

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The Baptism of our Lord

January 6th & 9th, 2022

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



Image: "Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." (Luke 3:21-22)

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 "Providing for the Progress Paradox"

The "epiphany," the showing forth or manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah, the Savior of the world, began with the coming of the Magi from the East. This "epiphany" now continues as our Lord's active earthly ministry begins at the hands of His predecessor John the Baptist and His Baptism in the Jordan River. As the Holy Spirit comes upon His human flesh and the voice from heaven declares Him to be the Son of God, so our Baptism gives us "the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13). To be thus "born again" is nothing less than to have heaven opened to us with the power of God's gifts of faith, hope, love, and the perseverance to live as God's children now albeit as "strangers and exiles on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13), yet as "fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19). "I'm but a stranger here," says the hymn, "Heav'n is my home" (LSB 748:1).

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 594

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It (vs. 1-5)



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized
2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap-tized
4 Death, you can - not end my glad-ness: I am bap-tized
5 There is noth - ing worth com-par - ing To this life-long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong-er:
in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's
Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the
To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in
E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth
con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
font I've trav - eled, All your might has
dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance
waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -



more than an - y That brought me sal -
did re - lease me In a dear for -
come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your
bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?
tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!
strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.
in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

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.**

- 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.**

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

- C **This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 43:1-7
(Israel's only Savior)

¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. ⁵Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. ⁶I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

Gradual (Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8, spoken responsively)

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*

bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle Romans 6:1-11
(Dead to sin, alive to God)

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

- 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.**

The Baptism of our Lord Verse Mark 1:11b

“Alleluia. You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia.”

Holy Gospel Luke 3:15-22

(The heavens were opened.)

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

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

- 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 "Prepared to Serve & Save" (Luke 3.15-22) *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)*



1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His Fa - ther's
 2 O hear and mark the mes - sage well, For God Him - self has
 3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y word and
 4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to us ex -



plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word
 spo - ken. Let faith, not doubt, a - mong us dwell
 won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,
 tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing
 And so re - ceive this to - ken. Our Lord here with His
 Which we do well to pon - der: "This man is My be -
 Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion
 Word en - dows Pure wa - ter, free - ly flow - ing.
 lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.
 sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's op -
 God's Ho - ly Spir - it here a - vows Our kin - ship while be -
 Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full - est
 That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find a



pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.
 stow - ing The Bap - tism of His bless - ing.
 mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken."
 dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.

5 To His disciples spoke the Lord,
“Go out to ev’ry nation,
And bring to them the living Word
And this My invitation:
Let ev’ryone abandon sin
And come in true contrition
To be baptized and thereby win
Full pardon and remission
And heav’nly bliss inherit.”

Sermon “Water That Fuels the Fire” (Luke 3:15-17, 21-22)

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/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 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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

596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized (vs. 1-5)



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-mersed and drowned for-
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly
5 O Chris-tian, firm-ly hold this gift And give God thanks for-



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of
cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-
ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly
ev-er! It gives the pow-er to up-lift In all that



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The
out ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned
gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-destroyed And
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now
you en-deav-or. When noth-ing else re-vives your soul, Your



gifts He gives to ev - 'ry - one Bap-tized in - to Christ Je - sus!
 in - ward from the high - est good, You con-stant - ly de - nied Him.
 all our sin - ful selves em-plied Ac - cord-ing to our na - ture.
 makes us ho - ly, right, and good Be - fore our heav'n - ly Fa - ther.
 Bap - tism stands and makes you whole And then in death com - pletes you.

602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives (vs. 1-6)



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
 2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
 3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
 4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
 New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
 The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
 God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
 Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
 For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;
 Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
 The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
 The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
 Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.



Bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.
Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand A - mong the glo-rious,
Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!



✿Altar Flowers✿

Altar flowers this week are given by Mike & Opal Simmons
in celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

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 Burette (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; Tom Adams, relative of Pauline Parker; 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. Sindy 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.

For our Homebound Members at Grace: Carol Loveall, 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

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>	Lance Kopperud	Brandon Dachel	Dick Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<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!!!

Lutherans For Life Celebration - Sunday, January 16th, 2022

“*God Chose You*” is our theme for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which is set for January 16th, 2022. Our Life Sunday 2022 theme is based on John15:16–“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.”(ESV)

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.

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!

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.**

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 8:00am and 10:30am 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.

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>

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!

LUTHERAN HOUR - "Facing Rejection" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How does one deal with rejection? Push through it? Rise above it? Or start over? (Luke 3:1-22) **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 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Catechism: Sacrament of Holy Baptism: What is Baptism? Which is that Word of God? What benefits does Baptism give? Which are these words and promises of God?

Verse of the week: Mark 10:14-15, *"Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 141

Hymn of the week: (LSB 404) "Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered" (stanza 1-4)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Baptism of Our Lord—Matthew 3:13-17

Monday— The Boy Jesus in the Temple—Luke 2:41-52

Tuesday— Israel Is Carried Away by the Assyrians—2 Kings 17:5-18 (19-41)

Wednesday— King Uzziah of Judah—2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 16-23

Thursday— Isaiah Is Called to Preach in Israel and Judah—Isaiah 6:1-13

Friday—King Hezekiah of Judah—2 Kings 18:1-8

Saturday— Amos 9:11-15

Stewardship Minute— An important part of being a faithful steward is understanding that we are called to give cheerfully and generously from all the blessings that God entrusts to us. Giving honors God and expresses our thankfulness to Him for all of His blessings, especially the gift of His Son, Jesus. As Rev. Stephen Olford, a 20th century Christian leader, aptly stated, "Giving satisfies the soul, edifies the church, and magnifies the Lord." Through faith, our giving changes from a "must give" to a "want to give" attitude. May God grant us all the resolve to put Him first with the money that He entrusts to each of us.

ALL THAT YOU ARE, HAVE,
AND HOPE TO BE ARE GIFTS
FROM GOD.

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...” (James 1:17).



“Friend of Jesus, no matter what painful or wonderful endings you marked in the past year, please watch for the early signs of new beginnings. Seize them as opportunities for you and God to develop together. Think about what the Bible teaches about life, appreciate God’s love for you, gather up bits and pieces of experience, and put them in a file named ‘lessons learned.’ Then keep it handy.” *Jason Nelson, Time of Grace – 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
December 31, 2021 and January 2, 2022

<u>Offering</u>			
<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$7,317.00</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>70</i>
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>775.48</i>	<i>Communed</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Missions</i>	<i>0.00</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>0.00</i>		
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>1,200.00</i>		
<i>Lutheran High</i>	<i>0.00</i>		
<i>Bible Study/Sunday School</i>	<i>0.00</i>		
Total	\$9,292.48		

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	1/9	8:00 am	Worship Service
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	Bible Study (school library)
		10:00 am	Willowcrest Worship
		10:30 am	Worship Service
Monday	1/10	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class @ church
Tuesday	1/11	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast @ OC Diner
Wednesday	1/12	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
		6:30 pm	Council Meeting @ school
Thursday	1/13	6:30 pm	Worship Service
		7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	1/16	8:00 am	Divine Worship-Lutherans for Life Celebration
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	Bible Study (school library)
		10:00 am	Willowcrest Worship
		10:30 am	Divine Worship-Lutherans for Life Celebration

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
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ECC Director	Rachel Miliacca	eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
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