

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

The 4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 28th & 31st, 2021

“By His Grace you are saved through faith”

Ephesians 2:8

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

God's Grace



Image: “Edward Obermueller, “And His Name Was the Word,” 2006, Oil on Canvas

Welcome to Grace!
We're Glad You've Joined Us!

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins (age 3-6) are available for your children to use during the service. Please see an usher if you need assistance finding them.

Children are **always** welcome – we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our Church Narthex and Entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again!

If you would like to include a **prayer for someone** in our worship today, please add it to the Prayer Request Sheet found on the podium in the narthex.

A few minutes prior to the start of worship, our organist will begin playing the "Prelude". At this time we set aside our personal conversations and use this as a time to prepare for worship. Consider offering a silent prayer (sample prayers are offered on the opening page of our hymnal), reading through the Scripture lessons for the day, or listening to the music as we prepare ourselves to enter God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

We're glad you're with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Taggatz. If you are in search of a new church home, or are interested in learning more about Grace, we would be happy to visit with you. We hope you'll be back and give us an opportunity to know you!

As We Gather- "Jesus' Authority and Power"

In today's Gospel from Mark 1, we are reminded of Jesus' divine authority in His teaching to the people and also in His power over evil spirits. This power and authority was foretold by prophets such as Moses, pointing to the One who would fulfill all things as the long-awaited perfect prophet and Savior. In that power and authority, Christ has won our victory through His death and rising, and we are blessed with freedom in that faith to be used to His glory in service to others.

Order of Service...Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 203

We invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer** (Suggested prayers prior to worship may be found on the opening page of your hymnal) and meditation. Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

✧ PREPARATION ✧

Opening Hymn 904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word (vs. 1-4)



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and



all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,



Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed, You a - lone to
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing, Hear the cry Your
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly,
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es,
low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

Introit

Ps. 32:1-2, 5-7; antiphon: Ps. 32:10

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*

whose sin is | covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*

and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*

surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from | trouble;*

you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,*
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

C To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

For You alone are holy,
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

(A new prophet like Moses)

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ ¹⁷And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

²⁰But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 111 (antiphon: v. 3, read responsively)

¹Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

²Great are the works | of the LORD,*
studied by all who de- | light in them.

³Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

⁴He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

⁵He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

⁶He has shown his people the power | of his works,*
in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;*
all his precepts are | trustworthy;

⁸they are established forever and | ever,*
to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.

⁹He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*
Holy and awesome | is his name!

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*
His praise endures for- | ever!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

(In our Christian freedom, not causing others to stumble)

¹Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ²If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

⁴Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹²Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is**

the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia Verse *“Alleluia. They were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority. Alleluia.”*

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

(Jesus teaches with authority and shows His power over unclean spirits.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching.

²²And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

LSB 206

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life T of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children’s Message—“The Devil & Jesus’ Word” (Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Sunday Morning Only) *The children of the congregation are invited to come up to the chancel area for a special message for them. Please note—parents of small children may also come up near the chancel area to accompany their children for the message)*

Sermon Hymn 940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (vs. 1-4)

1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the a - pos - tles' ho - ly train Join Thy sa - cred
 4 Thou art King of Glo - ry, Christ; Son of God, yet

bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,
 bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 born of Mar - y. For us sin - ners sac - ri - ficed,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy
 In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with
 And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to
 As to death a Trib - u - tar - y, First to break the



vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.
 sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
 set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.
 bars of death, Thou hast o - pened heav'n to faith.

Sermon Psalm 111 (Pastor Jim Klug, Thursday night only)

“The Cosmic Christ” (Mark 1.21-28, Sunday morning only)

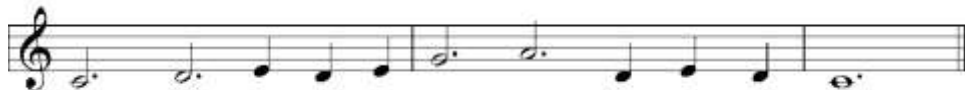
Offertory Hymn 789 Praise and Thanksgiving (vs. 1-3)



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things
 2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise



liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the
 neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work
 guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -



or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Bloss - om and wood.
 with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.
 joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

Offering

During this Covid-19 Pandemic, we will not be passing the offering plates during worship, but will have them at the entrance of the church for people to drop their offerings off before or after the worship service. Thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord's Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

You can now give online. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. Thank you for supporting our mission. Text the word: graceoc to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site: graceoakcreek.org. You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly/ monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write 'online giving' on the outside and place it in the offering plate.)



Stand

Prayers of the Church (*After each petition the Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation responds saying, "Hear our prayer."*)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;**

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

We celebrate the Lord's Supper

Members of our sister LC-MS congregations are invited to join us for communion. Guests to our Lutheran Church are invited to first speak with Pastor before joining at our Lord's Table. We hope you will learn more about us as we gather to "Celebrate, Teach, and Confess" the Good News of God's Grace!

Grace Continuous Line Communion—During this Covid-19 Pandemic we are doing continuous line communion here at Grace, we will do the Pulpit side first and then the lectern side, Pastor Taggatz and the Elder on duty will be using a mask and hand sanitizer before and after communion, and if you would like the Elder and Pastor to commune you in the pew, please be sure to let an Elder or an Usher know.

Distribution Hymn 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (vs. 1-7)



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He
5 Look un - to Him, ye na - tions; own Your



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the
God, ye fall - en race. Look and be saved through



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.
faith a - lone, Be jus - ti - fied by grace.

6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made
For ev'ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

**C O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On (vs. 1-4)



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al - though the
 2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith - less
 3 When we seek re - lief From a long - felt grief, When temp - ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less,
 fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.
 still di - rect us, Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.
 For through man - y a woe To our home we go.
 Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
 Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



☼*Altar Flowers*☼

Altar flowers today are given by Connie McKeag.

Assisting with the Divine Service

We thank God for all those individuals who have been involved in supporting our worship services this week. If you are interested in assisting in any of the ways shown below, please speak with pastor or one of our elders.

	<u>Thursday 6:30 pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Mark Olen	Mike Huber
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Erica Vitek	Beth Jackson
<u>Acolytes</u>			
<u>Communion Set Up</u>	Marlene Voss	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Linen Care</u>	Gail Nowakowski		Gail Nowakowski

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. Morgan Parker (healing & strength) Pauline Parker's Granddaughter, Logan (healing & strength) Great Grandson of Pauline Parker, Pastor Bill Wurm, Pastor Taggatz's father-in-law, Angela Strasse (cancer) friend of Taggatz family, Leigh Schmeiser (healing), Mark Pulkownik (hospice), Dave Vitek (serving on the Greenfield Police Department) and Milwaukee Police Officers, Norma Manoil (cancer), Tom Janes (healing & strength) Diane Pielsnik's brother, Cindy Riemer (cancer), Ronnie Boyd (healing & strength), Art Hartsmandorfer (healing & strength) friend of Doc Medek, Paul Carpenter (healing & strength) relative of Stephanie Gulizia, Delores Riemer (physical therapy on her knee), Valinda (hospice) Aunt of Glenn Dotson, Lori Jablonski (recovery from surgery), Lori Bischoff (healing & strength), Lori Kachelmeier (healing & strength), Jeff Hartig (healing & strength) father of Alissa Campbell, Daniel Sheets (healing & strength) Great-Grandson of Lowell & Pat Johnson, Ben Heinen (healing & strength), Virginia Schmeiser (healing & strength), and Pat Groth (healing & strength).

For our Homebound Members at Grace: Betty Lemmer, Kathy Gaudian, Bernice Byklum, June Roewer, Art Steinborn, Ernst & Patricia Groth, Gloria Kilponen, and Mark Pulkownik.

We mourn with the family of Pastor Fred Bischoff, who was recently called home to heavenly rest. Oh Lord, we pray that we may not grieve as those who have no hope, but that we may rejoice in the promise of the resurrection to life everlasting, and that we may encourage one another with these words, *we pray especially for, Pastor Bischoff's* family and his former congregation at St Peter's Lutheran Church Waterford, WI LC-MS, as they mourn his recent death, that casting every care upon you, they may know the consolation of your love. Amen.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! We thank the Lord that on Sunday January 31st, *Watson Banach, son of Jalee & Joel Banach*, will be baptized into the Christian faith through both water and the power of God's Word in a private baptism here at Grace after our 10:30am worship service! We praise the Lord that *Watson's* name is written in God's book of life!!!

***All those on the Grace Prayer Line dealing with long term health and medical issue;
Hear our prayer.***

**We encourage you to submit prayer requests for worship and/or our prayer line by emailing:
Paulinemom@aol.com**

If you do not have access to a computer you may call:

Prayers for worship:		Church Office	414-762-8990
Requests on prayer line:	10am-3 pm	Carol Thurber	414-762-9615
	3pm-9 pm	Pauline Parker	414-764-5574

Pastor Taggatz Office Hours for Grace Lutheran Church

Monday	8:30 am-1:00 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-1:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am-1:00 pm
Thursday	8:30 am-1:00 pm
Friday	(Pastor's Day Off)

Visitations: Monday-Thursday afternoons

***For appointments, call Grace Lutheran's church office or Pastor's cell phone.
For emergencies, call Pastor Taggatz: 715-467-1231***

Church Secretary, Sarah Anderson: Tuesday-Thursday, 8:15 am-1:15 pm

We thank Rev. Jim Klug for leading worship and sharing God's Word with us on Thursday night while Pastor Taggatz is away at a Pastor's Retreat in Green Lake, WI. May God continue to richly bless Pastor Klug and his family and his ministry to God's people.

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Voter's Meeting after worship on Sunday, January 31st after the late service.

The LCMS Council of Presidents request for congregations to vote on the delay of the Synod Convention for one more year due to ongoing issues with the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Synod has asked for our response before February 15th. So, we will be voting on this issue in the late service on the last Sunday in January, the 31st. See the information on the Delay of the Synod Convention below...

LCMS Congregation Vote to Delay Synod Convention-COVID-19 continues to impact both the world and the work of the church. Due to ongoing effects of the pandemic, some district presidents have expressed uncertainty that their district conventions will be able to convene at all during 2021. The LCMS Council of Presidents (COP) voted unanimously at their November 2020 meeting to encourage LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison to put before congregations a proposal, per LCMS Constitution Article XI B 8, to delay the 2022 Synod convention one year (to 2023), thus extending the window for district conventions to include also the calendar year 2022. Harrison also consulted with the Synod Board of Directors in accordance with Article XI B 8. The participation of each LCMS congregation in this deliberation and decision is vital as the Synod navigates this historic vote. In a Dec. 7 letter to the entire Synod, Harrison noted: "There are two main problems: The hotel/hospitality/restaurant/convention industry is barely functioning in many places, making preparation difficult or even impossible; and government restrictions on public meetings are placing in doubt the possibility of even holding a district convention. There are currently many states in which our districts cannot legally meet.

"This is not about undue fear of COVID. We face a situation in which a number of districts may only be able to meet barely long enough to get a minimum amount of business done, or they may be unable to meet at all." Harrison concluded: "While this is an important matter to consider for our walking together as Synod, it is not a church-dividing issue. Let's hear each other out, act in good conscience, and together make a decision, one way or another, for the good of our Synod and our shared commitment to proclaim Christ crucified, the hope of the world."

Grace Lutheran Youth Group News-We will be meeting at Jennifer & Derek Poellet's house on February 26th from 4:30-7:30pm to have a devotion, have some special activities, and continue planning for the 2022 LCMS National Youth Gathering. We invite the youth of our congregation from 5th Grade through High School to attend our next Grace Lutheran Youth Group Meeting. Derek & Jennifer Poellet's home is located at: 8040 S. Grewen Drive, Oak Creek.

Private Communion Service-We would like to encourage those that have not been attending worship services due to COVID19 to come and partake in private communion. We will provide this service once per month. The next service will be on Monday, February 1st from 10:00am-12:00pm. We have eight 15-minute time slots available so that you and/or your family can come and take communion. Social distancing and thorough cleaning will occur between each visit. Please contact Sarah Anderson...Tuesday-Thursday between 8:15am-1:15pm to reserve your slot. If this date does not work for you please contact Pastor Taggatz directly at 715.467.1231.

OUR LATEST GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PANTHER NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX FOR ANY PARISHIONERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PICK IT UP TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Blessings for Baby Shower - A Place of Refuge

January is the month we celebrate. Locally we support *A Place of Refuge*-advocacy program supporting women facing crisis pregnancy. www.aplaceofrefuge.org. We will be collecting items thru January 31...look for the pink tote in the narthex. THANK YOU, Grace Ladies Guild



Items of Need: Winter infant sleepers 9-18 months, bibs, infant board books, infant wash cloths & towels, infant toys, and infant socks.

Free Yarn Available - Pauline Parker has four large bins of yarn that were originally for prayer shawls. If anyone is interested in any or all of this yarn to contact her directly. She has full rolls and bundles of colors.

Greeting Card Ministry

There are cards, stamps, names of shut-ins, prayer lists for anyone to take and send cards to shut-ins and those on the prayer line, especially those on the long term prayer list, on the table in the narthex. Pauline Parker has applied to Thrivent Action Team and they will give us \$250 for stamps and cards. Thrivent has approved this project. In a couple of weeks, there will be t-shirts and note pads as well, to keep track of those who you send cards to.

Please feel free to take the cards, stamps and list of names and a copy of the prayer list, send out the cards even if you don't know the people just to let them know they are being prayed for and that we at Grace care.

2021 Altar Flowers

- The sign-up sheet for 2021 Altar Flowers is posted on the white board in the narthex.
- Place your flower order directly with Parkway Floral: 414.762.0246
- Flowers should be brought or delivered to church before the Thursday service
- You can also supply your own arrangement. Rachel Miliacca will provide you with a vase liner.
- Your flowers will be refrigerated after the Thursday service so they will stay fresh for Sunday's services.

Power Point Team

Pastor Taggatz is looking for a few people that would like to help him with running the Power Point during our worship services. If interested, please contact him directly at 715-467-1231 or jtaggatz@yahoo.com. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex for you to choose which worship service you would like to help with PowerPoint during worship.

Scrip Coordinator needed for the church. If you are interested, please contact our church office at 414.762.8990. It will require only a minimal amount of work. Scrip is Fundraising while you shop. Grace Lutheran Church will raise money instantly when families use retail gift cards to pay for everyday purchases, like gas and groceries, instead of credit or debit cards, cash or check. *This volunteer must be a member of Grace Lutheran Church.*

Your 2021 Grace Lutheran Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex of the Church. Please feel free to pick your envelopes up and we thank you for your continued support of our Church, School, and Early Childcare Center through the stewardship of your time, talents, and treasures! God bless you!

2020 OFFERING STATEMENTS - The 2020 offering statements will be available in the narthex beginning Thursday, January 28th. If you were expecting one but do not find one, please list your name and address on the signup sheet that will be placed there also. If you are not able to pick up your statement in person after worship, please contact the church office to coordinate a pick up date and time from the office. If you prefer, you may leave your name and email address with the office and I will send an email copy to you as quickly as possible. If you have any questions, please leave your contact information with the church office and I will contact you to discuss your information. Please note that emailed statements for on-line giving will be issued separately. Thank you, Bev Buretta

Adult Membership Class at Grace Oak Creek –“God Connects”

We are forming a new adult membership class. It will be on Sundays in January and February 2021 starting on Sunday, January 10th at 1pm and it will go till 3pm each Sunday until Sunday, February 7th, 2021. Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, this class will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations. Please let us know if you need childcare to attend this new members class. Watch an introductory video at www.lhm.org/GodConnects.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR –"Under the Impression" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Jesus overturned and upended people's first impressions of Him. (Mark 5-6) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: lhm.org** scroll down the page and click on, "listen now." Or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings.

WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	103.3	FM	Sun	6:30 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	5:30 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	6:30 AM

Stewardship Minute

The opening verse in Psalm 24 tells us of God’s ownership. *“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.”* God created the world out of nothing, and He owns all that He created. As God’s stewards, we understand that we are merely caring for what God has created and owns. We possess what He entrusts to us, but it is not ours. We are caretakers of what belongs to Him, so we understand that we are accountable to manage His property faithfully. When we manage faithfully all that is entrusted to us, we will hear the words, *“Well done, good and faithful servant”* (Matthew 25:21).

**WE DO GOOD WORKS NOT
BECAUSE GOD NEEDS THEM
BUT BECAUSE OUR NEIGHBORS
NEED THEM.**

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10).



**Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church
Ash Wednesday, February 17th - Easter Sunday, April 4th, 2021**

“Coming Home from Exile: The Exoduses of the Scriptures.”

Join us for this exciting series as we meditate upon Christ’s passion in dying on the cross to save us from our sins. Please note: **ASH WEDNESDAY** will be on February 17th with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m, there will be no Thursday Evening Service on that week, the Lenten Services following Ash Wednesday will be on Thursday nights at 6:30pm without communion. Here is an overview of the series...

Wed., February 17th 6:30pm with Communion-Ash Wednesday: The Ashes of Paradise Lost, Genesis 3
Thursday, February 25th 6:30pm-Lent 2: Abram’s Exodus before the Exodus, Genesis 12:10–20
Thursday, March 4th 6:30pm-Lent 3: Jacob the Heel Comes Home, Genesis 28:10–17
Thursday, March 11th 6:30pm-Lent 4: “Out of Egypt I Have Called My Son,” Exodus 14
Thursday, March 18th 6:30pm-Lent 5: Exile and Return from Our Babylons, Ezra 1:1–4
Thursday, March 25th 6:30pm-Lent 6: The Promise of a Cosmopolitan Exodus, Isaiah 11:11–16
Thursday, April 1st 6:30pm with Communion-Maundy Thursday: The New and Better Passover Meal of Meals, Exodus 12:1–14
Friday, April 2nd 12:00pm Good Friday Worship no communion
Friday, April 2nd 6:30pm Tenebrae Service-Good Friday: Christ, the Firstborn, Is Sacrificed, Exodus 12:21–32
Sunday, April 4th 6:00am Easter Sunrise Service, No Communion
Sunday, April 4th 8:30am & 10:00am Easter Sunday Festival Service with communion

IN THE WORD FOR THE 4th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Catechism: Confession and the Office of the Keys: What is Confession? What sins should we confess? Which are these?

Verse of the week: Psalm 130:3-5, *“If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? 4 But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared. 5 I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope.”*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 106:24-48

Hymn of the week: (LSB 607) “From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee” (stanzas 1-3)

Bible Stories for the Week:

Sunday– The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard—Mt. 20:1-16

Monday– The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Part 1)—Luke 15:11-24

Tuesday– The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Part 2)—Luke 15:25-32

Wednesday– David’s Sin with Bathsheba—2 Samuel 11:1-27

Thursday– The Prophet Nathan Confronts David—2 Samuel 12:1-25

Friday– The Miraculous Catch of Fish—Luke 5:1-11

Saturday– The Power of the Word of God—Isaiah 55:10-13

On the March for Life: “We’ve shown up to celebrate and safeguard each one from the unborn to the elderly and everywhere in between ... We’re leaning in to bring joy to the desperate and hope to the endangered. We’re reaching out to take community and opportunity even amid adversity. We’re marching forth to give courage and compassion. We’ve united today not simply to leave a sordid past behind but to leap ahead into a splendid future.” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* “Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

**Growing In Grace
January 21 & 24, 2021**

Offering

<i>General Offering</i>	\$13,026.25	Attendance	71
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	1,295.23	Communed	41
<i>Missions</i>	0.00		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	0.00		
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	35.00		
<i>Lutheran High</i>	25.00		
<i>Bible Study/Sunday School</i>	0.00		
Total	\$14,381.48		

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	1/31	8:00 am	Divine Worship Service
		9:15 am	Sunday School @ church
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study @ church
		10:30 am	Divine Worship Service
		1:00 pm	Adult Membership Class
Monday	2/1	2:30 pm	Confirmation Class: school children
		6:30 pm	Confirmation Class: public school
Tuesday	2/2	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast @ OC Diner
Wednesday	2/3	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study @ church
Thursday	2/4	6:30 pm	Divine Worship Service
Sunday	2/7	8:00 am	Divine Worship Service
		9:15 am	Sunday School @ church
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study @ church
		10:30 am	Divine Worship Service
		1:00 pm	Adult Membership Class @ church

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We have gathered today to celebrate the most precious gifts and treasures our Lord gives us: His forgiveness, life and salvation. It would be our honor to have you join us again next week as we “Celebrate, Teach, and Share” the Good News of God’s Grace among all people.

Grace is committed to supporting families through our Early Childhood Center, Day School, and High School. We are blessed to be a member of the Lutheran High School Association of Milwaukee.

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990(O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) thewordendures.blogspot.com
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262
Pastor		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Sarah Anderson, Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

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