

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The 2nd Sunday in Advent

December 4th, 2022

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



Image: "Our Advent-hope hosannas, Expectantly arise, To Jesus Christ, the Savior, Who comes from Paradise."

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 *"Advent Adverbs: Expectantly"*

For many Christian people, reading the Word of our Lord from a "*red letter*" edition of the Bible is a special blessing. Seeing the words of Christ highlighted in a special color may make them more immediate and noticeable. The last sentence with red words in those Bible editions is Revelation 22:20, in which the Lord promises: "*Surely I am coming soon.*" John, the writer of Revelation, follows with these inspired words: "*Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*" Those words became part of the worship life for many in the Early Church as they expectantly awaited the return of the Lord to the earth and the completion of His promised eternal kingdom. In the season of Advent, we echo that ancient yearning cry: "*Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*"

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...*special “Trim the Tree Service”*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Stand

INVOCATION

- P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**
P: Blessing on Him who comes as King.
C: **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.**
P: I will hear what the Lord God has to say.
C: **A voice that speaks for peace.**
P: Peace for all people and for His friends...
C: **and those who turn to Him in their hearts.**
P: His help is near for those who fear Him...
C: **and His glory will live in our land.**
P: Blessing on Him who comes as King, who comes in the name of the Lord.
ALL: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 80:1, 3, 14a, 17; 40:1, 3a*

- P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
C: **Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

P: Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see.
C: **But let Your hand be on the man of Your right hand, the son of man whom You have made strong for Yourself!**

P: I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry.
C: **He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P: O God, our Father, You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.
C: **Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. We acknowledge our sinful nature and confess our sinful thoughts, words, and deed. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.**

P: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C: **Amen.**

Sit

✠ WORD ✠

Children

Reading: Isaiah 11:1-3

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

(The children are asked to come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung. Children grades Preschool through Kindergarten are invited to come up first, then First through 3rd Grade, and finally 4th through 8th Grade to put an ornament on the Christmas tree...)

HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (LSB 357 vs. 1-2)

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord’rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

*ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

January, February, & March

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and

you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.”

³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

(Those with birthdays in January, February, and March come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN “On Jordan’s Banks...” (LSB 344, vs. 1-3)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings! | 2 Then cleansed be ev’ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there. |
| 3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away
Like flow’rs that wither and decay. | |

April

Reading: Matthew 1:18-23

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

(Those with birthdays in April come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN “What Child is This” (LSB 370, vs. 1 & 3)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary! | 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary! |
|---|---|

May

Reading: Luke 1:39-42

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

(Those with birthdays in May come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN “Let us All with Gladsome Voice” (LSB 390, vs. 1 & 3)

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| 1 Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son hath given. | We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder. |
|--|--|

June

Reading: Luke 2:1-5

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

(Those with birthdays in June come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (LSB 361, vs. 1-2)

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|--|---|
| 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless
sleep
The silent stars go by; | Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight. |
|--|---|

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels
keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth!

July

Reading: Luke 2:6-7

⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

(Those with birthdays in July come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN "Away in a Manger" (LSB 364, vs. 1 & 3)

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the [bright] sky looked down
where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

August

Reading: Luke 2:8-12

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

(Those with birthdays in August come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN "Where Shepherds Lately Kelt" (LSB 369, vs. 1 & 3)

1 Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.

3 How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.

September

Reading: Luke 2:13-14

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

(Those with birthdays in September come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN “Angels We Have Heard on High” (LSB 368, vs. 1 & 3)

1 Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains, And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains. <i>Refrain</i>	3 Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. <i>Refrain</i>
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ref Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

October

Reading: Luke 2:15-16

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

(Those with birthdays in October come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN “A Great and Mighty Wonder” (LSB 383, vs. 1 & 3)

1 A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure: The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure! <i>Refrain</i>	3 While thus they sing your Monarch, Those bright angelic bands, Rejoice, O vales and mountains, And oceans, clap your hands. <i>Refrain.</i>
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ref Proclaim the Savior’s birth:
“To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!”

November

Reading: Luke 2:17-20

¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary

treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
(*Those with birthdays in November come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung*)

HYMN “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” (LSB 379, vs. 1 & 3)

1 O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels: *Refrain*

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: *Refrain*

*ref O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,*

*O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*

December

Reading: Luke 2:34-35

³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”
(*Those with birthdays in December come forward and put a decoration on the Christmas tree as the next hymn is sung*)

HYMN “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” (LSB 366, vs. 1 & 4)

1 It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all,
From heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

4 For lo, the days have come to pass
By prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years
Came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth
God’s ancient promise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear
The song the angels sing.

Remembering the family and friends not present

Reading: Matthew 2:1-11

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶“‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

(Anyone wishing to put a decoration on the Christmas tree for other family members not present here today or in memory of those now with the Lord in heaven come forward as the next hymn is sung)

HYMN "Joy to the World" (LSB 387, vs. 1 & 4)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Stand

THE 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.

Sit

SERMON “Provision for the Improbable” (Isaiah 11:1-10)

Sermon Text: Isaiah 11:1-10 ¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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 194

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**
P It is truly meet, 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 195

- C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- 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 197

- 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 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

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

Instrumental Music

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**
P 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 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.**

Salutation and Benedicamus

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
P Bless we the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

LSB 202

- 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.**

Announcements

- P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!
c: **Thanks be to God!**



✿*Altar Flowers*✿

Altar flowers today are given by Sarah Anderson
in celebration of her mom, Joanne Morgan's birthday.

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; **Sindy 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 Mirenda'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; (hospice) brother in law of Mary & Ron Savarino; **Mallory and her baby** (hospitalized) niece of Tony Mirenda.

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 Pauline Parker, as they mourn the death of her sister in law, **Jean Reed**, and the death of her cousin, **Sharon**, and the family of Ron & Mary Savarino as they mourn the death of their brother-in-law, **Bob**, 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 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.

MITTEN TREE

O Mitten tree, O Mitten tree
Your branches are so bare and cold!
O Mitten tree, O mitten tree
Your branches are so bare and cold.

We will fill you with hats and mittens!
Wrap you with warmth and love.
O mitten tree, O mitten tree
Your branches are so bare and cold.

Please help us fill the mitten tree for South Milwaukee Human Concerns. Hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves are needed. Thank you!

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.****

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!

PRAYER PADS/POCKET PADS: Some of the ladies at Grace have been making PRAYER PADS and SMALLER POCKET PADS. they are in the back of the church on the card table in a basket. Please take one for yourself and for those who could use one or might need one. They are a reminder for us to pray and to know that we at Grace are praying for you. They are an addition to our prayer line and our prayer cards that we have been sending out, since 2020, and we have sent out over 1500 prayer cards. If you would like to help there are cards and stamps on the same table along with Christmas cards.

Grace Ladies Guild

Saturday-December 10-10am-11:30am

At school

Ladies, you are invited to join us as we are fed by God's Word thru Bible study, followed by fun fellowship.

Feel free to bring along a treat/snack to share.

We will be having a Christmas gift exchange too!

Gift limit is \$10.

Looking forward to seeing you at Guild!

Feel free to contact Jennifer Olen with any questions.

ADVENT IS PREPARATION FOR CHRIST'S COMING - HIS SECOND COMING! THE BABY OF BETHLEHEM WILL COME AGAIN, THIS TIME IN GLORY!

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10).

Stewardship Minute—"Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem...wise men from the east came to Jerusalem saying, 'Where is He Who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him' " (Matthew 2:1-2). They had been watching and waiting, and, when the time came, they knew what was happening and they were ready. We have the Scriptures that tell us about not only the birth of the Christ Child, but about His Second Coming as well. While we watch and wait, let's be busy using the gifts God has given us to share God's Word so that all, like the wise men (Magi), will be ready when He comes.

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

Catechism: Lord's Prayer—Fourth Petition

Verse of the week: 1 Timothy 6:8, 10a Having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 10a For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

Psalm of the week: Psalm 50:1-15

Hymn of the week: (LSB 345) "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" (stanzas 1 and 4)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Signs of the Second Coming—Luke 21:25-36

Monday— Esau Comes to Meet Jacob—Genesis 32:1-21

Tuesday— Jacob Wrestles with God—Genesis 32:22-32

Wednesday— St. Stephen, Martyr—Acts 6:8–7:2a, 51-60

Thursday— Jacob and Esau Meet—Genesis 33:1-11

Friday— Jacob Returns to Bethel—Genesis 35:1-15

Saturday— Comfort My People—Isaiah 40:1-11

"Christmas is also a time to contemplate the gift of mortal LIFE through the miracle of birth. Christmas is the gift of LOVE that moms and dads shower on their children by saying yes to life—sometimes under very difficult circumstances. Regardless of the challenges, God has a perfect plan for each life that He brings into the world, and His will for them is to out-sparkle and out-shine any ornament." *Bradley Mattes, president of Life Issues Institute - 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 "Paradise Restored" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

If God is love, what are we to make of His wrath? (Isaiah 11:1-10) **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 23rd & 27th, 2022

Offering

General Offering	\$3,091.25	Holiday Attendance	75
On-Line Giving	\$982.07	Communed	69
Missions	\$0.00	Sunday Attendance	76
Debt Fund	\$0.00	Communed	54
Mortgage Offering	\$0.00		
Lutheran High	\$0.00		
Total	\$4,073.32		

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!!!

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	12/4	8:00 am	Divine Worship-Week 2 Advent
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School
		10:30 am	Divine Worship-Week 2 Advent
Monday	12/5	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Tuesday	12/6	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
		6:30 pm	Stephen Ministry Meeting
Wednesday	12/7	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
		4:00 pm	Grace Lutheran School Open House (Appt ONLY)
		6:30 pm	All Board's Meeting
Thursday	12/8	6:30 pm	Advent-Midweek 2 Worship
		7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	12/10	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
		10:00 am	Ladies Guild Meeting
Sunday	12/11	8:00 am	Divine Worship-Week 3 Advent
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Divine Worship-Week 3 Advent

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 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)

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
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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
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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.

