

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 5th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8



Image: “So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.” (*Genesis 12:4-7*)

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 “*This Is the Way*”

The pages of the Bible are filled with some very human people. In the appointed Readings of the Sundays in Lent, we encounter several. In today's Old Testament Reading, we hear of Abraham, who followed the guidance of God faithfully to the land of promise. Yet in Genesis, we also read that when in a challenging situation in Egypt, he misrepresented his wife as his sister and profited from the deception. Nicodemus, to whom Jesus explained the Gospel in great detail, kept his association with the Lord a secret. Even at the time of the burial of Jesus after the crucifixion, Nicodemus labors with Joseph of Arimathea “*secretly for fear of the Jews*” (John 19:38). It is well that we are reminded as we confess in the Nicene Creed that “*for us men and for our salvation*” our Lord “*was made man.*” As imperfect and very human people, we are assured by the Spirit that we are loved by God, who knows us as we are, and that we truly are “*precious in the sight of the LORD*” in life and in death (Psalm 116:15).

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 427

In the Cross of Christ I Glory (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 105:4-7; antiphon: v. 8, sung responsively*)



He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.
Seek the LORD | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,*
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!
He is the | LORD our God;*
his judgments are in | all the earth.

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.

He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

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 God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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 12:1-9*

(A great promise of God is made to Abram.)

¹The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

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, despis- | ing the shame,*

and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

Epistle Lesson Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

(The faith of Abraham, who believed God, is remembered.)

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse (Lent)

LSB 157

C **Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Verse for the 2nd Sunday in Lent

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

Holy Gospel John 3:1-17

(Jesus teaches Nicodemus about being born again.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

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

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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 “I’ll Go!” (Gen. 12:1-9) 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 819

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good (vs. 1-4)

Sermon

“Hope in God’s Promise” (Gen. 12:1-9)

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 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.**

- 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

- 423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary (vs. 1-3)
 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain (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.

Closing Hymn 543

What Wondrous Love Is This (vs. 1-4)

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



Assisting with the Divine Service

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

	<u>Thursday 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Eric Kamprath	Derek Poellet
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Erica Vitek	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>		Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Ushers</u>	Jim Robinson, Andrea Szefflinski, Tommu Szefflinski, Ally Hengst	Bob Buzzell, Lynn Buzzell, Payton Weirich (3/12 & 3/26 only)	Mike Huber, Bob Olen, Eric Kamprath, Drew Salzer, Eddie Taggatz
<u>Acolyte</u>			Marty Taggatz

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. **Chris Evers** (healing & strength); **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; **Lisa Lampshire** (organ transplants) friend of Dena Guziewicz; **Lisa Kamprath's sister** (cancer); **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); **Kurt Schmeiser** (healing & strength); **Gail Olen** (recovery from surgery), **Hadley** (recovery from brain surgery) relative of Craig & Lauren Frank; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **Mark** (healing & strength) cousin of Jeanne Meyer; **Sharon Russell** (healing & strength); **Fred Gamroth** (recovery from car accident); **Karen** (healing & strength) sister in law of Janine Pieper; **Patricia** (healing from eye condition) Janine Pieper's sister; **Deborah Feller** (healing from Lyme Disease).

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 **Nancy Zimmerman Whitney** (former Principal of Grace), who recently was called home to heavenly rest. We pray for **Nancy's** family as they mourn her 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

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Our next New Members class will take place in our Grace Lutheran School building located at 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. The New Members Class is TODAY 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. Watch an introductory video at: www.lhm.org/GodConnects.

CHURCH PICTORIAL PICTURES

Below you will find the directions to sign-up for the church pictorial pictures. All pictures will be taken at church in the narthex.

- ⇒ Thursday, April 13, 2-8:30pm
- ⇒ Friday, April 14, 2-8:30pm
- ⇒ Saturday, April 15, 10:30am-5:00pm

To schedule your photography appointment **online**, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **wi254** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.** If you do not have a computer but would like to schedule a pictorial picture appointment please call Sarah Anderson, Grace Secretary at 414.762.8990.

THIS IS THAT LAST WEEK TO SIGN UP FOR EASTER LILIES/PLANTSTo 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.**

Rise & Sonshine Bible study

- ⇒ No meeting on March 11th * See you on Saturday, March 25th

Grace Ladies Guild Meeting

"Spic n Span Sanctuary Saturday"

Saturday, March 11th * 10am-11:30am * At CHURCH

Bring along:

- Cleaning supplies as we do some light cleaning of the sanctuary in preparation for Easter
- Mites
- LWML Convention questions

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*.

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 6:30-8:30pm. 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!

The Grace Lutheran Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 1st 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!!!

Vacation Bible School at Grace

Please mark your calendars!!! We will be having our Vacation Bible School at Grace Lutheran School on Friday, June 16th from 5:30-8:30pm. Our theme for VBS this year will be *Road Trip Route 3:16* and children ages 3 through 6th grade will be able to attend. There will be a special Parent and Child class for those children under 3. If you are interested in helping out with VBS, please contact our Sunday School Superintendent Jill Nowack at: sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org

Stewardship Minute God's Word tells us that we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8). Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we understand that our works and deeds play no part in our justification. But unless faith produces works of love and obedience it is dead (James 2:14-17). In the words of Martin Luther, "There is a beautiful agreement between faith and good works; nevertheless, it is faith alone which apprehends the blessing without works, and yet faith is at no time alone."

THE AMOUNT AND QUALITY OF TIME WE SPEND WITH GOD DETERMINES THE RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE WITH HIM. WHERE WE SPEND OUR TIME SHOWS WHAT OUR VALUES ARE.

"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16).



CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE — June 22–25, 2023. Come to the 40th Biennial LWML Convention in June, and take the opportunity to participate in servant activities. By participating you will fulfill one of the convention's objectives, to “Honor God by serving our neighbors.” On Thursday, June 22, from 9 a.m.–3 p.m., attendees will have opportunities to assemble meal packs for Food for Kidz through Orphan Grain Train; assemble school backpacks for Orphan Grain Train; make no-sew fleece blankets for Phil’s Friends; color and write cards of hope for Phil’s Friends; make witness bracelets and puppets for MOST Ministries; assemble Braille books and calendars for Lutheran Braille Workers; create encouragement cards for Refuge for Women; and create and write cards for mission workers. Come and serve the Lord with gladness!

IN THE WORD FOR SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Catechism: Ten Commandments—1-3 (Primary Texts) Table of Duties—To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers: 1 Timothy 3:2-4; 1 Timothy 3:6; Titus 1:9

Verse of the week: Psalm 119:105, “*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 121)

Hymn of the week: (LSB 615) “When in the Hour of Deepest Need” (stanzas 1 and 5)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Canaanite Woman—Matthew 15:21-28

Monday— Bitter Water Made Sweet—Exodus 15:22-27

Tuesday— The Bread from Heaven—Exodus 16:1-35

Wednesday—Jesus Celebrates the Passover—Matthew 26:17-35

Thursday— The Water from the Rock—Exodus 17:1-7

Friday— The First Battle—Exodus 17:8-16

Saturday—The Plague of Gnats and Flies—Exodus 8:16-24

“But death isn’t a part of the life for which we were created—for we were created. You didn’t morph from pond scum into an intelligent hairless monkey; you were handcrafted by the Lord of the Universe.” *Hannah Nissing, Bulldogs4Life, the Y4Life team at Concordia, Nebraska - 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 "An Arresting Encounter" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A devoutly religious person has an arresting encounter with Jesus and learns what it means to be "born again." (John 3:16) **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 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, 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 23rd and 26th, 2023

Offering

General Offering	\$1,735.25	
On-Line Giving	\$1,505.45	
Missions	\$65.00	Attendance 140
Debt Fund	\$	
Mortgage Offering	\$50.00	
Sunday School	\$	
Total	\$3,355.70	

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	3/2	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 1:30 pm	Divine Worship-MITES Adult Bible Study Sunday School High School Sunday School Divine Worship-MITES New Member Class
Monday	3/6	6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class Grief Share Group
Tuesday	3/7	7:00 am 6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast Stephen Ministry Meeting
Wednesday	3/8	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study Council Meeting
Thursday	3/9	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Lenten Worship Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	3/11	10:00 am	Spic n' Span Sanctuary Saturday
Sunday	3/12	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

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

