

This Week at Grace
Sunday, October 22, 2006
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

Baptism into Christ is our entrance into the Lord's mission. This calling is made abundantly clear at the end of the liturgy when the assembly is charged to go in peace and serve the Lord. Such service cannot avoid the cup of suffering. Indeed, the good news is that, in Christ, God has embraced us in love where we are most weak and frail. How shall we do this for each other and for those who are in need?

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, whom with you and the Holy Spirit we worship and praise, one God, now and forever.

The First Reading is Isaiah 53:4–12, found on page 670 in your pew Bible.

This reading is a section from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are most familiar with the various New Testament interpretations of this passage. In light of Christian faith, the servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are brought to fullness in the life and death of Christ.

⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities

and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken,

struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions,

crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have all turned to our own way,

and the LORD has laid on him

the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,

yet he did not open his mouth;

like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,

and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,

so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,

stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹ They made his grave with the wicked

and his tomb with the rich,

although he had done no violence,

and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;

through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,

and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

because he poured out himself to death,

and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,

and made intercession for the transgressors.

The word of the Lord.

The Second Reading is Hebrews 5:1–10, found on page 1,091 in your pew Bible.

Using imagery borrowed from Jewish worship, the letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as a great high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sins.

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³ and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴ And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵ So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you";

⁶ as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard

7:00p Personnel Committee Meeting
7:30p Lois Circle

WEDNESDAY: 9:15a Deborah Circle
9:15a Martha Circle
1:15p Ruth Circle
5:00p Chew-n-Chat
5:30p Cherub/Chancel Choirs
6:30p 7th-8th gr. Confirmation
6:30p 9th gr. Confirmation
6:30p Sr. High Bible Study
6:30p Bells of Praise
7:30p Adult Choir

THURSDAY: 6:00a Early Morning Bible Study
1:00p Widower's Support Group
5:00p Meal Ministry Meeting
7:00p Evening Bible Study

FRIDAY: 1:30p ThorneCrest Bible Study
3:30p Youth Room for 4th-6th Graders

SATURDAY: 10:00a Youth Leaf Raking Project

NEXT SUNDAY: *Reformation Sunday / Confirmation*
Daylight Saving Time Ends (set clocks

back 1 hr. Sat. evening)

8:30a Worship Service
9:30a Coffee Fellowship
9:45a Sunday School / Education Hour
11:00a Worship with Confirmation and
Holy Communion

MISSIONARY FOR A DAY: [Oct. 22: Given by Pastor Milt & Delores Ost.] [Oct. 22: Sunday School] [Oct. 25: GLCW].

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS our members and friends known to have been hospitalized this past week: (no one reported).

PLEASE REMEMBER those needing the continuing prayers of our congregation: Ella Anderson (granddaughter of Dan & Bonnie Anderson), Janice Anderson, Larry Bergo, Kathy Diaz, Mark Fisher (father of Lynn Stadheim), Dan Hagen, Tara Hanson, April Hustoft, Marlys Jahnke, Lucille Kittelson, Anna Kycek, Conrad & Rose Masyga (parents of Kris Heine), Vern Nasby, LeMoyne Oakland, Marian Odson, Lissa Parrish, Joyce Schreiber, Sally Skrlin, LaVon Stewart, Marliss Sward (sister of Marlene Sorenson), Sally Witham (mother of Greg Witham), and Eleanor Wolfe.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated a salad, to all who worked last Thursday and Friday, or helped in any way for the Salad Luncheon held on Oct. 13th. It takes many hands for an event like this and Grace Lutheran is truly blessed to have so many generous and caring people who again made the 30th annual Salad Luncheon a success. Mark your calendars for next year – Oct. 12th, 2007! Chairpersons: Joyce Langerud and Bev Field.

FUNDRAISING BEGINS! Youth attending next summer's servant trip to Appalachia will be selling holiday cut-out cookie dough (cookies ready to back and decorate) and sensational frozen soup. You may choose from cheddar vegetable, New England clam chowder, cream of broccoli w/cheese, vegetable beef, chicken noodle, cream of potato, and chicken w/wild rice. All of these items are perfect for your busy Christmas schedules. The youth will be selling these items from Oct. 23rd through Nov. 13th, with delivery to the church set for Nov. 29th.

REMINDER: There will be a meeting for the Sr. High Youth Servant Trip to Appalachia today at Noon in the Fireside Room.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN ADOPTION is holding an informational meeting on Tues., Oct. 24, from 6:30-8:30p. (LSS is located in the basement level of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 710 S. 2nd St., in Mankato.) Lutheran Social Service can assist families in adopting children in Minnesota and from countries around the world. They are very excited about their new program in Vietnam. Call 507-625-7660 (Ext. 247) for more information, or visit www.minnesotaadoption.org.

MEAL MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS: We are planning an organizational meeting to be held on Thurs., Oct. 26th, at 5:00p. It will be held at the church. Some basic guidelines for the program have been developed. The committee is looking for feedback and for additional suggestions. We are hoping to be able to offer the service after this meeting.

ANNUAL YOUTH RAKING DAY will be Saturday, Oct. 28th, at 10:00a. Sign-up is located on Denae's bulletin board. We are in need of rakers! We will rake for two hours and come back to the church for lunch.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We believe there are many times when we are unaware that someone is in the hospital. This can happen for a number of reasons. You don't want to bother the pastors. You enter through emergency or urgent care. You think your name is being placed on the list we have access to and it does not get on the list for some reason. It is our desire to provide pastoral care to all who are hospitalized for whatever reason. Please help us by letting us know you are in the hospital or will be hospitalized. Thank you for your help! -- Pastors John and Todd

FILM SHOWING: *Why We Fight* will be presented on Thursday evening, Oct. 26th, 7:00p, in the Lecture Hall (Rm 124) at Riverland Community College in Albert Lea. The film focuses on President Eisenhower's Farewell Address that warns of the impact of a growing military-industrial complex. The film explores the forces – political, economic,

and ideological – that cause us to clash with an ever-changing enemy. The film was the winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival and includes interviews and footage ranging from Senator John McCain to Gore Vidal. The film is free, and the public is cordially invited. For a preview, click the *Why We Fight* link at www.freebornpeace.org.

THE ALHS HIGH SCHOOL Music Department will present its' first concert of the year on Friday evening, Oct. 27th. The concert will be held at the United Methodist Church in Albert Lea at both 6:00 and 8:00p to accommodate the traditionally large crowd; and will feature the Chamber Orchestra and the ALHS Symphony Orchestra (directed by Gene Schott), along with the Concert, Varsity, and Tiger Choirs (directed by Diane Heaney). Music of F. Melius Christiansen and Mozart will be featured. Tickets for the concert are \$6.00 for adults, and \$4.00 for seniors and students, and are available at the door.

ADULT FORUM SERIES: Continues Next Week, "Stories of Love and Faith from Mayberry"

Gary Schindler leads discussion and Bible Study using episodes of the Andy Griffith Show as a springboard to discuss issues of concern for all Lutherans. The subjects to be covered include:

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| October 29 | "Opie – The Birdman" ...Accepting the Consequence for Your Actions |
| November 5 | "Mr. McBeevee" ...Matters of Faith |

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR FALL:

Grades 4-6 4th-6th gr. Youth Room will continue Friday, Oct. 27th. Youth are invited to come hang out and play from 3:30-5:00 on Fridays after school.

Grades 9-12 Luther College Church Youth Fest, Nov. 11th-12th
This event is for youth in 9th-12th grades and runs from Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon. Held on campus at Luther College, this yearly offering is filled with fun classes, musical guest Ken Medema, and special guest Pastor Larry Clark. Our time at Luther also includes open gym time, swimming, games, and talent show. Cost for the weekend is \$20. Sign up in on the bulletin board outside of Denae's office.

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

We will meet each Thursday evening through Dec. 14th, except for Thanksgiving Day

(Nov. 23rd). Please join us as we study the culture and struggles during the era of the Apostle Paul's ministry, and take a look at what was his first preserved document (1 Thessalonians) and his last (Romans). Our topics will include:

October 26 The Lutheran "Heresy" and the Continuing Struggle for Orthodoxy

November 2 and 9 1 Thessalonians
16 and 30 Romans

December 7 and 14 Romans



HEARTS TOUCHING HEARTS

Pastor Milton Ost's Mission Journal
 Available Soon

GIVING AT GRACE:

The Property and Finance Ministry appreciates your generous support.
 Your faithful stewardship is essential for us to continue to support our ministries at Grace.

	Sunday, Oct. 15th		<u>Year to Date</u>	
General Fund Giving	\$	9,076.00	\$	384,855.00
Budgeted Need	\$	9,803.00	\$	401,923.00
Quarters for World Hunger	\$	73.50	\$	2,100.75
Stones, Rocks, Boulders Fund	\$	87.00		

Attendance Last Sunday - 464; Last Year - 487