

*"Serving all people by sharing God's Word
and Gift of Grace"*

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pr. Tsena Dinssa

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AUGUST

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The Scroll



Interpretation of the "The Priesthood of all believers"

The priesthood of all believers is a foundational concept of Christianity. The exact meaning of the priesthood of all believers and its implications varies. So, its correct interpretation and applications are very important. Misunderstanding of the subject matter results in a misunderstanding of our Lutheran Liturgy.

The emphasis of the book of Leviticus is the appointment of the priesthood, with the statues and laws according to which the priests are to act and to teach the people. There we see that a priestly office is instituted only because of sin, to disclose sin to the people and to make atonement before God, so that its entire function is to deal with sin and sinners. Since God gave this law priests in ancient Israel acted as mediators between God and people. They ministered according to God's instruction, and they offered sacrifices to God on behalf of the people. Once a year, the high priest would enter the holiest part of the temple and offer a sacrifice for the sins of all the people, including all the priests. Lutheranism maintains this biblical doctrine of "the preaching office" or the "office of the holy ministry" established by God in the Christian Church.

Luther's study of the New Testament reveals the priesthood of all believers. His foundational concept of the subject is based on 1 Peter 2:5,9, which says; "... You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light..." While Martin Luther did not use the exact phrase "priesthood of all believers," Luther concluded a general priesthood in Christendom in his book, To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation. He did that in order to dismiss the medieval view that Christians in the present life were to be divided into two classes: "spiritual" and "secular". Also, Luther, in his; On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church (1520) writes: "There are indeed priests whom we call ministers. They are chosen from among us, and who do everything in our

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**Grace Lutheran
Church**

August 2021

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The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday August 11th at 7:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.



- July 4th:**
Attendance~ 41
Offering~\$2,560.00
- July 11th:**
Attendance~46
Offering~\$1,700.00
- July 18th:**
Attendance~52
Offering~ \$1,300.00
- July 25th:**
Attendance~ 45
Offering~\$2,201.00



The 'Women of Grace' young women's Bible Study are not meeting during the summer months. They will return in the Fall.



WNALC Meeting: August 12th, 2:00 p.m.
Group #5 will serve

Hope Circle: August 26th, 2:00 PM at the home of Joyce Voxland

Rebecca Circle: NO MEETING



- * Rosie Kolstad
- * Everett Osland
- * Owen Strom
- * Bev Hamre
- * Paul & Bev Stennes
- * Burton Stennes
- * Steve & Linda Evenson
- * Steve Jacobson
- * Becki Haugen
- * Don Lundin
- * Jolene Bradley
- * Dean Lindberg
- * Mark Thompson
- * Torrey Erickson



AUGUST 2021 Grace Lutheran Church

CIRCLES at Joyce Voxland's
Hope Rebecca no meeting

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am- Worship w/Holy Communion	2 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	3 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	4 7pm-Rebroadcast	5 2pm-WNALC 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	6 9am- Rebroadcast 9-11am-Grace Council Retreat	7 9am- Rebroadcast
8 9:00am- Worship w/Holy Communion	9 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	10 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	11 7pm-Council Mtg. 7pm-Rebroadcast	12 2pm-WNALC 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	13 9am- Rebroadcast	14 9am- Rebroadcast
15 9:00am- Worship	16 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	17 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	18 7pm-Rebroadcast	19 10am-2pm-Food Shelf is open	20 9am- Rebroadcast	21 9am- Rebroadcast
22 9:00am- Worship	23 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	24 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.	25 7pm-Rebroadcast	26 2pm-Hope Circle	27 9am- Rebroadcast	28 9am- Rebroadcast
29 9:00am- Worship	30 9:30am-LBS 10am-Worship Re-broadcast	31 7:30am-MBS 8pm-AA mtg.				

Ushers :

Communion Assistants:

Altar Flowers: Hope Circle

Altar Guild: Maxine Walter

R= Reader V=Video

A=Acolyte

AUGUST 1st: R~ Kim Mahlen V~

AUGUST 8th: R~ Mavis Haugom V~

AUGUST 15th: R~ John Carlson V~

AUGUST 22nd: R~ Mary Bratrud V~

AUGUST 29th: R~ Paul Mahlen V~

AUGUST 29th: R~ Paul Mahlen V~

AUGUST 29th: R~ Paul Mahlen V~

AUGUST 29th: R~ Paul Mahlen V~

AUGUST 29th: R~ Paul Mahlen V~

AUGUST 29th: R~ Paul Mahlen V~

GRACE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jason Carlson	President	563-2490
Nick Walk	Vice President	637-2219
Yvonne Halvorson	Secretary	687-5190
Dorothy Sandberg	Financial Secretary	687-3575
Jim Ferden	Treasurer	563-2377
Gene Haugom	Deacon	563-3292
Gary Walter	Deacon	687-3074
Wade Farrell	Trustee	563-2216
Ryan Breitbart	Trustee	687-2215
Dean Bernard	Trustee	687-2105
Ann Brekken	Superintendent / Education	687-2205
Sarah Strom	Education	687-3488
Shelly Juve	Education	687-2929
Cassie Senn	Education	687-3313
Hollie Stewart	Pres. WNALC	687-3730
Lori Hole	Stewardship	687-3585
Tyler Brekken	Stewardship	687-2205
Bobbi DuChamp	Stewardship	687-3000



REMINDER – Please save your grocery receipts from Groceries Plus in Erskine and Jered's Grocery in McIntosh. Both stores are donating 1 percent of the total purchases to the youth group. There is a container for the receipts at the church in the hallway by the coat racks.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 1, 2021**

First Reading - Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm - Psalm 145:10-21
Second Reading - Ephesians 4:1-16
Gospel - John 6:22-35

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 8, 2021**

First Reading - 1 Kings 19:1-8
Psalm - Psalm 34:1-8
Second Reading - Ephesians 4:17-5:2
Gospel - John 6:35-51

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 15, 2021**

First Reading - Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm - Psalm 34:12-22
Second Reading - Ephesians 5:6-21
Gospel - John 6:51-69

**13th Sunday After Pentecost
August 22, 2021**

First Reading - Isaiah 29:11-19
Psalm - Psalm 14:1-7
Second Reading - Ephesians 5:22-33
Gospel - Mark 7:1-13

**14th Sunday After Pentecost
August 29, 2021**

First Reading - Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm - Psalm 119:129-136
Second Reading - Ephesians 6:10-20
Gospel - Mark 7:14-23

Giving Options

Not only can you give through your offering envelope on Sunday morning, but our church offers other options to receive your offering:

Automatic Giving – You can set up monthly or weekly automatic deductions from your bank account. Contact the church office (218-687-4035) for a form to complete.

Online Giving – There are several links throughout our website (www.gracechurcherskine.org) that will allow you to give a one-time or regular donation from your bank account, credit card, or debit card.

Mobile Giving – You can utilize your mobile device and scan the following code –

**Benevolence Ideas**

Our church has several special funds to meet needs that can't be met through our General Fund. Currently, these special funds are: Building Improvements, Grace Youth Group, Joy Ride Fund, Oil Candle, Sunday School Improvements/Supplies, Sunday School Outreach, Video Ministry, Vacation Bible School, Worship Hearing Aids, 'Men of Courage' Men's Group, and Shoebox Funds. In addition, our church houses the Grace Food Shelf and we ask for donations on their behalf as well as for the After School Backpack Program. Finally, our church is a part of the Grace Cemetery Association and we ask for donations on their behalf for the maintenance of the Synod, Pioneer, and Fairview Cemeteries in rural Erskine. Please contact Jim Ferden if you have any questions.

June 2021 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$11,273.00

Expenses:

Administrative - \$6,803.81

Education - \$0.00

Mission Outreach - \$1,400.00

Pastoral - \$5,227.16

Worship - \$500.77

Total Expenses - \$13,931.74



Communion At Home

Communion elements are still available for those who wish to take communion at home. Stop by the office to pick them up.



PAUL'S HISTORY CORNER

In 1892, plans were made for building a church. The members of the building committee were: O.T. Berge, J.S. Langhie, and H.T. Gilbertson.

Plans were for a structure 28x40 and was to be built on a corner, east of the Garden Valley Building. A Mr. Rasmussen and Mr. Holte were delegated to solicit funds for a new church and reported they had promises of \$203.50. It took several years to complete the church because of finances. It was completed for use in 1894.

FROM THE PASTOR, con't.

name. That is a priesthood which is nothing else than the Ministry." Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 4:1 is considered to be the basis of this Luther's conclusion.

Everyone in God's household is a minister to everyone else. We are all responsible for the care, nurture, and growth of the household of God. Ordained leaders have a special responsibility to see to the preparation of God's people for ministries. We learn in scripture and by human experience that all of us are empowered and inspired by the Holy Spirit. The results are healthy and loving churches. Paul's letters in the New Testament are addressed to whole churches in different localities and contain an instruction (among other things) about the way Christians are to minister one to another and to the world. Paul seems to assume that all the people in a congregation, every member of the community, would heed his advice about mutual ministry.

However, we all understand that not all people are called to the office and our prayer is let no human pride and a self-righteous attitude block the work of the Spirit.

In general, it is wise to be guided by the Holy Spirit to do ministries in the biblical frameworks set by the Church.

~ Pr. Tsena



Hello Women of Grace, While we sweat these warm days we are having, I'm thinking about our last meeting and activity Mary brought to us about making prayer shawls. The hope is to have a group making these for use by those who are in need of an extra covering of prayer during times of sickness and treatment and kept at the ready in an accessible place for the Pastor and concerned members to use. This is a developing ministry for our congregation. I wondering if there are some who would like to do this and need help learning. I fall into this group. Let Mary or Hollie know if you would be interested in either parts of doing this. This can be done as small group(s) or from home.

We have good news to report on our flood buckets - 6 full sets w/ tools plus some extra supplies and 2 boxes of Bibles and uncounted but boxed quilts. And wouldn't you know, God's timing is just right - the next week a storm hits almost the whole east coast! A few days later I came across a used new Bible for \$.50. I'll be setting up another box this fall to collect used or new Bibles for the coming year in case anyone else has finds like this.

Our Auction is coming October 6th and next month Becky Lindseth will bring us updates

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Grace Church is now LIVE on Garden Valley Channel 30. You can tune in at 9:00 AM Sunday morning and catch our Worship Service live. We also continue to offer the other options we've had in the past.

Type gracechurcherskine.org into your computer browser. You will see the YouTube recording front and center on the page. Click the Play button in the center of the picture to view the video. You will also find a link to our church Facebook page on the right side of the screen.

Garden Valley Channel 30 will broadcast replays of our service on Mondays at 10:00 am, Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and on Saturdays at 9:00 am.

Updated Guidelines

In following the guidelines of the MN Department of Health, the latest update is as follows.

*Masks are no longer needed for individuals who have received a Covid vaccine. If you have not received a Covid vaccine, you are encouraged to continue to wear a mask.

*Grace Church is open to 100% capacity. Social distancing is suggested if possible.

*We continue to offer hand sanitizer, masks and gloves if you wish to use them.

*As always, if you are NOT feeling well, please stay home and get well.

*Grace is doing her best to keep up with all the changes that seem to continue almost daily. Though it seems that the worst is behind us regarding this pandemic, it's still out there and we encourage you to remain careful and most of all, stay well.

We look forward to seeing you soon as we gather for worship.

WNALC NEWS, continued and info on things to do to get ready. We will have 2 more meetings before the day. Our October meeting will be after auction night. I look forward to the list of donations to missions we get to make in November for year end from all the money that this auction brings. It is one of the best things I get to tell you about during the year. Gods work-our hands and feet. See you at our next meeting August 12th, 2:00pm. And remember come as you can when you can.

Have a good end to your summer. God's Blessings!

~Hollie



The Grace Lutheran Church Council will gather for their Retreat on Saturday August 7th from 9:00-11:00 a.m., at Grace Church.