

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

“By His Grace you are saved through faith”

Ephesians 2:8

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God’s Grace*



**Image:** “Whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me, and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me.” (Mark 9:37)

# **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.

**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 *"The Humbled Servant"***

Jesus' disciples did not understand the prophecy about His death and resurrection. They focused, instead, on their personal greatness. So, He inverted their viewpoint, using a child to explain that true greatness is in humble servanthood, in welcoming even children (then considered to be without status). But our inner passions rebel and war against such servanthood, as James explains in the Epistle. Fortunately, by the gracious gift of faith, in place of personal struggles, we can rely on God, as Jeremiah does in the Old Testament Reading. Our Lord is the humblest and therefore greatest Servant, and by His death and resurrection He has proclaimed that God's grace knows no bounds. Confidently, we can follow Him in humble servanthood each day.

### **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.

# Order of Service: Divine Service Setting 1, pg. 151

## ✧ PREPARATION ✧

### Opening Hymn

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (vs. 1-4)



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy com-mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



- Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!  
Let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.  
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a-against my God.

*Stand*

### Confession and Absolution

LSB 151

*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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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** *Psalm 37:5-7; antiphon: v. 4*

Delight yourself | in the LORD,\*  
**and he will give you the desires | of your heart.**  
 Commit your way | to the LORD;\*  
**trust in him, and | he will act.**  
 He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,\*  
**and your justice as the | noonday.**  
 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;\*  
**fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil de- | vices!**

**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.**

Delight yourself | in the LORD,\*  
**and he will give you the desires | of your heart.**

**Kyrie**

**LSB 152**

- A In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
 C **Amen.**

**Gloria in Excelsis**

**LSB 154**

- A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
- C **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**  
**We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.**  
**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:**  
**You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**  
**For You alone**  
**are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,**  
**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**  
**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray. O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 *Jeremiah 11:18-20*

*(The prophet relies on God's protection as his opponents plot against him.)*

<sup>18</sup>The LORD made it known to me and I knew; then you showed me their deeds. <sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. I did not know it was against me they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more." <sup>20</sup>But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual *Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.*

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,\*  
**for those who fear him lack | nothing!**  
 Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,\*  
**but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.**

### Epistle *James 3:13–4:10*

*(The apostle proclaims God's peace even as we struggle with inner warfare.)*

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

<sup>1</sup>What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup>You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup>Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? <sup>6</sup>But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse**

**LSB 156**

- C **Alleluia.**  
**Lord, to whom shall we go?**  
**You have the words of eternal life.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Verse for the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*"Alleluia. If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all. Alleluia." (Mark 9:35b)*

**Holy Gospel Mark 9:30-37**

*(After prophesying His death and resurrection, Jesus teaches the disciples how to serve humbly.)*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.  
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Nicene Creed**

**LSB 158**

- 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 of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

**Children’s Message—“Very Important Person” (Mark 9:30-37)** *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

851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us (vs. 1-4)



1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your  
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,  
 3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our  
 4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the  
 free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your  
 hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious  
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;  
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone  
 sen - tence, “You have done it all to Me.”  
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You  
 Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful  
 You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py  
 deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your  
 stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.  
 and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?  
 all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

**Sermon "Jesus Teaches Us What is Great" (Mark 9:30-37)**

**Offertory**

LSB 159

- C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
 I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
 I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
 in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**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 by texting **graceoc** to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site at [graceoakcreek.org](http://graceoakcreek.org). You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or 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 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 160

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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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 161

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has

no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**LSB 162**

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

**LSB 162**

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 163**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**LSB 163**

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*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!

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION PRACTICE**—We are offering altar/rail communion as our communion practice. While you are at the altar, please let us know if you would like to receive the Common Cup. Individual communion cups are also available to you. You also have the option to kneel or remain standing during altar/rail communion. Gluten Free communion wafers are also available upon request.

## Distribution Hymns:

### 620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing (vs. 1-6)



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my  
2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and  
3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the  
4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.  
wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,  
Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,  
me this hour In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His  
Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the  
Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter  
On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."  
pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.  
death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.  
grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,  
 Whose own feast of love I savor,  
 Bidden by His gracious call.  
 Wedding garments He provides me,  
 With a robe of white He hides me,  
 Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,  
 Comfort in my tribulation,  
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.  
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
 Cleanses me from sin and error,  
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

730 What Is the World to Me (vs. 1-4)



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure  
 2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y  
 3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers  
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!  
 Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.  
 Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.  
 My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;  
 But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,  
 I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:  
 My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!  
 My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!  
 My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!  
 Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me (vs. 1-3)



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;  
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,  
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.  
 For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.  
 I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
 Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.  
 For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.  
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

*Stand*

**Thank the Lord**

**LSB 164**

- C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
 Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
 He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
 with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Post-Communion Collect**

**LSB 166**

- 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 in 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.**

Benediction

- 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

809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness (vs. 1-3)



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



*Refrain*

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;





There will be a Voters Meeting TODAY Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30am Worship Service. Please plan on attending, as your participation as a member of our congregation is very important for the ministries here at Grace. Topics of the meeting will include: *Pastor's update, updates from our church boards, and voting in new members here at Grace.*

### 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>	Greg Nowakowski	Tom Hengst	Derek Poellet
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Miranda	Cris Evers	Derek Poellet
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine Pieper & Marlene Voss	Janine Pieper & Marlene Voss	Janine Pieper & Marlene Voss
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski

### THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to everyone who helped out with our church picnic. Thanks especially to those who set-up, served, cooked the food and helped clean up. We couldn't have had this without your help. We had 80 people in attendance, and even had some school families join us as well. We had so much good food, fun, and fellowship with one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Our free will offering raised \$268! The offerings will be split in half to support the work of: *Lutheran World Relief and Human Care* and *Pastor Nelson's family, LCMS Missionaries to Indonesia*. Thank you so much everyone for being involved in the church picnic this year and for your generosity and support!!!

### Celebrating LWML Sunday- September 23 & 26

"Our Hearts in His Hand" is the theme for LWML Sunday 2021 and is based on Peter's first letter to persecuted Christians in Asia Minor. In chapter 4:8, Peter tells them, *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly.* The heart of the LWML is its members; our hearts have been made holy by God. We are fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home and abroad. Our hearts for Christ are in His hand of service, wherever and when He has need of us.

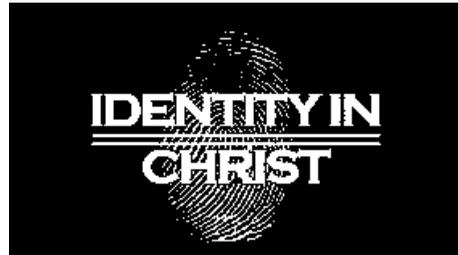
**Don't forget to wear your purple to worship!**

**Socktober kicks off!** During the month of October we will be collecting new socks to be donated to the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. Look for the pink bin in the narthex to place your sock donations into.

**Stewardship Minute**—In Jesus’ ministry here on earth, He called fishermen, a tax collector, a zealot, and people of other occupations to be His apostles. They became a very important part of Jesus’ work to seek and save the lost. In the same way, Jesus, today, is calling us. Whether we are teachers, accountants, janitors, secretaries, or retirees, we are being called to be part of God’s team, who are being sent out to share the Good News of the Gospel. On our own, we are powerless, but we have been empowered by Jesus, gifted with the Holy Spirit, and sent forth to share the eternal blessings of God’s grace.

**STEWARDSHIP IS ONE OF THE  
PRIMARY WAYS WE LIVE OUT  
OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST.**

“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).



### **IN THE WORD FOR THE 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Catechism:** Ten Commandments—Ninth and Tenth Commandments

**Verse of the week:** Matthew 6:25, *“Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?”*

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 125

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 819) “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good” (stanzas 1-3)

**Bible Stories for the Week:**

**Sunday**— The Raising of the Widow of Nain’s Son—Luke 7:11-17

**Monday**— The Prophet Nathan Confronts David with His Sin—2 Sam. 11:26–12:15

**Tuesday**— David’s Son Dies and Solomon Is Born—2 Samuel 12:16-25

**Wednesday**— Absalom Dishonors His Father by Treason—2 Samuel 15:1-15

**Thursday**— Absalom’s Defeat and Death—2 Samuel 18:1, 5-18, 31—19:6

**Friday**— David’s Sacrifice—1 Chronicles 21:1—22:1

**Saturday**— Proverbs 25:6-14

“God has put us in our roles as life-affirming Lutherans in this place at this time. We must continue despite the world’s resistance. We must lean on God because He will support us. We must remember He has the words of eternal life!” *Virginia Flo, Regional Director of Minnesota and National Conference Director, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679.

**Growing In Grace  
September 9 & 12, 2021**

**Offering**

<i>General Offering</i>	\$2,482.00	<b>Attendance</b>	167
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	0	<b>Communed</b>	84
<i>Missions</i>	45.00		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	0.00		
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	20.00		
<i>Lutheran High</i>	0.00		
<i>Bible Study/Sunday School</i>	0.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,547.00</b>		

**OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK**

<b>Sunday</b>	9/19	8:00 am	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		9:15 am	Sunday School & Bible Study
		10:00 am	Willowcrest Worship
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		11:30 am	Voter's Meeting
Monday	9/20	6:30 pm	Confirmation @ church
Tuesday	9/21	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast @ OC Diner
Wednesday	9/22	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
<b>Thursday</b>	9/23	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Saturday	9/25	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
		9:00 am	Servants of Christ Seminar
<b>Sunday</b>	9/26	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		9:15 am	Sunday School & Bible Study
		10:00 am	Willowcrest Worship
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>

## 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. Mark Olen	414-704-0055
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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### School & Church Office

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