

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

The Third Sunday in Advent

December 11th, 2022



"By His Grace you are saved through faith."

Ephesians 2:8



Image: *"Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you" (Isaiah 35:4).*

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 “*Vengeance and Joy*”

The prophet Isaiah encouraged his people by assuring them that God would bring about justice to His enemies. “*Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you*” (Isaiah 35:4). The heart of Isaiah's promise is that through His justice, God will save us. God alone knows what is appropriate for each situation and what each person truly deserves. And ultimately, Christ's coming will make all things right again.

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 515

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (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 71:14-18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4, sung responsively*)



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

I will hope con- | tinually*
and will praise you yet | more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation | all the day,*
for their number is past my | knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD | I will come;*
I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have | taught me,*
and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- | sake me,*
until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all | those to
come.

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.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

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. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 35:1-10

(The desert shall rejoice and blossom.)

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

- 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.

Choir (10:30 only)

Come, Let's Celebrate Jesus

Epistle Lesson *James 5:7-11* (*An encouragement for Christians to wait for the Lord with patience*)

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia Verse—*"Alleluia. Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia."* (Matthew 11:10b)

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 11:2-15*

(Jesus speaks about John the Baptist.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

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

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’”

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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 "A Time for Joy" (Isaiah 35:1-10) The children of the congregation are invited to come up to the chancel area for a special message for them. Please note—parents of small children may also come up near the chancel area to accompany their children for the message)

Sermon Hymn 345

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding (vs. 1-5)

Sermon

"Overtaken by Joy" (Isaiah 35:1-10)

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:

806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart
632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee (vs. 1-2)

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 349

Hark the Glad Sound (vs. 1-4)

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



Assisting with the Divine Service

We thank God for all those individuals who have been involved in supporting our worship services this week. If you are interested in assisting in any of the ways shown below, please speak with pastor or one of our elders.

	<u>Thursday 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Richard Jackson	Derek Poellet
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szeplinski	Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>		Kathy Szeplinski	Kathy Szeplinski
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Ushers</u>	Jim Robinson, Andrea Szeplinski, Tommy Szeplinski	Larry Herte, Doc Medek	Bob Olen, Eric Kamprath, Drew Salzer, Eddie Taggatz
<u>Acolyte</u>			Marty Taggatz

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; **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; Pastor Chris Lockie (heart attack) Pastor of Prince of Peace Caledonia, LCMS; **Brittany** (cancer) daughter of Denise Afelt; **Kathy Gaudian** (sick)

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 Ron & Mary Savarino as they mourn the death of their brother-in-law, **Bob**, that casting every care on You, they 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

MITTEN TREE

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

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 church on the card table in a basket. Please take one for yourself and for those who could use 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. We have sent out over 1,500 prayer cards. If you would like to help there are cards and stamps on the same table along with Christmas cards.

LET US ADORE OUR SAVIOR LIKE THE SHEPHERDS DID—WITH OUR PRESENCE—AND LIKE THE MAGI DID—WITH OUR GIFTS.

“Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!” (Psalm 95:2).



Stewardship Minute—Herod received the itinerant Wise Men, pretending that he, too, wanted to worship the Christ Child. Out of ignorance about who Jesus was and feeling that this baby was a threat to his throne, his real intention was to do away with the Child (Matthew 2:7-13). People today are still ignorant and still feel threatened. Like the Wise Men who simply quoted the words of prophecy to Herod, we can share the Good News of God’s Word so that hearts and minds might be opened to the truth about the Savior of the world. With the help of the Holy Spirit, God uses us as instruments through whom He shares the life-saving gospel.

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 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)

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

Catechism: Lord's Prayer—Fifth and Sixth Petitions

Verse of the week: Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

Psalm of the week: Psalm 85

Hymn of the week: (LSB 344) "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (stanzas 1-2)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Tell John What You See and Hear—Matt. 11:2-11

Monday— Gabriel Appears to Zachariah—Luke 1:5-25

Tuesday— The Annunciation of Our Lord—Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday— St. John—John 21:20-25

Thursday— The Visitation—Luke 1:39-56

Friday— The Nativity of St. John the Baptist—Luke 1:57-66

Saturday— The Prophet Greater than Moses—Deut. 18:15-19

"As sure as Christmas will come again on December 25, our Lord will come again. As we look forward to the Last Day, let's dress for the occasion, putting on godliness and repentance. Let's celebrate everything He did the first time He came to assure us of our home of righteousness. Let's be spiritually awake and alert for His coming again, knowing that we will enjoy God's perfect paradise, our eternal home." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota - 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 "Beauty We Can't See" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. We often feel our need for God's presence only when we see what it looks like when He's absent. (Isaiah 28:5) **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
December 1st & 4th, 2022

Offering

General Offering	\$2,733.00		
On-Line Giving	\$1,114.47		
Missions	\$0.00	Midweek Attendance	56
Debt Fund	\$0.00	Sunday Attendance	108
Mortgage Offering	\$1,000.00	Communed	79
Lutheran High	\$0.00		
Total	\$4,847.74		

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	12/11	8:00 am	Divine Worship-Week 3 Advent
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Divine Worship-Week 3 Advent
Monday	12/12	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Tuesday	12/13	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	12/14	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
		6:30 pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	12/15	6:30 pm	Advent-Midweek 3 Worship
		7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	12/18	8:00 am	Divine Worship-Week 4 Advent
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School
		10:30 am	Divine Worship-Week 4 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	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262
Pastor		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Sarah Anderson, Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

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