, Monday, April 18th at 7:00pm. Please pick up a copy of the Quarterly Report from the table in the entry and take time to read it over prior to our meeting tomorrow evening. If you have any questions, speak to Pastor Mayhew, President Wade Schlie or one of the other Church Council members. Voters, please plan to join us for our quarterly meeting tomorrow night!



Quarterly Voter's Meeting Agenda:

1. Opening Devotion
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Treasurer's Financial Report
4. Roll Call
5. Pastors Report
6. New Business
 - Designate Ascension Day Offering - last year was TVBS
 - CLC CBP offering (from January meeting)
 - Baccalaureate service - May 29th
 - Confirmation Date -
 - School Research Committee Report
 - Honorary voting request: Larry Fischer
 - Church Clean-up Date
 - Anything from the Floor
7. Adjournment with Prayer †

Church Council Meeting Minutes - April 10, 2016

The April meeting of the Church Council for Grace Ev. Lutheran Church opened at 7:05 p.m. with a devotion on Daniel Chapter 3 and prayer led by Pastor Mayhew. Church Council members in attendance were Howard Engholm, Brandan Heinze, Shawn Nason, Jon Riederer, and Wade Schlie. Also present was Pastor Mayhew. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report - The March 2016 financial report was presented showing a total funds available of \$28,238.75. The report was approved as presented. The property insurance of \$3055.00 and workman's comp \$529.00 are due in April and will be paid as usual. Other bills in the amount of \$1758.22 were presented and approved for payment.

Pastor's Report - Membership: Pastor gave an update on the well-fare of some of our members. Worship: Ascension Day (5/5) at 7:00 pm; Baccalaureate Service (5/29) Confirmation (possibly July); Summer worship survey will also be conducted. Grace School Update: Bring up the topic of a Teacherage at the Voter's meeting. There is positive growth in the school fund. The council will be looking into some more information on the PreK portion of the school plan. Education: The marriage seminar went well with 21 couples attending. A majority of the attendees would attend a similar seminar in the future. A CLC Men's Retreat is upcoming in August (26-28). A parenting presentation may be put together for this fall. **Property Report** - Bathroom update: remaining work: bag under sank. Two baby changing stations have been ordered for both bathrooms. Furnace Room: The council is waiting to see if we need to sheetrock then install a fire door or vice versa. The parsonage fridge is leaking again, the council will be seeking information on whether it is worth finding a solution or if the fridge needs replacement. The women are moving forward with window valances for fellowship hall. In continuing discussion about Sunday school space expansion for Fall 2016, we talked about the possibility



of moving the entire Sunday school to the fellowship hall area and holding Bible class in the Sanctuary. **Outreach Committee** - Work is being done on some podcasts for our website. Digital Sign - The council plans to bring the current options to the Voters' meeting for voter input. **New Business** - Minnesota Delegate Conference-Sunday, June 5th at 3 pm in Mankato; CLC Delegate Convention-Thurs-Sunday, June 23-26 in Eau Claire, WI. The Voters' Meeting Agenda was discussed. Voters' Meeting- April 18, 2016 at 7 p.m. Next Council Meeting - Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Brandan Heinze †

Arise and Shine 20's - 30's Retreat – It is that time of year again! Please make plans to join us for a four-day retreat in Pillager, MN, June 16-19 (Thurs. - Sun.). The retreat is designed for men and women in their 20s & 30s. Singles, couples, and families are welcome. The registration fee includes a t-shirt (if registered by June 5th, 2016), lodging, meals and snacks, and activities during the retreat. The cost is \$140.00 per adult (ages 12 and up), \$100 per child (ages 0-11).

This year's theme is "WORK." We'll be looking at God's WORK and the WORK He has given us to do, and how He WORKS through that in our lives. Our theme is based on Ephesians 2:8-10 ***"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. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."***

If you are looking for a faith-strengthening weekend with young adult Christians that is focused on the Word of God, this retreat is for you! You can find more information and register on our web site: www.AriseAndShineRetreat.com. "Like" us on Facebook to get reminders and updates! For more info, please contact our new director Josh Ohlmann (314)-874-9184 joshohlmann@swbell.net or Pastor Luke Bernthal (402) 389-2147 lbernthall@live.com. †

Retirement Gift: Professor John Pfeiffer has announced his retirement effective the end of the current academic year. Upon graduation from Immanuel Lutheran Seminary in 1967, he served in the pastoral ministry until November 1994 when he began his service at Immanuel. Prof. Pfeiffer's time at Immanuel includes 21



years of teaching as a professor and 15 years of administration as ILC President. His faithful service to our church and our school will be acknowledged during the ILC Class Day/Graduation festivities on May 20-21, 2016. Our custom is to present a monetary gift to Prof. Pfeiffer as a token of our appreciation. Members of CLC

congregations are invited to contribute to a monetary gift which will be presented to him at Graduation (May 21). Please make your checks payable to Immanuel Lutheran College and indicate: "Prof. Pfeiffer Retirement." Send your gift to: Immanuel Lutheran College, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701. †

Caring for God's Servants: One of the blessings that comes from the ascended Savior is the gift of teachers for our Immanuel campus. One gift (Prof. John Pfeiffer) is moving on even as another gift (Prof. Paul Naumann) is getting ready to move in. Providing housing is one way we care for these gifts to our fellowship. The Immanuel Professorage Committee (IPC) has compiled a list of projects that need to be done while the professorage is vacant. We are looking for volunteer help immediately before or after Convention, or anytime in June and early July convenient for you (in teams or individuals). Projects include: installing new windows & siding, installing new carpeting/vinyl, installing a new kitchen, painting inside, and fencing in the back yard. If you are able to help with any of these projects or would like more details, please contact Pastor Paul Tiefel (715-829-2000 / tiefels@hotmail.com). †

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BLESS
THE LORD,
O MY
SOUL
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 PSALM 103

CLC Call News - Holy Trinity Lutheran, West Columbia South Carolina



has called Pastor David Pfeiffer, who currently serves Ascension Lutheran Church in Batavia Illinois. † Missionary Matthew Ude has resigned from his call as foreign missionary to India and the African countries of Nigeria, Togo,

Ghana, Congo, and Zambia. He plans to serve until the end of 2016 as he is able. †

Other CLC News - To accommodate a ministry in both the North Port and Cape Coral/Ft. Myers areas, CLC North Port has officially changed its name to "Grace Lutheran Church." The name change is effective immediately. Please keep the new outreach efforts of this congregation in your prayers. † Pastor Moses Raghu (who is a pastor and district leader of the BELC churches in the Nellore area of India) has been hospitalized with heart problems and has had three heart valves replaced. Please keep Pastor Moses in your prayers. May the Lord grant him a quick recovery and grant strength to his family during this difficult time. †

<i>Responding to God's Grace at Grace</i>	
<i>Sunday, April 10, 2016</i>	
<i>Worship: 95</i>	<i>Bible Class: 16</i>
Local Purposes	
Grace General Fund	\$ 3,733.00
Grace School Fund	\$ 180.00
Plate Offerings	\$ 61.00
Total Local	\$ 3,974.00
Synodical Purposes	
ILC Building Fund	\$ 125.00
Total Synodical	\$ 125.00
Overall Total	\$ 4,099.00

"Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing."
Psalm 100:2