

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
[www.graceoakcreek.org](http://www.graceoakcreek.org)

## 5<sup>th</sup> Lenten Midweek Service

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021

*“By His Grace you are saved through faith”*

Ephesians 2:8

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share*

*God’s Grace*



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

## **Welcome to Grace!**

### **We're Glad You've Joined Us!**

#### **AS WE GATHER—*“Exile and Return from Our Babylons”***

God is not a cantankerous hothead who's ready to blow up at the drop of a hat. He's long-tempered, slow to anger, quick to forgive. He's patient even with the likes of you and me. But be warned. There is a limit. There does come a point when the heavenly Father puts every kid's least favorite proverb into practice, namely, *“Spare the rod and spoil the child.”* Just ask his rebellious son Israel. For over two hundred years God bombarded his people with prophet after prophet, all preaching variations of the same sermon: Turn back to the true God, or he will turn his face away from you. But, Israel wouldn't listen. And soon enough, the whole weight of Babylon pressed down on them. To Babylon they were marched, their backs reddened by the rod of discipline, their ears full of the divine words that had gone unheeded. Homeless and hopeless into exile they went. Well, actually, homeless, yes, but hopeless, no. For the wages of rebellion is exile, but the gift of God is homecoming, in God's time and in God's way, but all according to grace. And according to grace, men such as Ezra stepped into Moses' shoes to lead the children of Abraham out of the sewer reeking of idolatry and falsehood back into the land flowing with milk and honey.

# Order of Service

## 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.** 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 544 O Love, How Deep (vs. 1-6)



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
2 He sent no an-gel to our race,  
3 For us hap-tized, for us He bore  
4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;  
5 For us by wick-ed-ness be-trayed,  
Be-yond all thought and fan-ta-sy,  
Of high-er or and low-er place,  
His ho-ly fast and hun-gered sore;  
For us His dai-ly works He wrought,  
For us, in crown of thorns ar-rayed,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
But wore the robe of hu-man frame,  
For us temp-ta-tion sharp He knew;  
By words and signs and ac-tions thus  
He bore the shame-ful cross and death;

Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
 And to this world Him - self He came.  
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.  
 For us He gave His dy - ing breath.

6 For us He rose from death again;  
 For us He went on high to reign;  
 For us He sent His Spirit here  
 To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

*Stand*

### Opening Versicles

L This is the day which the Lord has made;  
 C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
 C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

L Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
 C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

L Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,  
 C **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

L Christ was wounded for our transgressions.  
 C **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
 C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

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

C The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.  
With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.  
And you will say in that day:  
"Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,  
make known His deeds among the people,  
proclaim that His name is exalted."  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.  
Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.  
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One  
of Israel.  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

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

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

*Sit*

✠ WORD ✠

The Psalmody— Psalm 138

Pastor: <sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods sing your praise;

People: <sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your  
steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your  
name and your word.

Pastor: <sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

People: <sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, for they have heard the  
words of your mouth,

Pastor: <sup>5</sup>and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

People: <sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from  
afar.

Pastor: <sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.

People: <sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

**First Reading**— *Ezra 1:1-4*

<sup>1</sup>In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing:

<sup>2</sup>“Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. <sup>3</sup>Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and rebuild the house of the LORD, the God of Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>And let each survivor, in whatever place he sojourns, be assisted by the men of his place with silver and gold, with goods and with beasts, besides freewill offerings for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading**— *Luke 22:47-54*

<sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, <sup>48</sup>but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” <sup>49</sup>And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” <sup>50</sup>And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup>But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? <sup>53</sup>When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

<sup>54</sup>Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house, and Peter was following at a distance.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsory**

L We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

- L Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.  
C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.
- L We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.  
C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

*Stand*

## Catechism

### Ten Commandments

- C You shall have no other gods.  
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Creed

- C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life T everlasting. Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

- 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.

*Sit*

## Sermon Hymn 451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted (vs. 1-4)



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af-flict-ed, See Him dy-ing on the  
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev-er grief-like  
3 Ye who think of sin but light-ly Nor sup-pose the e-vil  
4 Here we have a firm foun-da-tion, Here the ref-u-ge of the

tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re-ject-ed; Yes, my  
His? Friends through fear His cause dis-own-ing, Foes in-  
great Here may view its na-ture right-ly, Here its  
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal-va-tion, Is the

soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long-ex-pect-ed  
sult-ing His dis-tress; Man-y hands were raised to  
guilt may es-ti-mate. Mark the sac-ri-fice ap-  
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin-ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I  
 wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the  
 point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the  
 wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
 deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.  
 Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
 ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Sermon—"Exile and Return from Our Babylons" (Ezra 1:1-4)

Hymn 672 Jerusalem the Golden (vs. 1-4)



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With milk and hon - ey blest—  
 2 With-in those walls of Zi - on Sounds forth the joy - ful song,  
 3 A - round the throne of Da - vid, The saints, from care re - leased,  
 4 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The home of God's e - lect!



The prom - ise of sal - va - tion, The place of peace and rest—  
 As saints join with the an - gels And all the mar - tyr throng.  
 Raise loud their songs of tri - umph To cel - e - brate the feast.  
 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try That faith - ful hearts ex - pect!



We know not, oh, we know not What joys a - wait us there:  
 The Prince is ev - er with them; The day - light is se - rene;  
 They sing to Christ their lead - er, Who con - quered in the fight,  
 In mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us To that e - ter - nal rest



**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*

**Prayer**

Pastor: O Lord,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,  
**People: hear us.**

Pastor: God the Father, in heaven,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Holy Spirit,  
**People: have mercy.**

LSB 265

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

**People: Spare us, good Lord.**

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;  
by Your holy nativity;  
by Your Baptism, fasting, and temptation;  
by Your agony and bloody sweat;  
by Your cross and Passion;  
by Your precious death and burial;  
by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;  
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: In all time of our tribulation;  
in all time of our prosperity;  
in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To prosper the preaching of Your Word;  
to bless our prayer and meditation;  
to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;  
to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To draw all to Yourself;  
to bless those who are instructed in the faith,  
to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken,  
the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers;  
to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;  
and to have mercy on us all:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To turn our hearts to You;  
to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear  
our prayers:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**People: we implore You to hear us.**

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**People: grant us Your peace.**

Pastor: O Christ,  
**People: hear us.**

Pastor: O Lord,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,  
**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,  
**People: have mercy. Amen.**

### **Collect of the Day**

- L Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

### **Collect for the Word**

- L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives on reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

### **Evening Prayer**

- C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## Blessing

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

## Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

*At this time we leave our service in silent prayer contemplating and meditating on our Lord Jesus' passion in suffering and dying on the cross for our sins.*



### 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.

Elders

Readers

Acolytes

Communion Set Up

Linen Care

Thursday 6:30 pm

Lance Kopperud

Suzie Miranda

Sunday 8:00 am

Glenn Dotson

Cris Evers

Madilyn Hundt

Lynn Buzzell

Sunday 10:30 am

Greg Nowakowski

Derek Poellet

Payton Weirich

Lynn Buzzell



### Special Voters Meeting

Sunday, March 21, 2021 after the 10:30am Worship Service we are having a Special Voters Meeting. The only agenda item we have is to call Anthony Hengst as Grace Lutheran School's new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher. It is very important that you are in attendance as a quorum is needed.

## 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), 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, Valinda (hospice) Aunt of Glenn Dotson; Virginia Schmeiser (healing & strength); Pat Groth (healing & strength); Myles King (blood disorder) son of Meredith & Matthew King; Bev Buretta (healing & strength); Sharon McCaigue (healing & strength) sister of Doc Medek & sister-in-law of Ron Savarino; Keith (stroke) Husband of Jean, a friend of Jim & Janine Pieper.

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

*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*

*Sarah Anderson, Church Secretary: T-W-Th, 8:15am-1:15pm*

### **Choir Practice!!**

Choir practice is starting up again. Please join us on Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:00 p.m.



### **Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church** ***“Coming Home from Exile: The Exoduses of the Scriptures.”***

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Join us for this exciting series as we meditate upon Christ’s passion in dying on the cross to save us from our sins. Here is an overview of the series...

**Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm**-Lent 6: The Promise of a Cosmopolitan Exodus, Isaiah 11:11–16

**Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 6:30pm with Communion**-Maundy Thursday: The New and Better Passover Meal of Meals, Exodus 12:1–14

**Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 12:00pm** Good Friday Worship no communion

**Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:30pm** Tenebrae Service-Good Friday: Christ, the Firstborn, Is Sacrificed, Exodus 12:21–32

**Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00am** Easter Sunrise Service, No Communion

**Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 8:30am & 10:00am** Easter Sunday Festival Service with communion

## 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) <a href="http://thewordendures.blogspot.com">thewordendures.blogspot.com</a>
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		<a href="mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org">pastor@graceoakcreek.org</a>
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Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
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