

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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



**Image:** "For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord." (*Ephesians 5:8-10*)

# 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 “Cross” Current**

Some of the central people in the Gospel narratives we get to know by name; others we do not. Although the man born blind is a major person in John 9, we never learn what his name might be. We meet his parents and his neighbors, and we meet the Pharisees to whom he tells the story of the miraculous restoration of his sight. Although we do not learn his name, Jesus said of the man born blind that the works of God were displayed in him. As the One brightening our lives with the light of salvation, Jesus brings a new vision to our lives—an eternal vision of life with God that never ends. God knows our names. He directs the cross currents of our daily lives. In His light we see light—and that is what matters!

### **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 685

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (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 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15, read responsively)**

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*

**for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.**

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:\*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;\*

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;\*

I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.

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.

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*

for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

## 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...*

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 42:14-21***

***(The Lord turns darkness into light.)***

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. <sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. <sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. <sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." <sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! <sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? <sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. <sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

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 *Ephesians 5:8-14***

***(Walking as children of the light)***

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,  
and arise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

- 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**—“*With you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.*” (Psalm 36:9)

**Holy Gospel** *John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39*  
(*Jesus heals a man who had been born blind.*)

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

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” . . .

<sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

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 "Christ, Be Our Leader"** (Is. 42:14-21) 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 571

God Loved the World So That He Gave (vs. 1-4)

Sermon

“Jesus Gives Us Eyes to See” (Is. 42:14-21)

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](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

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.

## 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

683 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me (vs. 1-4)  
433 Glory Be to Jesus (vs. 1-6)

*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 547

The Lamb (vs. 1-5)

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	Adam Voss	Rick Weeks
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Glenn Dotson	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, Tommy 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.* 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); **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); **Jerry Jenkins** (healing & strength) choir director of Larry & Sandy Herte; **Dawn Jantz** (upcoming procedure); **Darlene & Jerry Urbaniak's Nephew** (Alzheimer's); **Jim** (Parkinson Disease) friend of Sharon Iseli; **Fred** (Heart issues) Brother in law of Sharon Iseli; **Janine** (breast cancer) sister in law of Jeanne Meyer; **Pastor Dwight** (prostate cancer) friend of Wally & Margie Spaeth.

**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.

***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

### **Easter Breakfast is BACK!!!**

Our Youth Group will be hosting their Potluck Easter Breakfast at the school on Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 7-9:00am. We are requesting members to RSVP and sign up for a dish to share. PLEASE SEE SIGN-UP SHEETS IN THE NARTHEX! A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the Grace Youth Group. Thank you for your support!!!

### **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](http://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. **-THERE WILL BE NO RETAKES- 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. So far we have 29 households signed up.

## **Hunger Task Force - Annual Fund Drive TODAY IS THE LAST DAY OF OUR HUNGER TASK FORCE 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*. **We have currently raised over \$700.00 for Hunger Task Force, thank you for your generosity and support for those in need!!!**

## **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! **Currently we have raised over \$5,900 for the Church & School furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

## **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 4<sup>th</sup> 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!!!

## **CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE**

— **June 22–25, 2023.** On Thursday evening, June 22, LCMS North Wisconsin District President, Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck will serve as the proclaimer for the opening worship service for the 40<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention. This worship service will be your first opportunity to “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations” in Word and Sacrament.

## **Vacation Bible School at Grace**

Please mark your calendars!!! We will be having our Vacation Bible School at Grace Lutheran School on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:30pm. Our theme for VBS this year will be *Road Trip Route 3:16* and children ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org)

## **WE NEED USHERS!!!**

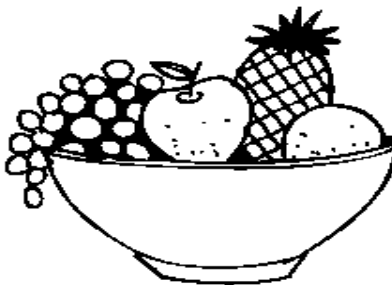
We are looking for more ushers to be put on our schedule. If you are interested, please contact Sarah at the church office by phone or email ([church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org)). Currently we have a need to fill ushers for our 8am worship services in February, October, April, 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!!!

**Adult Bible Class and Sunday School:** Sunday School is the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at Grace held at the School at 9:15am. Adult Bible Class is held every Sunday in the School Library at 9:15am. Our Adult Bible Class is beginning to study the New Testament book of, "*Philippians*." Please join us!!!

**Stewardship Minute** In 1 Peter 4:10, we read that the Holy Spirit gives each of us different gifts that are to be used in service to others. "*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace*" (1 Peter 4:10). God wants each of us to be more than spectators. It is God's will that we understand and fulfill the tasks that He gives to each of us. With the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we function together as God's people and make the Body of Christ function for His glory. The good of all is enhanced when we make our contribution.

## **BECAUSE CHRIST ABIDES IN US AND WE IN HIM, WE CAN BEAR FRUIT.**

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide..." (John 15:16).



## IN THE WORD FOR FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Catechism:** Ten Commandments—1-3 (Primary Texts) Table of Duties—What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17

**Verse of the week:** Luke 10:2, *“The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”*

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 122

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 571) “God Loved the World So That He Gave” (stanzas 1 and 4)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

**Sunday**— The Feeding of the 5,000—John 6:1-15

**Monday**— St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

**Tuesday**— Jesus Is Anointed at Bethany—John 12:1-11

**Wednesday**— Palm Sunday—John 12:12-26

**Thursday**— Passion: Jesus Faces the Sanhedrin—Matthew 26:57-75

**Friday**— Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet—John 13:1-20

**Saturday**— A New Commandment Is Given—John 13:21-38

“When we ignore the baby in the womb and focus instead on what is now being labeled as the rights of the mother and women’s health care, we are turning our backs on God. Never has God authorized killing and called it a right. Never has God condoned promoting abortion and called it health care. His love for life is written throughout Scripture. What are we doing when we ignore His sacred Word?” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*  
• *lutheransforlife.org* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679.

**LUTHERAN HOUR "Bad Karma vs. Good Creator"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. When bad things happen, is it "bad karma" or an opportunity for our Good Creator to be doing a greater work? (John 9:3) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: [lhm.org](http://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**  
***"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 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, 44



WEE UP  
MITE BOX

# CHARITY *Golf* SCRAMBLE

WEDNESDAY

6.21 2023

WESTERN LAKES GOLF CLUB

W287 N1963 Oakton Road Pewaukee, Wisconsin

6:30 a.m. Registration and Breakfast

7:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

12:30 p.m. Awards Lunch

Sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries



**\$100 DONATION ENTRY FEE**

**Hole in One Prize: \$10,000**

closest to the pin(2), longest drive, both men and women.

Scan code or visit [lwml.org/golf](http://lwml.org/golf) for registration.



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) was founded in 1942. From the beginning, missions have been the focus of the LWML. Many women and men have supported this mission effort by placing funds in their Mite Box (based on the biblical story of the Widow's Mite). Over the past 79 years, God has blessed these donations to bring His saving message to multitudes. Throughout the LWML's history, over 100 million dollars have been gathered to spread the Gospel message.

## Growing In Grace March 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Offering

General Offering	\$14,735.00	
On-Line Giving	\$1,242.18	
Missions	\$0.00	<b>Attendance</b> 91
Debt Fund	\$0.00	
Mortgage Offering	\$0.00	
Sunday School	\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,977.18</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	3/19	8:00 am	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Monday	3/20	6:30 pm	NO Confirmation Class
		6:30 pm	Grief Share Group
Tuesday	3/21	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
		6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	3/22	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	3/23	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Lenten Worship</b>
Saturday	3/25	8:00 am	Rise and Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	3/26	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>

## 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

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Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

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Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

