

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The 2nd Sunday of Easter

April 12th & 16th, 2023

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



Image: “Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (John 20:26-29)

Welcome to Grace! We're Glad You've Joined Us!

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins & worship activity bags (age 2-8) are available for your children to use during the service. Please see an usher if you need assistance finding them.

Children are **always** welcome - we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our church narthex and entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again! If your child is using the bathroom during the worship service, we ask that you monitor them so that they are using it in a timely manner. We are glad that you're here!!!

If you would like to include a **prayer for someone** in our worship today, please add it to the **Prayer Request Sheet** found on the podium in the narthex.

We're glad you're with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Taggatz. If you are in search of a new church home, or are interested in learning more about Grace, we would be happy to visit with you. We hope you'll be back and give us an opportunity to know you!

As We Gather *"The Sure and Living Hope"*

We gather today still in the glow of the most joyous and amazing celebration of Easter, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, from the dead. The sights and sounds of that celebration linger in our memory, not as just a past event finished and forgotten, but as Peter calls it today, *"a living hope,"* as enduring and strong as the certainty of our living Lord and the promised future of our own resurrection. We return to continue the Easter celebration because in the afterglow of the days since Easter Sunday, many still do not know that hope. Like the absent apostle Thomas, we still face what seems to be a hopeless world. Today we remember that our only hope is built on a divine Savior whose crucifixion wounds were endured for us and for all. Indeed, we are to learn that every Sunday throughout the entire year is an Easter celebration as our living Lord draws us into His holy, life-giving wounds through His very same body and blood given us in Holy Communion. Thomas saw and believed. Peter rejoiced. Though we do not now see Him, *"you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory"* (1 Peter 1:8), the only sure and living hope.

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...*Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 203*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 465

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (vs. 1-4)

Stand

Confession and Absolution

LSB 203

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 105:1-5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2-3, read responsively*)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- |
vation—*

if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*

make known his deeds among the | peoples!

Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*

tell of all his | wondrous works!

Glory in his | holy name;*

let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!

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.

He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*

the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

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.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- |
vation—*

if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

C 1 To God on high be glory

And peace to all the earth;

Goodwill from God in heaven

Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!

We praise and bless You, Father;

Your holy name, we sing—

Our thanks for Your great glory,

Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
“Amen!” our glad reply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 205

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit

First Reading *Acts 5:29-42*

(Peter preaches over the objections of the Jewish authorities.)

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

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

Gradual (*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6, read responsively*)

Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle Lesson 1 Peter 1:3-9

(“Born again to a living hope”)

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

- C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for the 2nd Sunday of Easter *“Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.” (Romans 6:9; John 20:29b)*

Holy Gospel John 20:19-31

(Jesus appears to the disciples.)

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

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB 206

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 “Hand-Me-Down God,” (Acts 5:29-42) *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 470

O Sons and Daughters of the King (vs. 1-6)

Sermon

“We Obey God Rather Than Men” (Acts 5:29-42)

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 208

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 208

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 209

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him. Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.
Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- 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 209

- 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 209

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

- C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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 spiritually 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

575 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (vs. 1-4)
737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing (vs. 1-7)

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity

Post-Communion Collect

LSB 212

- 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.**

Benedicamus

LSB 212

- A Let us bless the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

LSB 212

- 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 470

O Sons and Daughters of the King (vs. 7-9)

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>Wednesday 6:30pm</u> | <u>Sunday 8:00am</u> | <u>Sunday 10:30am</u> |
| <u>Elders</u> | Greg Nowakowski | Adam Voss | Derek Poellet |
| <u>Readers</u> | Kathy Szeplinski | Erica Vitek | Beth Jackson |
| <u>Communion Set-up</u> | Janine Tuskowski | Lynn Buzzell | Lynn Buzzell |
| <u>Linens</u> | Jennifer Olen | Jennifer Olen | Jennifer Olen |
| <u>Ushers</u> | Marlene Voss, Lance Kopperud | Andrea Szeplinski, Tommy Szeplinski | Cathy Weeks, Rick Weeks, Amelia Poellet, Dachs, Poellet, Tyler Scheinfeld |
| <u>Acolyte</u> | | | Travis Scheinfeld |

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; **Myles King** (blood disorder) son of Matthew & Meredith King; **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; **Greg** (cancer) brother in law of Mike & Pat Toman; **Barb Praxel** (healing & strength); **Hadley** (recovery from brain surgery) relative of Craig & Lauren Frank; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **Mark** (healing & strength) cousin of Jeanne Meyer; **Karen** (healing & strength) sister in law of Janine Pieper; **Deborah Feller** (healing from Lyme Disease); **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; **Linda** (brain cancer) friend of Carol Thurber; **Bryan** (cancer) friend of Wally & Margie Spaeth; **Jenny Rice** (cancer); **Hazel Hermann** (hospice) mother of Terri Meyer; **Bob Morgan** (healing & strength); for the **Staff, Students, and families affected by the Covenant Christian School shooting in Nashville, TN**; **Dale** (cancer) friend of Rick & Cathy Weeks; **Sharon** (healing & strength) sister in law of Ron & Mary Savarino.

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.

We mourn with the family of **James Giambi**, who was called home to heavenly rest. *James* is Donna Dotson's sister-in-law's nephew. We also mourn with the families of the **9 soldiers** who died in a helicopter accident in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and the family of **Gary Marta**, a former parishioner of Pastor Taggatz, who fell asleep in Jesus last week. **We pray:** Almighty God, Father of mercies and God of all comfort, deal graciously with the families of *James Giambi, the 9 soldiers who died at Fort Campbell, and the family of Gary Marta*, that casting every care on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Comfort them in the promise that because Jesus lives, we too shall live and have eternal life in His name. In Jesus' name we pray. 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 |

Special Voter's Meeting Sunday, April 16th following 10:30am service--Mr Gettelman, our Principal, has informed us that we are projected to have about 110 students by this Fall in our School. Because of this our Board of Education has deemed it necessary to split our 3rd and 4th grade classroom. We are looking to extend a contract to a 3rd Grade teacher for this Fall and we are planning to have a brief Voter's meeting on Sunday April 16th following our 10:30am service to discuss this with our members. We hope that you can make the meeting to learn about the exciting things that are happening at our Lutheran School!!!!

Your Easter Flowers can be picked up in the chancel area following worship. Thank you for beautifying our sanctuary for the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection from the dead. Your flowers should be labeled so that you are able to find them. Also, there are bags available in the vestry to transport your flowers home.

Your 1st Quarter Giving Statements are available in the Narthex. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace!!!

Voters Meeting at Grace on Sunday, April 30th following our 10:30am worship service. At this Voters Meeting we will be presenting our proposed budget for the next year. We will also have Board updates, a report from Pastor Taggatz, discuss about the church & school furnace fundraiser, the treasurer's report, and we will have an update on new members at Grace. Please plan on attending the Voters meeting, as your support and involvement in our ministries here at Grace is deeply needed and appreciated. The election of officers will take place at the Voter's meeting in June of this year.

Are You Interested in Serving on a Church Board?

Elections are coming up for various boards at our Church at our June Voter's Meeting. Do you feel called to serve in leadership here at Grace Lutheran Church? Please consider contacting the Church Office and we will let you know what responsibilities each board position has. We will also connect you with the current board members who are serving so that you can ask them questions pertaining to their current board responsibilities. The term of service is three years, and your service would begin in July of 2023. Please call the Church Office for what board positions are currently available for the next term.

Grace Lutheran School Diaper Drive

"Be the Yellow" Campaign is a diaper and wipe drive to show kindness to those in need. Are you in need of diapers or wipes? Stop by Grace Lutheran School on Friday, May 12th between 3-4:30pm and receive some for FREE! Diapers will be packaged in new bags by size. Pull up in the circle, let us know what size you need and we will bring them out to you! You don't even need to get out of your car!

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 \$7,040 for the Church & School furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE — June 22–25, 2023.

The LWML is blessed to have Jan Struck and Abby Goehring entertain participants with a little LWML humor. These two women have a habit of interrupting LWML President Debbie Larson during the proceedings. Come and enjoy the comic relief these women share. You will be energized and inspired through laughter.

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

USHERS NEEDED/USHER DUTIES

We are in critical need of ushers for both Thursday and Sunday services. If you have thought about being an usher but are concerned about the duties, please don't be. Here are some of the main duties:

- Arrive 20 minutes before service
- Pass out bulletins
- Collect offerings
- Usher people for communion
- Clean up after service

If you are interested, please contact Pastor or Sarah at the church office by phone (414)-762-8990 or email: church@graceoakcreek.org.

LWML Convention-June 22-25

Besides all the servant events, golf event, mission walk, voting going on at convention, we also offer a variety of tours in Milwaukee and surrounding areas! Tours offered include: pedaling a 16-person bike around the town with stops along the way, travel back in time at Old World Wisconsin, tour ethnic bakeries, enjoy a narrated tour of churches with a side stop for chocolate. There are many more tours to consider...go here for additional information and to register: www.lwml.org/2023-convention.

Lutheran Schools Night at American Family Field

Saturday, May 13 ~ 6:10 pm

Milwaukee Brewers vs. Kansas City Royals



NEW THIS YEAR

Families can order their tickets online and pick the section and seats they want. If you are ordering tickets for a group, you can forward tickets via text or email to the individuals Ballpark App. You can also purchase a parking pass in advance.

Purchase your tickets online at: <https://fevogn.com/event/lutheranschools2> by April 20.

These are the seats available: Loge Outfield Box (LOB)...this is where our group has been in past years, Loge Infield Box (LIB) and Field Infield Box (FIB).

Tickets: \$23-\$59

Questions? Contact Robin, SWD office, mueller@swd.lcms.org

Stewardship Minute

With the wisdom that comes from God, we will be able to see with discernment. With wisdom we are able to see below the surface of things. Wisdom includes the ability to look at ourselves, others, and even obstacles we encounter from a Godly perspective. We will be able to demonstrate better judgment in our relationships, finances, business transactions, and in all areas of our lives. God's wisdom will give us purpose. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will use our time, talents, and money wisely to accomplish God's purposes in our lives.

AS CHRISTIANS, WE TRUST IN THE WISDOM OF GOD, NOT IN OUR OWN WISDOM.

"And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:21).



IN THE WORD FOR 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Catechism: Ten Commandments—7-8 (Primary Texts) To Husbands: 1 Peter 3:7; Colossians 3:19

Verse of the week: Matthew 10:32-33, “Whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. 33 But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 33:12-22

Hymn of the week: (LSB 471) “O Sons and Daughters of the King” (stanzas 1, 6, and 8)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Lord Appears in the Upper Room—John 20:19-31

Monday— The Resurrection—Matthew 28:1-15

Tuesday— The Disciples on the Road to Emmaus—Luke 24:13-27

Wednesday— Jesus Is Revealed in the Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:28-35

Thursday— Jesus Eats Broiled Fish in the Upper Room—Luke 24:33-49

Friday— Jesus Ordains the Apostles—John 20:19-31

Saturday— Easter 3: Ezekiel 34:11-16

“Today, we often find lines, divisions, and hate, but we hope to spread a little love and hope. Life is a valuable gift at all ages and all stages of life, and it should be protected.” *Kambria Steinhaus, Knights 4 Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

LUTHERAN HOUR "Encore Easter Message -- Remembering Pr. Klaus" Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus This week we on The Lutheran Hour, we thank God for the ministry of the late Rev. Dr. Kenneth Klaus. This Easter message from 2005, recorded on location at the Tomb of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem challenges the world to "show us the body." Christ is Risen, He is risen, indeed! Hallelujah! (Matthew 28:5-6) **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 |

Growing In Grace April 6th, 7th, and April 9th, 2023

Offering

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| General Offering | \$7,764.50 | | |
| On-Line Giving | \$1,806.18 | | |
| Missions | \$0.00 | Attendance Thursday | 67 |
| Debt Fund | \$0.00 | Attendance Friday | 105 |
| Mortgage Offering | \$0.00 | Attendance Sunday | 201 |
| Sunday School | \$0.00 | | |
| Total | \$9,570.68 | | |

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 | 4/16 | 8:00am | Divine Worship |
| | | 9:15am | Adult Bible Study |
| | | 9:15am | Sunday School |
| | | 10:30am | Divine Worship |
| | | 11:30am | SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING |
| Monday | 4/17 | 6:30pm | Grief Share Group |
| Tuesday | 4/18 | 7:00am | Men's Bible Study & Breakfast |
| Wednesday | 4/19 | 9:30am | Ladies Bible Study |
| Thursday | 4/20 | 6:30pm | Divine Worship |
| Saturday | 4/22 | 9:00am | Rise & Sonshine ROAD TRIP |
| Sunday | 4/23 | 8:00am | Divine Worship |
| | | 9:15am | Fellowship Fun Time |
| | | 9:15am | Adult Bible Study |
| | | 10:30am | Divine Worship |
| | | 11:45am | Fellowship Fun Time |

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

