

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

The First Sunday in Advent

November 27th, 2022

"By His Grace you are saved through faith."

Ephesians 2:8



Image: "In Advent hope we gather, And worship trustingly, Assured that Christ is coming, To set His people free."

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 your child is using the bathroom during the worship service, we ask that you monitor them so that they are using it in a timely manner. We are glad that you're here!!!

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 "Mountain View"

Today you are in a most important waiting room—*every church sanctuary or other holy space in which God's people gather is, in its way, a waiting room.* Together we are waiting for the greatest of all events—*the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* This is the mountain of the house of the Lord, where two or three are gathered in His name. Here God dwells and is enthroned and reveals Himself to His people. Here we keep alert, joyfully anticipating the advent of our King.

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 331

The Advent of Our King (vs. 1-4)

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 118:25-28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt., read responsively)

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.

Save us, we pray, | O LORD!*

O LORD, we pray, give | us success!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on us.*
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the | altar!
You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you;*
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.

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.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.

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.**

During Advent the Hymn of Praise is omitted

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 2:1-5*

(Isaiah proclaims the peaceable kingdom of God.)

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt., read responsively*)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle Lesson *Romans 13:8-14*

(Put on the Lord Jesus Christ as you await His coming.)

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- 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.**

Holy Gospel *Matthew 24:36-44*

(A call to faithful watchfulness)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶[Jesus said:] “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

- 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

Opening Hymn 332

Savior of the Nations, Come (vs. 1-6)

Children's Message "God's Megaphone" (Isaiah 2:1-5) 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

"Where Is the Mountain of the House of the Lord?" (Isaiah 2:1-5)

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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in 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. If it is physically difficult for you to commune at the altar rail, please speak to the Pastor or an elder about receiving communion in your pew.

Distribution Hymns

789 Praise and Thanksgiving (vs. 1-3)
872 Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star (vs. 1-5)

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

LSB 166

- 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 333

Once He Came in Blessing (vs. 1-4)

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



✿*Altar Flowers*✿

Altar flowers today are given by Pauline Parker
in celebration of Morgan's birthday and in memory of Chet's birthday.

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>Wednesday 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Richard Jackson	Greg Nowakowski
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Erica Vitek	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine & Marlene	Janine & Marlene	Janine & Marlene
<u>Linens</u>	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel
<u>Ushers</u>	Doug & Char Klipfel, Mark & Connie Roettgen	Bob & Lynn Buzzell, Payton Weirich	Ron Savarino, Lowell Johnson, Carsen Serdynski, Madeline King, Tatiana Concepcion Junior Edgerton
<u>Acolyte</u>			

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. Pastor Bill Wurm, Pastor Taggatz's father-in-law; Tom Janes (healing & strength) Diane Pielsnik's brother; Larry Abelt Sr. (healing & strength) Leah Abelt's Father-in-Law; Tim (healing) Donna Dotson's brother; Renee Lutzke (healing); Myles King (blood disorder) son of Matthew & Meredith King; James Giambi (healing) Donna Dotson's Sister in Law's Nephew; Cindy Riemer (cancer); Michael Helzer (cancer) friend of Michael Parker; Michael Parker (healing & strength) Pauline Parker's son; Jim & Kari (healing and strength) friends of Joy Lussier; Susan Sochowski (recovery from stroke) friend of Taggatz family; Greg Voss (healing & strength); Pam Umaski (healing & renewed strength after her kidney transplant); Curt Bayer (cancer) former member of Grace; Cindy Schmidt (healing); Lynn Seeger (heart issues) friend of Chris Evers; Sandra Mallas (health, peace, comfort) Mother of Lynn Serdynski; Claire Dotson (for patience & wisdom in dealing with multiple health issues) mother of Glenn Dotson; Gary Forsythe (dementia) friend of Carol Loveall; Jim (healing & strength) Suzie Miranda's relative; Lisa Lampshire (organ transplants) friend of Dena Guziewicz; Joe Beiler's stepfather (healing & strength); Phyllis Schmidt (heart issues) friend of Virginia Schmeiser; Gilbert Kahle (knee surgery) former parishioner of Pastor Taggatz; Debbie (healing & strength) daughter in law of Pauline Parker; Patrick (healing & strength) neighbor of Marlene Voss; Betty (recovery from Covid) Lori Kachelmeier's mother; Lisa Kamprath's sister (cancer); Shirley (healing for fractured shoulder) Dawn Jantz's sister; Rick Weeks (knee surgery); James (healing & strength) great grandson of Carol Thurber and son of John and Ali Gottwald; Oleta Partl (gallbladder surgery); Pam Novak (healing after a fall), Mike Huber (healing after surgery); Dominic (recovery from a stroke) nephew of Debbie Oelke; for Reagan, and for Darlene Falcon (medical tests) sister of Carol Loveall; Antoinette Pintarro (hospitalized) cousin of Pauline Parker; Jim Elliott (shoulder surgery & lung cancer) son in law of Jan Barrett.

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

We pray for those who mourn: Almighty God, Father of mercies and God of all comfort, deal graciously with the family of **Opal Simmons and her sister in law Sarah**, as they mourn the recent death of Opal's brother **John**, and **Julie Thomas and her family**, as they mourn the recent death of Julie's father-in-law **Doug Schefft**, and the family of **Pauline Parker**, as they mourn the death of her sister in law, **Jean Reed**, that casting every care on You, these families may know the consolation of Your love; *through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever. Amen.*

All those on the Grace Prayer Line dealing with long term health and medical issues; 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

Grace Lutheran School's 4th Annual Pajama Drive – November 1st thru 28th!

Grace Lutheran School is partnering with Scholastic Books by working together to bring pajamas and books to the children of Knapp Elementary School in Racine. New pajama donations, sizes newborn to 12 years will be accepted. Our goal is 100 pairs of pajamas. Donations can be dropped off at the school/church office. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!**

Grace Lutheran School is in need of a 4K Teacher Aid. If you are interested in this part time position and would like more information, please contact our school office at: 414-762-3655 or principal@graceoakcreek.org.

ATTENTION...a gold ring with a purple stone was found after the 8:00am church service on Sunday, November 20th. If you believe it is yours please contact Sarah Anderson at the church office.

Your 2023 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 2023.****

Just a cup of Coffee

Saturday, December 3 ~ 7:30am

Hillside Coffee House~237 E Ryan Road

*Stop in for some coffee or tea, join in conversation and fellowship before you head out to that craft fair, shopping mall or to cut down the Christmas tree!

Christmas Bells are Ringing in Greenfield!!! There's no better way to ring in the season than with the Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble! Enthralling audiences for two decades, this unique group has performed with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Bel Canto Chorus, Midwest Vocal Express, and across the United States. Under the direction of Kaethe Grabenhofer, MHE plays music from many genres on six octaves of Schulmerich handbells and hand chimes, along with other instruments. Join them for an evening of Christmas carols and holiday favorites!

**Friday, December 2nd, 7:00 p.m.
Mt. Zion Lutheran Church
3820 W. Layton Ave. in Greenfield**

Grace Lutheran Youth Group Lock In! We are planning on having a lock in at Grace Lutheran School on Friday December 2nd starting at 6pm and ending on Saturday December 3rd at 7am. This lock in is open to all Grace Lutheran Youth, 5th grade through High School. We are in need of a few parents to help out with this event. Please email Pastor Taggatz at: pastor@graceoakcreek.org if you are planning on attending this event and/or if you as a parent are planning on helping out. Youth will need to bring a sleeping bag and pillow, snacks, and their Bibles for this event. The deadline for signing up for this event will be on Monday, November 28th.

Martin Luther High School Music Department invites you to their annual Christmas Concert on Friday, December 9, and Saturday, December 10 at 7:00pm. The concert, entitled "*O Come Let Us Adore Him*" will feature the Troubadours, Chorus, Concert Choir, Brass Choir, Spartan Band, and Symphonic Band. Please join us for this festive event! Ticket reservations may be made by calling 414.421.4000. Tickets are also available at the door!

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 nonprofits. 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>**

**THE GOSPEL MOTIVATES AND
THE LAW INSTRUCTS THE
CHRISTIAN STEWARD.**

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy” (1 Corinthians 4:2).



Stewardship Minute—We make financial decisions daily. We decide whether to spend our money, give it, lend it, save it, or invest it. Because money is a very important part of life, it's important to come to know what our Lord teaches us about it in His Word. While money itself is neutral, we can make it either a positive or negative part of our lives. When God has first place in our lives rather than money, a big obstacle to an intimate relationship with Christ is eliminated. With God's strength, guidance, and wisdom, we can make the right choices regarding the resources He entrusts to us. We need to show self-discipline in our own demands and desires for self-gratification. God wants us share with those in need, and He wants us to use our money in ways that extend His kingdom.

LUTHERAN HOUR DEVOTIONS ADVENT 2022

“A Son Is Given”

In *A Son Is Given*, we look at the promise of God to send His Messiah as fulfilled in Jesus. The Heavenly Father made good on His ancient pledge. In Jesus we have the love of God come to earth in the form of a Child, who is for us the Savior of the world. The Lutheran Hour devotionals will be available on the back table of the narthex in our Church. We will include our church’s contact information, along with our Holiday Worship Times so that you can share the joy of the birth of our Savior Jesus with those around you, namely, your neighbors, family members, and friends.

IN THE WORD FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Catechism: Lord’s Prayer—Second and Third Petitions

Verse of the week: 1 Peter 5:7-8, “[Cast] all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 24

Hymn of the week: (LSB 341) “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” (stanza 1)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Triumphal Entry—Matthew 21:1-9

Monday— Laban Agrees to Divide the Livestock with Jacob—Gen. 30:25-43

Tuesday— Jacob Flees from Laban—Genesis 31:1-21

Wednesday— St. Andrew, Apostle—John 1:35-42a

Thursday— Laban Pursues Jacob—Genesis 31:22-42

Friday— Laban’s Covenant with Jacob—Genesis 31:43-55

Saturday— The Sun of Righteousness—Malachi 4:1-6

“These two choices are vastly different: to give birth to a child or to abort it. But one thing is the same: to choose Jesus is to choose life. For Jesus holds every life—even the tiniest—in the nail-scarred palm of His hand.” *Rev. Gary Blobaum, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oregon, Illinois - 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.

LUTHERAN HOUR "Freshly Fallen Snow" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about fresh snow, fresh starts, and three kinds of beauty. (Isaiah 2:1-5) 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 & 6:30 AM

**Growing In Grace
November 17th & 20th, 2022**

Offering

<i>General Offering</i>	\$2,598.00	Attendance	112
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	\$1,422.27	Communed	94
<i>Missions</i>	\$100.00		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	\$0.00		
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	\$0.00		
<i>Lutheran High</i>	\$0.00		
Total	\$4,120.27		

Please note: In order to meet budget each week we need to receive \$6,586 in offerings. Thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace. We could not do what we do without your prayers, volunteering of your time and talents, and financial support!!!

Holiday Worship Schedule for 2022

On Thursday nights at 6:30pm during the month of December we will once again be having our Advent Midweek Worship Services. The theme this year is, “*Angels—The Ultimate Messengers of Hope.*” During Advent this year, we will focus on the messages brought by angels: *to Zechariah, to Joseph, and to Mary.* On Christmas Eve we will hear a multitude of angels singing God’s glory and peace to shepherds. On Christmas Day, we will hear from yet one more angel: “*Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger*” (Luke 2:10–12). Imagine the surprise of the shepherds when the sign of Christ the Lord was not a palace or a crib radiating light beams, or a baby surrounded by a fierce army of guards, the sign was just a baby in a manger, wrapped in swaddling cloths! As John declares, “*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us*” (John 1:14). Even today, the Word comes to us in plain spoken words, in the water with God’s promise of Baptism, and in the bread and wine of Communion. God’s ways are not our ways. He comes in seemingly lowly, simple, and unspectacular ways that we end up discovering are full of His grace and truth. The season of Advent calls to us to stop, look, and listen for the Lord. Here is the order of holiday worship for the coming month, we hope to see you in worship as we receive Christ’s gifts of Word and Sacrament for the forgiveness of our sins, eternal life, and salvation. Please note, there will be no Thursday night worship service on Thursday December 29th.

Advent Midweek 1

Thursday, December 1st @ 6:30pm

“The Angel Gabriel Brings a Message of Hope in the Midst of Unbelieving Doubt” (Luke 1:5–25)

Advent Midweek 2

Thursday, December 8th @ 6:30pm

“An Angel of the Lord Brings a Message of Hope in the Midst of Fear of the Unknown” (Matthew 1:18–25)

Advent Midweek 3

Thursday, December 15th @ 6:30pm

“The Angel Gabriel Brings a Message of Hope in the Midst of the Seemingly Impossible” (Luke 1:26–38)

Advent Midweek 4

Thursday, December 22nd @ 6:30pm

“This Present Sign” (Isaiah 7:10–17)

Christmas Eve:

Saturday, December 24th @ 4:00pm, 5:30pm

“A Multitude of the Heavenly Host Announces a Peace Which Brings Renewed Hope” (Luke 2:13–14)

Christmas Day:

Sunday, December 25th @ 9:30am

“An Angel Brings Hope with a Sign of God’s Presence in the Newly Born Christ Child” (Luke 2:8–11)

NO WORSHIP SERVICE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

New Year’s Day Worship

Sunday, January 1st @ 9:30am

“New Year . . . No Fear!” (Romans 8:31b–39)

Sunday, January 8th @ 8:00am & 10:30am Services - “An Epiphany Moment” (Isaiah 60:1–6)

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	11/27	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship-Week 1 Advent Adult Bible Study Divine Worship-Week 1 Advent
Monday	11/28	6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class Grief Share Group
Tuesday	11/29	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	11/30	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	12/1	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Advent-Midweek 1 Worship Choir Rehearsal
Friday	12/2	6:00 pm	Youth Group Lock-in
Sunday	12/4	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship-Week 2 Advent Adult Bible Study & Sunday School Divine Worship-Week 2 Advent

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	414-744-7781
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
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	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

School & Church Office
Mailing Address
8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.

