

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

National Lutheran Schools Week

January 19th & 22nd, 2023

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

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*



**Making
Disciples
for Life** 

**NATIONAL
LUTHERAN
SCHOOLS WEEK** **2023**

Image: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

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 “*Making Disciples for Life*”

“*Making Disciples for Life*” is the National Lutheran School Week theme this year, inspired by Matthew 28:18-20. In our schools, we make ourselves known as followers of Jesus by following His example. It's the message that is taught and lived daily in Lutheran school classrooms across the nation and abroad. We share the Good News of Jesus so that all who believe in Him will have eternal life. Lutheran schools make an eternal difference, emphasizing that every aspect of life focuses on learning and living as disciples of Jesus. In classrooms, chapel and the myriad of activities that students and their families experience, Lutheran school disciples follow Jesus. From school to home and in their communities, students are equipped to “*make disciples of all nations.*” We rejoice that through His Word, He continues to dwell in His disciples. As disciples, we live in His victory and share the Good News with one another and the world. May the work of our Lutheran school disciples be a blessing to all.

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...LSB Divine Service Setting 4 pg. 203

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 861

Christ Be My Leader (vs. 1-3)
(Thursday 6:30pm & Sunday 8:00am only)

Grace Lutheran School Choir

“God of Wonders”
(Sunday 10:30am only)

(After the children sing they may go back to their families to worship with them)

Stand

Confession and Absolution

LSB 203

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 22:27-31; antiphon: v. 22, read responsively*)

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*

in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,*

and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you.

For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*

and he rules over the | nations.

All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.

Posterity shall | serve him;*

it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;

they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,*

that he has | done it.

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.

I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*

in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

C 1 To God on high be glory

And peace to all the earth;

Goodwill from God in heaven

Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!

We praise and bless You, Father;

Your holy name, we sing—

Our thanks for Your great glory,

Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 205

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 9:1-4*

(Light and joy will replace gloom and sadness.)

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

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

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

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

Epistle Lesson *1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

(There should not be divisions in the one Church.)

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse *"Alleluia. From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Alleluia." (Matthew 4:17)*

Holy Gospel *Matthew 4:12-25*

(In Galilee, Jesus calls the first four disciples.)

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

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

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

LSB 206

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 “Jesus Calls Disciples” (Matthew 4:18-20) 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 655

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (vs. 1-3)

Sermon

“The Great Assignment” (Matthew 28:18-20)

Sermon Text: Matthew 28:18-20— And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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 web-site at graceoakcreek.org. You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write 'online giving' on the outside and place it in the offering plate.



Stand

Prayer of the Church (*After each petition the Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation responds saying, "Hear our prayer."*)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208

- C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 209

- P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- 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 209

- 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 209

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

- C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

We celebrate the Lord's Supper

Members of our sister LC-MS congregations are invited to join us for communion. Guests to our Lutheran Church are invited to first speak with Pastor before joining at our Lord's Table. We hope you will learn more about us as we gather to "*Celebrate, Teach, and Confess*" the Good News of God's Grace!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION PRACTICE—We are offering altar/rail communion as our communion practice. While you are at the altar, please let us know if you would like to receive the Common Cup. Individual communion cups are also available to you. You also have the option to kneel or remain standing during altar/rail communion. Gluten Free communion wafers are also available upon request. 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

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing (vs. 1-2)
849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (vs. 1-3)

Stand

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

LSB 212

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

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

Benediction

LSB 212

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 865

Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord
People: Thanks be to God!!!



✿ *Altar Flowers* ✿

Altar flowers today are given by Joy Lussier in celebration of her birthday on January 26th.

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>	Lance Kopperud	Adam Voss	Eric Kamprath
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Erica Vitek	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Miranda	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Ushers</u>	Marlene Voss, Lance Kopperud	Leah Abelt, Paige Vitek, Benjamin Tindall, Henry Tindall	Cathy Weeks, Rick Weeks, Amelia Poellet, Dachs Poellet, Tyler Scheinfeld McKenzie Isenhardt
<u>Acolyte</u>			

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. **Chris Evers** (cataract surgery); **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; **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; **Greg Voss** (healing & strength); **Pam Umaski** (healing & strength); **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 Serdyski; **Claire Dotson** (hospice) 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; **Phyllis Schmidt** (heart issues) friend of Virginia Schmeiser; **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; **Pam Novak** (healing after a fall), **Mike Huber** (healing after surgery); **Dominic** (recovery from a stroke) nephew of Debbie Oelke; for **Reagan**; **Pastor Chris Lockie** (heart attack) Pastor of Prince of Peace Caledonia, LCMS; **Brittany** (cancer) daughter of Denise

Afelt; **Madelyn Lopez** (hospitalized in a coma) mother of Maddie Lopez, ECC Teacher; **Greg** (cancer) brother in law of Mike & Pat Toman; **Darlene Urbaniak** (cataract surgery); **Dean James** (healing & strength) grandson of Donna Smith; **Fred Praxel** (healing & strength); **Mary** (hospitalized with a stroke) Janine Pieper's aunt; **Leigh Schmeiser** (surgery); **Barb Praxel** (healing & strength); **Gail Olen** (recovery from surgery), **Hadley** (recovery from brain surgery) relative of Craig & Lauren Frank; **Addison Castle** (recovery from sickness) ECC child; **Megan Sheets** (difficult pregnancy) Granddaughter of Lowell & Pat Johnson; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier.

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 families of **Keith and Jill Nowack**, as they mourn the death of their relative, **Robert**, the family of **Greg & Gail Nowakowski**, as they mourn the death of their brother-in-law, **Cliff Kent** and the family of **Gloria**, friend of Carol Thurber who passed away. We pray for these families Lord, 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

The Grace Board of Stewardship and ECC present the 2023 Chili Fundraiser. Orders can be placed between now until January 27th. Chili forms can be dropped off at church, school, or ECC, or contact the ECC office: 414-762-8755. Orders can be picked up after January 30th. The cost for the chili is \$10 per quart. All funds will go towards the ECC. Please see the back table in the narthex to pick up an order form for this Chili Fundraiser. Thanks for your generosity and support of our Grace Early Childhood Center!!!



Free Family Movie Night Friday, January 27th at 6PM (Doors Open at 5:45pm and Lock at 6:10pm) at Grace Lutheran School. Grace Lutheran PTL is so excited to announce the return of *Family Movie Night*! Anyone from the Church, School, and ECC is invited to join us! 1) Admission is free, and concessions are available for purchase. 2) We require parental supervision for kids in 4th grade or under. 3) Dress comfy/bring a blanket to be cozy (we will have chairs set up if you need one). **Volunteers and Donations Needed**—we are requesting parent volunteers. (*background check required) to assist with concessions & baked goods. Let us know if you are joining us or volunteering by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/minionsatgrace>

New Member Potluck & Grace Ministry

On Sunday, February 5th after our 10:30am worship service we will be having a New Member Potluck and Ministry Fair in our school gymnasium. There is a sign-up sheet in the church narthex requesting our members to bring a side dish and/or desserts for this event. Please plan on coming to our New Member Potluck and Grace Ministry Fair to get a chance to meet and get to know our new members and consider the possibility of serving on a board here at Grace.

USHERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few more ushers to be put on our schedule. If you are interested, please contact Sarah at the church office by phone or email (church@graceoakcreek.org). Currently we have a need to fill ushers for our 8am worship services in February, October, April, and December. We will also need ushers for the summer schedule of June through August for our worship services on Sunday mornings at 9am from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Thank you for your willingness to serve as an usher here at Grace!!!

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.

Grief Share Group

No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a loved one recently? We are starting a special seminar and support group that we sponsor for people dealing with the loss of a family member here at Grace Lutheran Church Oak Creek. We understand how deeply grief and loss hurt people and families, and we simply wanted you to know about our Grief Share group. It's a place where many people have found they can begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord's help and with the love and encouragement of His Church.

Our Grief Share grief recovery seminar and support group will meet on Monday evenings at Grace Lutheran School starting on Monday, January 30, 2023. This new Grief Share group will be a 13 week session. The sessions are held in our school library from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. The last session will be Monday, May 1, 2023, taking off on April 10th for Easter. The cost for attending is \$20.00. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Oak Creek. Lori Kachelmeier and Jeanne Meyer will be the leaders for this Grief Share Group. Grief Share features nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Seminar sessions include *"Is This Normal?" "The Challenges of Grief," "Grief and Your Relationships," "Why?" and "Guilt and Anger."* For more information or to register: go to the website: www.griefshare.org and enter our zip code "53154" to the left of "find a group" box and do a search. It will bring up our Monday 6:30 pm meetings. For further questions please call Lori Kachelmeier at: 414-828-0290.

MISSION GOAL REACHED! *Praise God from whom all blessings flow!*

As you may know, the LWML Mission Goal for the 2021-2023 biennium is \$2,150,000. WE HAVE GREAT NEWS! We are filled with gratitude and joy as we announce that God has worked through your generosity and stewardship to **surpass this goal**. The Mite offerings you have shared now total \$2,154,511!!! Each time you choose to give to LWML Mission Grants, you are directly pouring God's mercy and message into the lives of others – some you may know and others you may never meet. The people you are helping range in age from little children to the elderly, and their homes are located across the globe. Some recipients may be right in your neighborhood, others are men, women and children living abroad. No matter the age, or how near or far, God knows the needs of every single person. *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus* (Phillipians 4:19). We continue to praise God for His provision and for your generosity in stewarding the gifts you have been given. Thank you for coming alongside LWML as together we proclaim Christ, support missions, equip women, and serve others!

Blessings for Baby – A Place for Refuge

January is the month we celebrate Life Sunday. Locally we support *A Place for Refuge*-advocacy program supporting women facing crisis pregnancy. We will be collecting items thru January 30-look for the box in the narthex. Items of need are:. Items can be dropped in the pink tub in the narthex. Thank you for your generosity!

Items to be collected:

Refuge House Needs

- Toothbrushes- adult and children
- Coloring books & crayons
- Ziploc freezer and storage bags
- Paper towels
- Finish Dishwashing Pods
- Dawn dish soap
- Foil



Advocacy Ministry-Moms/Babies Needs

- Infant sleepers
- Bibs
- Infant socks
- Infant board books & infant toys
- Infant wash clothes & bath towels
- Baby powder

IN THE WORD FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Catechism: Sacrament of Holy Baptism: What does such baptizing with water indicate? Where is this written?

Verse of the week: Galatians 2:20, *“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 97

Hymn of the week: (LSB 594) “God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It” (stanzas 1-2)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Jesus Heals the Centurion’s Servant—Matt. 8:1-13

Monday— Benjamin Returns with His Brothers to Egypt—Genesis 43:1-34

Tuesday— St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor: Acts 16:1-5

Wednesday— The Conversion of St. Paul: Acts 9:1-22

Thursday— St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor: Titus 1:1-9

Friday— Joseph’s Cup Is Found in Benjamin’s Sack—Genesis 44:1-17

Saturday—Transfiguration: Moses Reflects the Glory of God—Ex. 34:29-35

Stewardship Minute—Of all the gifts that God gives to us, time is one of the more difficult to use to God’s glory. How are we choosing to spend the time that God gives us? Focusing on ourselves, we might choose to work hard at our careers, neglecting time to pray or participate in Bible studies and in worship. We may rationalize that we are providing for our families because, after all, this is important and good. It is easy to get our priorities in the wrong order. Through faith, we understand that time is a gift from God and knowing this will help us make better choices with our time. When we live with thankful hearts for God’s gifts to us, we will be more inclined to want to please Him with how we use our time. May God help us all make better choices.

GOD EXPECTS HIS PEOPLE TO GIVE IN PROPORTION TO WHAT THEY RECEIVE.

“They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that He has given you” (Deuteronomy 16:16-17).



LUTHERAN HOUR "Whatever You Do" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge. The mundane just isn't mundane when seen through heaven's eyes. (Colossians 3:17-21) **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

“When someone struggles with the overwhelming guilt of a past sin, like abortion, repentance and reconciliation are the only source of relief. There is hope! ‘If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness’ (1 John 1:9). Through all our days, the Lord never leaves us nor forsakes us. He is a patient God, waiting and wanting all to come to repentance and be saved.” *Deaconess Pamela Buhler and Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, Word of Hope - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

**Growing In Grace
January 12th & 15th, 2023**

Offering

General Offering	\$3,886.25		
On-Line Giving	\$974.50		
Missions	\$0.00	Attendance	135
Debt Fund	\$100.00		
Mortgage Offering	\$300.00		
Sunday School	\$1.00		
Total	\$5,261.75		

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	1/22	8:00 am	Divine Worship
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Divine Worship
Monday	1/23	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Tuesday	1/24	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	1/25	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	1/26	6:30 pm	Divine Worship
Saturday	1/28	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	1/29	8:00 am	Divine Worship
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Divine Worship

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We have gathered today to celebrate the most precious gifts and treasures our Lord gives us: His forgiveness, life and salvation. It would be our honor to have you join us again next week as we “Celebrate, Teach, and Share” the Good News of God’s Grace among all people.

Grace is committed to supporting families through our Early Childhood Center, Day School, and High School. We are blessed to be a member of the Lutheran High School Association of Milwaukee.

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) thewordendures.blogspot.com
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262

Pastor		
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

3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

School & Church Office

Mailing Address

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