

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The Transfiguration of our Lord

February 16th & 19th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8



Image: "With Moses and Elijah nigh, The incarnate Lord holds converse high; And from the cloud the Holy One Bears record to the only Son." (LSB 413:2)

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 "Made Even More Certain"

In one sense, the Transfiguration of Our Lord provides a sort of climax to the first part of the story of Jesus in the liturgical year. In the glorious vision, Moses and Elijah appear as if to prove that everything written in the Bible in the Law and the Prophets has come true in the advent and appearance of Jesus, *"true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary"* (explanation of the Second Article). Yet this climactic event is not yet the true and complete climax of the story, but a transition now into the season of Lent and the road to the true climax: the cross of Good Friday, the resurrection of Easter, His ascension into heaven, and the sending of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. There is so much more to tell. This brief glimpse of glory and Peter's eyewitness account is to give us the strength and encouragement now to bring the story to completion in us, that we become witnesses in possession of the glorious hope of eternal life through the forgiveness of our sins.

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 1 pg. 151

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 873

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies (vs. 1-3)

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 99:1-5; antiphon: v. 9, read responsively*)

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;*
for the LORD our God is | holy!

The LORD reigns; let the peoples | tremble!*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the | earth quake!

The LORD is great in | Zion;*

he is exalted over all the | peoples.

Let them praise your great and | awesome name!*

Ho- | ly is he!

The King in his might loves | justice.*

You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in | Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his | footstool!*

Ho- | ly is he!

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.

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;*

for the LORD our God is | holy!

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.**

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 24:8-18*
(The covenant that the Lord made is confirmed.)

⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.”

¹³So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

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 2 *Peter 1:16-21*

(The Apostle Peter gives eyewitness news of our Lord’s transfiguration)

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

- C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for The Transfiguration of Our Lord—“*Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips. Alleluia.*” (Psalm 45:2a)

Holy Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

(The transfiguration of our Lord)

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

¹After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁵He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” ⁸And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

- 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 “New View” (Exodus 24:12, 15-18; Matthew 17:1-9) 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 413

O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair (vs. 1-5)

Sermon “What’s Behind the Cloud?”

(Exodus 24:12, 15-18, Matthew 17:1-9)

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 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 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, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. 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.**

- 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

- 414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here (vs. 1-5)
- 537 Beautiful Savior (vs. 1-4)

Stand

Thank the Lord

- 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

- 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.**

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, 7

Pastor: This week with Ash Wednesday, we begin our observance of Lent. To highlight the penitential nature of the season, it is the Church's custom to suspend the use of the word "*Alleluia*," which means "*Praise the Lord*." A tradition has been in place since the fifth century not to use the joyful word "*Alleluia*" in worship from the conclusion of worship on the final Sunday before Lent, which is today, until the first service on Easter Sunday. The text of our closing hymn, "*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*," dates back to the eleventh century and links us to a millennium of God's people at worship. We now repeat words from the Book of Ecclesiastes, which remind us that there are appropriate times for all things, including a time to keep silence, which we will observe regarding use of the "*Alleluia*" throughout Lent.

Pastor: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;

People: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

Pastor: a time to break down, and a time to build up;

People: a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

Pastor: a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

People: a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Pastor: As part of our observance of a holy Lent as it begins this week, we now say farewell to Alleluia until the time of our rejoicing anew at the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

Closing Hymn 417

Alleluia, Song of Gladness (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are given by Leah Abelt in celebration of her birthday on February 21st.

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>	Dick Jackson	Brandon Dachel	Derek Poellet
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Jennifer Olen	Kathy Szefflinski	Kathy Szefflinski
<u>Linens</u>	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel
<u>Ushers</u>	Doug & Char Klipfel, Alyson Hengst	Madilyn Hundt, Evie Gamroth	Ron Savarino, Lowell Johnson, Carsen Serdydski, Madeline King, Tatiana Concepcion Junior Edgerton
<u>Acolyte</u>		Garrison Hundt	

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 Serdydski; **Claire Dotson** (hospice) mother of Glenn Dotson; **Gary Forsythe** (dementia) friend of Carol Loveall; **Lisa Lampshire** (organ transplants) friend of Dena Guzewicz; **Lisa Kamprath's sister** (cancer); **James** (healing & strength) great grandson of Carol Thurber and son of John and Ali Gottwald; **Pam Novak** (healing after a fall); **Dominic** (recovery from a stroke) nephew of Debbie Oelke; for **Reagan**; **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; **Dean James** (healing & strength) grandson of Donna Smith; **Fred & Barb Praxel** (healing & strength); **Leigh Schmeiser** (upcoming surgery); **Kurt Schmeiser** (healing & strength); **Gail Olen** (recovery from surgery), **Hadley** (recovery from brain surgery) relative of Craig & Lauren Frank; **Megan Sheets** (difficult pregnancy) Granddaughter of Lowell & Pat Johnson; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **Mark** (healing & strength) cousin of Jeanne Meyer; Sharon Russell (recovery from surgery); **Ginny Schmeiser** (healing & strength); **Gloria Kilponen** (healing & strength); **Fred Gamroth** (recovery from car accident); **Karen** (healing & strength) sister in law of Janine Pieper; **Nancy Zimmerman Whitney** (hospice) former principal of Grace.

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.

For those who Mourn Almighty God, Father of mercies and God of all comfort, deal graciously with the family of **Mary, Janine Pieper's aunt**, who recently was called home to heavenly rest. We pray for Janine Pieper's family as they mourn her Aunt Mary's death, 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

Mission Presentation at Grace TODAY Sunday, February 19, join me, Lisa Kamprath, for a presentation on my short term mission trip to Konin, Poland. I will be sharing some photos, experiences, and information about my mission experience last August. Please join me after the 10:30a.m. service at the day school, for food, fellowship, and fun stories. I will also be collecting donations to send to Pastor Waldek and Ewa Wuntz to help with their mission. Since the unrest in Ukraine, Pastor and Ewa have been working with many refugees and donating to the local food bank. They are also trying to collect enough to add heat to their guest house so it can be used by families looking for a place to stay during this time of unrest. If you can't join us on February 19 but would still like to donate, please see Lisa Kamprath. **Please let us know that you are going to this event by signing up for it. The signup sheet is located in the narthex.** Below is a link to more information about the specific bible camp I worked at.

<https://servenow.lcms.org/opp/2023-english-bible-camp-poland/>

Church & School Furnaces Needed

We are currently in need of funding for our aged furnaces at our school and at our church. This fundraiser is to replace the 7 remaining furnaces at our school and the boiler at our church. All units are over 20 years old. The goal is \$50,000. Please prayerfully consider donating above and beyond your general offerings. There will be offering envelopes in the narthex and a donation box for your offerings. Thank you for your ongoing support of our ministries at Grace! God bless you!

Church Pictorial Directory Save the Date—On April 13-15 we will be having Universal Church Directories come to our church in order to do a new Pictorial Directory. Please save these dates and look for more information in the future regarding putting together our new Pictorial Directory.

Easter Lilies/Plants



To help make our Easter celebration more memorable, Milaeger's is offering a beautiful assortment of plants to celebrate the glorious Easter holiday. 1) Sign-up for your preferred flower/plant on sheets posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. 2) Enclose cash or check in the envelopes provided and place in offering basket or hand to an elder. **All money and orders need to be placed by March 5, 2023.**

Hunger Task Force - Annual Fund Drive

The Evangelism Board along with the *Hunger Task Force* is holding their Annual Fund Drive **from February 9th through March 19th**. The best way to support the *Hunger Task Force* is to make a monetary donation. The *Hunger Task Force* will then purchase the food to be distributed to those in need. There are envelopes on the table in the back of church to put your donations. The envelopes then can be placed in the offering plate. Checks should be made out to: Grace Lutheran Church. Please write *Hunger Task Force* in the memo section of your check. Thank you in advance for your generosity! *Grace Evangelism Board*.

HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL is being held on the first Sunday of each month from 9:15am till 10:15am. The class will be taught by Mrs. Lisa Kamprath and will be held at Grace Lutheran School. We will have a topical Bible Study for each time we meet on the issues facing High Schoolers today and we will be able to delve into God's Word to seek guidance on what God says regarding each topic that High Schoolers currently wrestle with. Please join us!

WE NEED USHERS!!!

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!!!

MOST Ministry Bracelets

Grace Ladies Guild needs your assistance to create 800 Gospel witness bracelets for MOST ministries. MOST Ministries provide short term mission opportunities for individuals to support Christian ministries throughout the world through witness and service. These bracelets are used in the field as evangelism tools! In the narthex is a basket of Ziploc bags, each bag contains material & instructions to create 8 bracelets. Please take a bag, have fun making the bracelets and return the finished bracelets to the basket! This is a great family project for these winter nights! Thank you!

Grace Ladies Guild

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Our next New Members class will take place in our Grace Lutheran School building located at 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. I am looking to have the New Members Class on Sunday, March 5th from 1:30-5:30pm. Please also let us know if you might need childcare for this event. Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, this class will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations. Let us know if you might need child-care. Watch an introductory video at: www.lhm.org/GodConnects.

SAVE THE DATE-March 18th-Bingo Night at Grace

We have a new Fellowship Committee at Grace and would like to announce our first event on Saturday, March 18th at 6:30-8:00pm. It will be a free night of fellowship, fun, food and small prizes. We will be asking you to bring finger foods to pass and drinks for your family. This is a family event for all Church, School, and ECC families. We will have activities for grade school children, kindergarten and up, to keep them entertained. We will NOT be able to accommodate younger children. Please mark your calendars and be sure to sign-up! We will put out the particulars and sign-up sheets at the end of February. We would love to see all of you there!

Grief Share Group – PEOPLE CAN JOIN GRIEF SHARE AT ANY TIME – each of the sessions are made to be standalone sessions that people can benefit from taking. 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.

Stewardship Minute At birth, our parents gave us a name and, through that name, an identity. Wherever we are or go, we will respond to that name. In a similar way, we gained another identity when we were born as God’s children in Holy Baptism. God has created and recreated us so that we belong to Him. Through His body and blood in Holy Communion, He forgives our sins and furthers His claim on us as His own. We have one identity through our parents, but a much more important one through our Lord. Because we belong to Him, we have another identity – that of steward. As God’s stewards, we see life as a gift and understand that all we have is on loan to us, and we willingly and responsibly manage what God has entrusted to us. When we acknowledge His ownership, we understand our identity as unique individuals, as children of God, and as His chosen stewards.

GOD SEEKS FELLOWSHIP WITH US THROUGH OUR WORSHIP, OBEDIENCE, AND STEWARDSHIP.

“God is faithful, by Whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord” (1 Corinthians 1:9).



IN THE WORD FOR TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Catechism: Sacrament of the Altar: Where is this written? (sung) What is the benefit of this eating and drinking? How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Verse of the week: John 6:35b, “*I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.*”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 31:1-8

Hymn of the week: (LSB 865) “Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— A Blind Man Receives His Sight—Lk. 18:31-43

Monday— The Death of the Firstborn Is Announced—Exodus 11:1-10

Tuesday— The Passover Is Instituted—Exodus 12:1-14

Wednesday— Ash Wednesday: Consecrate a Fast—Joel 2:12-19

Thursday— The Death of the Firstborn—Exodus 12:21-30

Friday— St. Matthias, Apostle: Acts 1:15-26

Saturday— 1 Samuel 17:40-51

“‘You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit’ (John 15:16). Those words are meant for every one of us. We should never cease to be amazed at God’s gifts and timing to bear the fruit of God’s love.” *Lynette Auch, former President of Lutherans For Life – 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 "Table Manners" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
 Frequent family dinners are important, but none more so than the gracious meal to which God invites His family, the Church. (Exodus 24:11) **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

Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church
Ash Wednesday, February 22 – Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023
"Catechetical Sermon Series: The Ten Commandments"

Join us for this exciting series as we meditate upon Christ's passion in dying on the cross to save us from our sins. Please note: **ASH WEDNESDAY** will be on Wednesday, February 22nd with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m. There will be no Thursday Evening Service that week. The Lenten Services following Ash Wednesday will be on Thursday nights at 6:30pm without communion. Here is an overview of the series... During Lent, this season of reflection and repentance, we will take a close look at the Ten Commandments our Lord has given to us. Not only do these commands of our Father guide our behavior, but, most important, they remind us of our deep need for the redemption our Father's Son, Jesus Christ, has come to bring by His death and resurrection. How great is our need for forgiveness! Even more so, how great is our Savior who nourishes us with His body and blood and washes us clean!

- Wednesday, February 22nd - 6:30pm (no Thursday service this week) - Ash Wednesday: Commandments Nine and Ten, 1 Kings 21:1–16
- Thursday, March 2nd - 6:30pm Lenten Midweek 2: Commandment Eight, Matthew 26:59–61
- Thursday, March 9th - 6:30pm Lenten Midweek 3: Commandment Seven, John 12:1–8
- Thursday, March 16th - 6:30pm Lenten Midweek 4: Commandment Six, 2 Samuel 11:1–5
- Thursday, March 23rd - 6:30pm Lenten Midweek 5: Commandment Five, 2 Samuel 11:1–27
- Thursday, March 30th - 6:30pm Lenten Midweek 6: Commandment Four, Luke 2:41–52
- Thursday, April 6th 6:30pm - Maundy Thursday (with communion): Commandment Three, Mark 14:12–26; 1 Corinthians 10:16–17
- Friday, April 7th 12pm - Good Friday Worship (no communion): "From a Distance" Matt. 27:55
- Friday, April 7th 6:30pm - Good Friday Tenebrae Service (no communion): Commandment Two, Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9
- Sunday, April 9th - Easter Sunrise (no communion) 6am: Jesus Is Risen! Bodily! Matt. 28:1-10
- Sunday, April 9th - Easter Day 8:30am & 10am (with communion): Commandment One, Mark 16:1–8

Growing In Grace February 9th and 12th, 2023

Offering

General Offering	\$1,904.25		
On-Line Giving	\$1,126.67		
Missions	\$0.00	Attendance	97
Debt Fund	\$0.00		
Mortgage Offering	\$1,100.00		
Sunday School	\$0.00		
Total	\$4,130.92		

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	2/19	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm	Divine Worship Adult Bible Study Sunday School Divine Worship Mission Presentation
Monday	2/20	6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class Grief Share Group
Tuesday	2/21	7:00 am 10am-10pm	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast Grace Night at Culver's
Wednesday	2/22	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study Ash Wednesday Worship
Thursday	2/23	6:30 pm	NO WORSHIP
Saturday	2/25	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	2/26	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Study 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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Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

