

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Lenten Midweek 3

March 9th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8



Image: "The Ten Commandments"

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—“*Catechetical Series: The Ten Commandments, Commandment Seven*”

Subjected to the thievery of mankind, Jesus was robbed of His life when He was nailed to the cross. Yet in the greatest reversal our world has ever known, Christ took back His life on the third day and now gives it to all who trust in Him! As we stand before Him in worship, we repent of the many ways in which we steal from others, ways that show we do not always fear, love, and trust in God above all things. By His Word and Spirit, our Savior will once again renew us in His forgiveness and restore us in His righteousness. May He open our eyes to see the many opportunities we have to love and help others as we review the Seventh Commandment!

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—as outlined in your bulletin

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

(LSB 420 vs. 1-4)

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Hebrews 4:12; 1 John 1:9*

Pastor: Hearing the Word of God to receive its comfort and power, let us first come before the Lord and examine our lives in light of God’s commandments as we have learned them. People: For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and self-examination.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

People: Heavenly Father, from Your First Commandment telling us that we are to give You first place in our lives, to the Tenth Commandment telling us to be content with what we have, we have sinned against all of them in thought, word, and deed. Instead of being satisfied with what we have, we have stolen what does not belong to us. We know from Your Holy Word that You are a God of mercy and forgiveness. We ask for Your forgiveness in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who paid the penalty for our sin by His precious blood.

Pastor: God has told us in His Word, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

VERSICLES (*Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1, read responsively*)

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips,

People: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

People: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

Sit

✠ READINGS ✠

RESPONSIVE READING *Matthew 7:12; Philippians 2:4; Matthew 5:42; Hebrews 13:16; Ephesians 4:28*

Pastor: Jesus said, "Whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them."

People: Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you."

People: Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Pastor: Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor,

People: Doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 *John 3:16-18*
(Let us love in deed and in truth.)

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE *Joel 2:13*

People: 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.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 12:1-8*
(Jesus is anointed by Mary at Bethany.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at the table. Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

LENTEN RESPONSORY *(LSB, p. 231, read responsively)*

Pastor: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

People: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Pastor: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

People: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Pastor: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

People: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

APOSTLES' CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life T everlasting. Amen.

Sit

SERIES HYMN “These Are the Holy Ten Commands”

(LSB 581 vs. 1, 8, 11-12)

SERMON

“Light in the Dark Age” (Judges 6:6-23, 21:25)

Guest Pastor

Rev. Jim Klug

CATECHISM

Pastor: What is the Seventh Commandment?

People: You shall not steal.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

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

CANTICLE (Psalm 141:2 LSB, p. 231, read responsively)

Lector: Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

People: and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

MAGNIFICAT (*LSB, pp. 231-32, read responsively*)

People: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

Pastor: For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his seed forever.

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

✠ PRAYER ✠

KYRIE

People: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

People: 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.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

COLLECTS

Pastor: Let us pray. God of grace, You provide for all of our needs with blessings we do not deserve. Help us to find contentment with all we have been given, especially the new identity we have in You through Baptism. Help us to reflect Your generosity, sharing with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments. Work in us to improve and protect the possessions and income of others that we may live in peace and harmony; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION 2 *Corinthians 13:14*

Pastor: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

Sit

CLOSING HYMN “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

(LSB 420 vs. 5-7)

Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord.

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

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>Elders</u>	<u>Thursday</u> Lance Kopperud	<u>Sunday 8:00 am</u> Brandon Dachel	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u> Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>		Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolytes</u>			Marty Taggatz
<u>Ushers</u>	Jim Robinson, Andrea Szeflinski, Tommy Szeflinski	Bob Buzzell, Lynn Buzzell, Payton Weirich	Mike Huber, Bob Olen, Eric Kamprath, Drew Salzer, Eddie Taggatz

We thank Rev. Jim Klug for leading worship and sharing God's Word with us today on Thursday March 9th, while Pastor Taggatz is away at a Pastor's Conference. May God continue to richly bless Pastor Klug and his family in his ministry to God's people!!!

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 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.

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!

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. 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!

- 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

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

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