

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
[www.graceoakcreek.org](http://www.graceoakcreek.org)

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## The First Sunday in Lent

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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



**Image:** "What mercy God showed to our race, A plan of rescue by His grace: In sending One from woman's seed, The One to fill our greatest need— For on a tree uplifted high His only Son for sin would die, Would drink the cup of scorn and dread To crush the ancient serpent's head!" (LSB 561:3)

# 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 "The Whole Truth"**

Knowing the history of words can help make them meaningful for us. The word *truth* comes from the English word *true*, which comes from the Old English word *treowe*, which comes from the ancient Indo-European root word *drew*, which means "tree." The concept behind the word is that, like a tree, the truth stands straight and firm. The image brings to mind the word of the psalmist in the very first psalm, "*Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, . . . but his delight is in the law of the LORD. . . . He is like a tree planted by streams of water*" (Psalm 1:1a, 2a, 3a). Underscoring the blessedness of being true like a tree, the psalmist states that "*the LORD knows the way of the righteous*" (Psalm 1:6a). In this Lenten season of repentance and reflection, we may well take to heart the advice of Paul to his co-worker Timothy, "*Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness*" (1 Timothy 6:11). May we be trees of truth to the glory of God!

### **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 657

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (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 91:9-13; antiphon: vv. 15-16, read responsively*)

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;\*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him\*

and show him my sal- | vation.

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—\*  
**the Most High, who is my | refuge—**  
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,\*  
**no plague come | near your tent.**  
For he will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
**to guard you in | all your ways.**  
On their hands they will | bear you up,\*  
**lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**  
You will tread on the lion and the | adder;\*  
**the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.**

**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.**

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;\*  
**I will rescue him and | honor him.**  
With long life I will sat- | isfy him\*  
**and show him my sal- | vation.**

## Kyrie

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
C **Amen.**

*During Lent the Hymn of Praise is omitted*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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 Genesis 3:1-21**  
*(The fall into sin of Adam and Eve)*

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”  
<sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”  
<sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.  
<sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”  
<sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.  
<sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.  
<sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”  
<sup>10</sup>And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”  
<sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”  
<sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”  
<sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?”  
The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.  
<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten

of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

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

**Gradual** (*Hebrews 12:2, read responsively*)

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
**the founder and perfecter | of our faith,**  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,\*  
**and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

**Epistle Lesson** *Romans 5:12-19*

**(The life-giving work of Christ is for our justification.)**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— <sup>13</sup>for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

*Stand*

## Verse for the First Sunday in Lent

*"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil." (Ephesians 6:11)*

## Holy Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

*(Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted.)*

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

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

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written,

"Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup>and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,'  
and

"On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone."

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

"You shall worship the Lord your God  
and him only shall you serve."

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

**Children’s Message “Forbidden Fruit and Forgiveness” (Gen. 3:1-21)** 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 421**

**Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing (vs. 1-5)**

**Sermon**

**“What Truly Delights” (Gen. 3:1-21)**

- 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](http://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**

- 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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! In the Bible, the Apostle Paul wrote: *Let a person examine himself and so eat of the bread, and drink of the cup (1 Cor. 11:28)*. Before attending the Lord's Supper, ask yourself the following questions:

- *Do I believe that I am a sinner, and am sorry for my sins? (Prov. 28:13; Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:8-9)*
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins? (Romans 5:8; Col. 2:13; Heb. 9:28; 1 John 1:7)*
- *Do I believe that I receive the body and blood of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine (not merely symbolically present?) (Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16; 1 Cor. 11:24-25)*
- *Do I desire to turn from my sinful ways and live a God pleasing life by the power of the Holy Spirit? (Isaiah 1:16; John 8:11; Rom. 6:12)*

If you are unable to answer yes to these questions, please talk to the pastor before communing, as participating without a proper understanding of Holy Communion can be spiritual harmful (1 Cor. 11:27-29). If you can answer yes to these questions, then come with a repentant heart and join us in the reception of the Lord's Supper. Adults and children not yet instructed about Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

**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**

434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy (vs. 1-3)  
418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days (vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**Post Communion Canticle 774**

**Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy (vs. 1)**

1 Feed Thy children, God most holy;  
Comfort sinners poor and lowly.  
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven,  
Bless the food Thou here hast given!  
As these gifts the body nourish,  
May our souls in graces flourish  
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor  
At Thy feast due thanks we render.

**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.**

*Sit*

**Closing Hymn 561**

**The Tree of Life (vs. 1-4)**

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

## ✿ *Altar Flowers* ✿

Altar flowers today are given by Lori Kachelmeier in memory of her husband, Jim and son, Steve's birthdays.

### Assisting with the Divine Service

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

	<u>Wednesday 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Dick Jackson	Adam Voss	Rick Weeks
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Glenn Dotson	Derek Poellet
<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 Serdydinski, 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 Serdydinski; **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** (thanksgiving that he is doing better) 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** (healing & strength); **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; **Brandon Dachel** (healing & strength); **Lisa Nowakowski** (healing & strength) daughter of Gail & Greg Nowakowski.

**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](mailto: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

### **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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.lhm.org/GodConnects).

**Church Pictorial Directory Save the Date**—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 9<sup>th</sup> through March 19<sup>th</sup>**. 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*.

### **Bingo Night at Grace**

We have a new Fellowship Committee at Grace and would like to announce our first event on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-8:30pm. 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!

### **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!

### **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](mailto: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

**The Grace Lutheran Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm. DONATIONS NEEDED.** This Easter Egg Hunt will be for preschool through 4th grade, and it will be held at Grace Lutheran School. Our Grace Lutheran Youth Group members and their parents will be helping out with this event. We are asking for donations of already filled plastic Easter Eggs for this Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to drop off your donations, you can do so at church or at our Grace Lutheran School/Church office. We are inviting the families from our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center to attend this event. Please join us!!!



**Stewardship Minute** By nature, we have a desire for more – more money, higher status, greater popularity, whatever is important to our sinful minds. This ever-escalating quest to acquire more and more never seems to end. Jesus demands a different orientation: *“Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”* (Matthew 6:33). Jesus can give us the peace and joy that we seek. He said, *“I have come that [you] may have life, and have it to the full”* (John 10:10). Things of the world cannot fill the void that God put in us and meant for Jesus alone to fill. We live the abundant life on earth and receive everlasting life through faith in Jesus, not through material goods or worldly success.

**STEWARDSHIP IS THE FREE,  
JOYOUS, AND LOVING RESPONSE  
TO THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR  
LIVES.**

“But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift” (Ephesians 4:7).



## IN THE WORD FOR FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

**Catechism:** What is the Sacrament of the altar? Where is this written? (sung) Who receives this sacrament worthily?

**Verse of the week:** 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, “Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 32

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 440) “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now” (Stanzas 1 and 5)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— The Temptation of Our Lord—Matthew 4:1-11

Monday— The Exodus—Exodus 12:31-42

Tuesday— Israel Journeys to the Red Sea—Exodus 13:17—14:9

Wednesday— Jesus Is Anointed at Bethany—Matthew 26:2-16

Thursday— The Lord Fights for Israel—Exodus 14:10-31

Friday— The Song of Moses—Exodus 15:1-19

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

“Going to be with the Lord is not meant to be an escape from the responsibilities and good works God has prepared in advance for us to do!” *Barbara Lane Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679.

**LUTHERAN HOUR** "It Begins with Who I Am" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy. The desert is a place of testing. The desert places of our lives are like that, too. (Matthew 4:1-11) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: [lh.m.org](http://lh.m.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 23 – Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**  
***"Catechetical Sermon Series: The Ten Commandments"***

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!

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

## Growing In Grace February 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Offering

General Offering	\$13,096.25		
On-Line Giving	\$695.96		
Ministry Fair	\$165.00	<b>Attendance</b>	98
Debt Fund	\$		
Mortgage Offering	\$		
Sunday School	\$		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,957.21</b>		

**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	2/26	8:00 am	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Monday	2/27	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
		6:30 pm	Grief Share Group
Tuesday	2/28	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	3/1	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
		6:30 pm	All Board's Meeting
Thursday	3/2	6:30 pm	<b>Lenten Worship-MITES</b>
		7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	3/4	7:30 am	Just a Cup of Coffee
Sunday	3/5	8:00 am	<b>Divine Worship-MITES</b>
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		9:15 am	High School Sunday School
		10:30 am	<b>Divine Worship-MITES</b>
		1:30 pm	New Members Class

## 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) <a href="http://thewordendures.blogspot.com">thewordendures.blogspot.com</a>
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	<a href="mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org">church@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org">school@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Director		<a href="mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org">eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Office		<a href="mailto:ecc@graceoakcreek.org">ecc@graceoakcreek.org</a>

### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

