

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 13th & 16th, 2022

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"
Ephesians 2:8



Image: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit." (John 15:16)

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

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins & worship activity bags (age 2-8) 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 "God Chose You"

Choice is a divine gift to humankind. That means choice isn't a right. And death isn't a decision. It's everyone's inevitable destiny. You can't "choice" your way out of death. We won't keep our own deaths from happening by making anyone else's death happen. Thanks be to God Jesus displaces freedom of choice and replaces it with freedom from choice. The choice we need is not a choice we make but the choice we are. What saves, what gives life, is not choosing but being chosen. The choice we can't make, the one that matters most, is the one we don't have to. God chose you, and that changes everything... You're not an accident or an afterthought, even in sufferings or difficulties. You're special. No human life is a joke or a mistake, not even in surprise pregnancies or terminal diagnoses. Each one's precious, from fertilization to forever. None of us is hand-me-down or half-hearted, not embryos, not impaired persons, not elderly ones. We're all priceless, whatever our ages, abilities, and appearances. God chose you to embody and to enact the sanctity of human lives. Christians advocate this kind of choice. Jesus said, *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit."* (John 15:16)

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—as outlined in your bulletin

✧ PREPARATION ✧

Opening Hymn 909 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (vs. 1-4)



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of
3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faith - ful All the gifts they
△ 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; Come with all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,
ask to gain; What they gain from You, for - ev - er
to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est
With the bless - ed to re - tain; And here - af - ter
Ev - er three and ev - er one: One in might and



help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in these walls to - day.
in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.
one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

Stand

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

- P Thus says the Lord: No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death. *Ecclesiastes 8:8*
- C **Almighty God, merciful and mighty, we humbly confess that we have not received every member of our race as gift and privilege. We have presumed to exercise Your authority over life and death.**
- P Did not he who made me in the womb make him? And did not one fashion us in the womb? *Job 31:15*
- C **We have not acknowledged our own helplessness reflected in our neighbor's needs. We have not beheld Your image imprinted upon their bodies and our own.**
- P Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. *Matthew 10:21*
- C **We have despised belonging to You. We have denied responsibility for one another.**
- P Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. *Matthew 25:40*
- C **We have let our lips lie silent rather than advocating for the lowly. We have left our hands idle instead of aiding them.**
- P And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked . . . and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. *Ephesians 2:1, 3*
- C **We have worshiped our own desires. We have not served according to Your design.**
- P Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. *Genesis 9:6*
- C **We were brought forth in sin and have become altogether unrighteous. We have done what is evil in your sight and deserve the punishment we have brought upon ourselves.**
- P Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home. *Psalms 68:5-6*
- C **Almighty God, merciful and mighty, we repent of our condition. We plead for Your pardon and Your intervention. Do not cast us off but make us whole, for the sake of Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Substitute, and the only Savior. Amen.**

- P Thus says the Lord your God: You “have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you.” He has given Himself in Jesus Christ. By His shed blood Your sin is atoned for, and by His risen body Your iniquity is taken away. In His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Isaiah 46:3-4*
- C Amen.

Hymn of Praise 549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (vs. 1-4, 7)



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 2 Crown Him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,
 7 Oh, that with yon - der sa - cred throng We at His feet may fall!



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
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 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song And crown Him Lord of all.

Collect

- P Heavenly Father, before the foundation of the world, You chose us in Christ to be Your sons and daughters. Grant us to behold every human life as created, redeemed, and called to be Your precious treasures, that we receive each neighbor as gift and privilege with whom we may rejoice as brothers and sisters in Your everlasting kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

✠ WORD ✠

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 49:1-7*

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” ⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.” ⁵And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” ⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading *1 Corinthians 1:26-31*

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel *John 15:12-17*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

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

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not

know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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.

Children’s Message “God Chose You!” (John 15:16) *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 573 Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee (vs. 1-3)

1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened
3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's
nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy
heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy
bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and
grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me
heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;
King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,
Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this
For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,
Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed
end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.
if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

Sermon “Heartbreak Hotel” (Exodus 1-2)

Offering/Attendance As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also 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 website at: 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 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

- 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

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

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

- C 1 **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.**
- 2 **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!

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

611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be (vs. 1-5)



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

783 Take My Life and Let It Be (vs. 1-6)



1 Take my life and let it be Con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo-ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau-ti-ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes-sag-es from Thee.
Take my in-tel-lect and use Ev-'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

C 1 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.

2 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 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.

Benedicamus LSB 212

- A Let us bless the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

Sit

Closing Hymn 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing (vs. 1-4)



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. Pam Umaski (healing & strength); Terri Meyer (cancer); Pastor Bill Wurm, Pastor Taggatz's father-in-law; Angela Strasse (cancer) friend of Taggatz family; Leigh Schmeiser (healing); Julia Oelke (Army National Guard Medic and her Unit deployed) Debbie Oelke's daughter; Milwaukee Police Officers; Tom Janes (healing & strength) Diane Pielsnik's brother; Bev Buretta (healing & strength); Donna Horkan (healing & strength) sister of June Roewer; Greg Puetz (healing & strength); Jay (cancer) friend of Lisa Kamprath; Randy (cancer) Lori Kachelmeier's brother; Shirley Stachowiak (cancer) Sharon Iseli's niece; Ken Dotson (healing & strength) Brother of Glenn Dotson; Larry Abelt Sr. (healing & strength) Leah Abelt's Father-in-Law; Kevin (healing & strength) Katie Nowack's friend; Andie (cancer) friend of Joy Lussier. Cindy Schmidt (back issues) friend of Lori Kachelmeier; Tim (surgery) Donna Dotson's brother; Gordon (healing) relative of Janine Pieper; Renee Lutzke (healing); Michelle Stein (cancer) Sister in law of Pat Toman; Christine (healing) friend of Jill Nowack; Bryghtten (healing) relative of Carol Thurber; Greg Nowakowski (healing & strength); Myles King (blood disorder) son of Matthew & Meredith King; James Giambi (healing) Donna Dotson's Sister in Law's Nephew; Cindy Riemer (cancer); Kathy Senger (cancer) Lowell & Pat Johnson's friend; Michael Helzer (cancer) friend of Michael Parker.

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

We Mourn with the families of Tom Adams, relative of Pauline Parker, Rose Adams' husband, and the family of Lorraine Roush, the mother of Craig Roush, who were both recently called home to heavenly rest. May God give them comfort in the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation we have through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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

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</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Mike Huber	Adam Voss	Derek Poellet
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Glenn Dotson	Derek Poellet
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolytes</u>			Junior Edgerton
<u>Ushers</u>	Marline Voss, Lance Kopperud	Leah Abelt, Paige Vitek, Benjamin Tindall, Henry Tindall	Cathy Weeks, Rick Weeks, Amelia Poellet, Dachs Poellet

Poinsettias are available to pick up following worship—You are welcome to pick up your poinsettias that you donated to beautify our Church Sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Thank you for making our church beautiful for Christmas and we wish you all God’s blessings in the New Year!!!

Your 2022 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! ****Please do not use until January 2022.****

2022 Altar Flowers

- ❖ Sign-up for 2022 Altar Flowers! The sign-up sheet is posted on the white board in the narthex.
- ❖ Place your flower order directly with Parkway Floral in South Milwaukee at (414) 762-0246.
- ❖ Flowers will be delivered to church, free of charge, before the Thursday evening service.
- ❖ You can also supply your own arrangement. Rachel Miliacca at the ECC can provide you with a vase liner.
- ❖ Your flowers will be refrigerated after the Thursday service so they will be fresh for Sunday's services.
- ❖ Take your flowers to enjoy at home after the 10:30am service on Sunday.

Reminder: If you want to put flowers on the altar, you must pay for it directly to the florist (Parkway Floral, South Milwaukee) if using a florist. Do not put money in an envelope and put it in the offering baskets. Thank you.

Are you in need of a 2022 calendar? If so, there were some donated to us and are on the table in the narthex. Please help yourself!

Blessings for Baby – A Place for Refuge

January is the month we celebrate Life Sunday. Locally we support *A Place for Refuge*-advocacy program supporting women facing crisis pregnancy. We will be collecting items thru January 30-look for the box in the narthex. Items of need are: infant sleepers, bibs, infant board books, infant wash cloths and towels, infant toys and infant socks. THANK YOU!

GIVING TO GRACE THROUGH THE THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM—When you're ready to make an impact on the causes and nonprofits you care most about, we're here to help. Through our Thrivent Choice® program, you can make a personal donation or direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® to more than 40,000 churches and non profits. Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. *****Special notice regarding the Thrivent Choice Program:** Thrivent members wishing to continue their automatic withdrawal to the charity of their choice will have to let Thrivent know either by e-mail or phone. All you have to do is call this 1- 800 number in order to see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars to give. To continue to direct your Choice Dollars to the charity of your choice call: 800-THRIVENT(800-847-4836) and state " *Thrivent Choice.*"

For More information on the Thrivent Choice Program please go to:
<https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html>

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting—There will be a special meeting to plan for VBS here at our school this summer. It will be on Tuesday, January 25th at 5:30 pm in our school library. If you would like to help out with VBS at Grace this summer, you are invited to attend the meeting. We will be discussing the date for VBS this year, the program we would like to use, and assigning responsibilities to volunteers in planning the different stations for VBS. We hope to see you there. Questions? Contact Pastor Taggatz at jtaggatz@yahoo.com , on his cell 715-467-1231 or by contacting the church office.

LUTHERAN HOUR - "Hazed and Confused" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. God is against our pride because He wants to give Himself to us. (Luke 4:1-37) **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

IN THE WORD FOR THE 2nd SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Catechism: Sacrament of Holy Baptism: How can water do such great things?

Verse of the week: Galatians 3:26-27, *"You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 142

Hymn of the week: (LSB 402) "The Only Son from Heaven" (stanza 1-2)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Jesus Turns Water into Wine—John 2:1-11

Monday— Hezekiah Purifies the Temple—2 Chronicles 28:22—29:36

Tuesday— Hezekiah Celebrates the Passover—2 Chronicles 30:1—31:1

Wednesday— Confession of St Peter—Mark 8:27—9:1

Thursday— The Destruction of Sennacherib's Army—2 Chronicles 32:1-23

Friday—King Hezekiah's Life Is Extended—2 Kings 20:1-11

Saturday—King Hezekiah Receives Envoys from Babylon—2 Kings 20:12-21

Stewardship Minute— Jerry White, in his book *Honesty, Morality, and Conscience*, writes, *"Christians are to be servants of both God and people, but most of us approach business, work, and life in general with the attitude of what I can get rather than what I can give. Serving God receives a favorable response but serving people, especially those who cannot repay this has no visible benefit or glory from anyone except God."* In our lives, we find it fairly easy to serve others who are loveable and who can repay us. However, God calls us to serve all people and let Him be the one to reward us.

CREDIT CARDS SHOULD CONTAIN THE CLAUSE, “THIS CREDIT CARD CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR FINANCIAL WELL-BEING.”

“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15).



“You are not and never have been simply a number, a blob of tissue, or an invisible nobody. Rather, you are now and always have been God’s handcrafted gift to the world.”
Michelle Bauman, director of Y4Life – 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.

The Grace Board of Stewardship and ECC present the 2022 Chili Fundraiser. Orders can be placed between now until January 21st. Chili forms can be dropped off at church, school, or the ECC with payment. Orders can be picked up after January 23rd. The cost for the chili is \$10 per quart. All funds will go towards ECC’s re-accreditation process. Please see the back table in the Narthex to pick up an order form for this Chili Fundraiser. Please contact the ECC office with any questions at 414-762-8755. Thanks for your generosity and support of our Grace Early Childhood Center!!!

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK AT GRACE

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod • January 23–29, 2022 • Col. 1:15-20

On Sunday, January 23rd we will have the Martin Lutheran High School Brass Choir with us at both the 8:00 and 10:30 am services as we kick off National Lutheran School's Week.

The theme this year is *"In All Things"* and is inspired by Colossians 1:17-20: *"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church... [He reconciles] to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."* This timeless theme empowers Lutheran schools to praise and share Christ in the sanctuary, classroom, STEMLab, choir room, playground, gym, athletic field, faculty lounge, office and every place where God's children and their leaders gather.

Grace Lutheran School Oak Creek Open House! Come to our open house on Tuesday, January 18th from 4-7pm by appointment. Please call the school office to schedule your tour at (414) 762-3655. We accept all three Wisconsin Parental Choice Vouchers, commonly known as School Choice Vouchers. We are a nationally accredited private grade school with a strong academic curriculum and Christian environment. We also offer extracurricular programs with boys and girls athletic teams. A before and afterschool care program is also available. Go to our website: graceoakcreek.org

☼Altar Flowers☼

Altar flowers today are given by Mark & Jennifer Olen
in celebration of Jennifer's birthday.

**Growing In Grace
January 6 & 9, 2022**

Offering

<i>General Offering</i>	\$2,965.00	<i>Attendance</i>	82
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	1,801.25	<i>Communed</i>	64
<i>Missions</i>	100.00		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	200.00		
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	310.00		
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	100.00		
<i>Bible Study/Sunday School</i>	0.00		
<i>Total</i>	\$5,476.25		

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	1/16	8:00 am	Divine Worship
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	Bible Study (school library)
		10:30 am	Divine Worship
Monday	1/17	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class @ church
Tuesday	1/18	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast @ OC Diner
Wednesday	1/19	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	1/20	6:30 pm	Worship Service
		7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	1/22	8:00 am	Rise & SonShine Bible Study
Sunday	1/23	8:00 am	Divine Worship
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	Bible Study (school library)
		10:30 am	Divine Worship

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	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Duane Meyer	414-840-1873
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262
Pastor	Rev. John Taggatz	pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Sarah Anderson, Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director	Rachel Miliacca	eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

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