

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter/ Confirmation Sunday

May 4<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*"By His Grace you are saved through faith"*

Ephesians 2:8



**Image:** "Christ is our cornerstone, On Him alone we build; With His true saints alone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His great love Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above." (LSB 912:1)

# 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 “*Christ Is Our Cornerstone*”**

We see who Jesus is and who we are because of Him. Jesus is the cornerstone, the foundation upon which God's people are built. We are His newborn, chosen, priestly people. We are called to proclaim His excellencies to the world around us, always firm and secure, knowing that Christ is an unshakable foundation.

### **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 865

Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain (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.

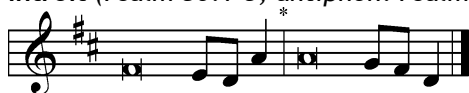
C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

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 30:1-5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1, sung responsively*)



Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,\*  
his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up\*  
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help,\*  
and you have | healed me.

O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;\*  
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints,\*  
and give thanks to his | holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.\*  
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

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.

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,\*  
his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

### 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. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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*

**First Reading Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60**

***(Stephen remains faithful in the midst of death.)***

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

- 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 2:2-10**

**(Built on Jesus, we are a chosen people.)**

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

- 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia."* (Romans 6:9; John 14:23)

**Holy Gospel John 14:1-14**

*(Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.)*

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

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

- 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 “Chosen!” (1 Peter 2:2-10)** (Thurs. 6:30pm & Sunday 8am only) 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 645**

**Built on the Rock (vs. 1-5)**

**Sermon**

**“God’s Chosen People” (1 Peter 2:2-10)**

**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 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,<br>You take the sin of the world away;<br>O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,<br>Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray. | 2 | O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,<br>You take the sin of the world away;<br>Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,<br>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

912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone (vs. 1-3)  
644 The Church's One Foundation (vs. 1-5)  
633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (vs. 1-8)

*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 578**

**Thy Strong Word (vs. 1-3)**

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



***Altar Flowers***

Altar flowers today are given by Bob & Lynn Buzzell  
in celebration of their 31<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary.  
Continued blessings to you both!

## 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>	Lance Kopperud	Eric Kamprath	Mike Huber
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Miranda	Erica Vitek	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Miranda	Lynn Buzzell	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel
<u>Ushers</u>	Char Klipfel, Doug Klipfel, Mark Roettgen, Connie Roettgen	Leah Abelt, Paige Vitek, Ben Tindall, Henry Tindall	Ron Savarino, Lowell Johnson, Carsen Serdynski, Madeline King
<u>Acolyte</u>			Brilee Simmons

### 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 Serdynski; **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); **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; **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); **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; **Dale** (cancer) friend of Rick & Cathy Weeks; **Cathy** (healing & strength) friend of Jill Nowack; **Glenn Peronto** (back surgery) friend of Chris Evers; **Cookie** (cancer) friend of Tony & Suzie Miranda; **Evan** (healing & strength); **Sue Klemme** (pancreatic cancer) friend of Cathy Weeks; **Phyllis Schmidt** (hospitalized) friend of Ginny & Leigh Schmeiser; **Phyllis Berglund** (healing & strength); **Carla & Brandyn Berglund** (healing & strength).

*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

### **Congratulations to our Grace Lutheran Confirmation Students**



God's blessings to **Edward Taggatz & Tatiana Concepcion** upon their journey with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior that was started on the day of their baptisms and has continued to their Confirmation TODAY! Congratulations to them as they have confirmed their Christian faith that God gave to them in their baptism!

#### **❖ Edward Eugene Taggatz**

Baptized: 9/25/2008

**Romans 8:28** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

#### **❖ Tatiana Christine Concepcion**

Baptized: 5/9/2010

**Joshua 1:9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

### **Fellowship Fun Time**

**Our Grace Fellowship Board has planned some time for our church members to have fellowship with one another, they are as follows:**

- Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, following our 8:00am worship and 10:30am worship
- Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, following our 6:30pm worship

**Important Date for Sunday School & Adult Bible Class Coming Up**--This is a reminder that the last day of Sunday School & Adult Bible Class will be Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for having your children attend Sunday School this year, as they have had the opportunity to learn more about God's love for them in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord! The First Day of Sunday School and Adult Bible Class this Fall will be Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**SAVE THE DATE for Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>** Following our 10:30am worship service our congregation members are cordially invited to attend a celebration of Lisa Hengst's **20** years of service as a teacher and **30** years of service as our organist here at Grace Lutheran Church and School. The celebration will take place at our school gymnasium.

**GRACE LUTHERAN (LCMS) OKLAHOMA AVE ANNUAL PLANT SALE**—May 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 9am-4pm at Grace Parking Lot: 3030 W. Oklahoma Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53215.  
[www.grace-ok.org](http://www.grace-ok.org)

**USHERS FOR SUMMER MONTHS** We are in need of ushers for Sunday summer services (9:00am). The dates we need help with are as follows: **June 11, July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30**. If you can help, please contact Pastor or Sarah at the church office by phone (414)-762-8990 or email: [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org). Thank you to those who have already reached out to help!!

### **Grief Share Group**

No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a loved one recently? We are starting a special seminar and support group that we sponsor for people dealing with the loss of a family member here at Grace Lutheran Church Oak Creek. We understand how deeply grief and loss hurt people and families, and we simply wanted you to know about our Grief Share group. It's a place where many people have found they can begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord's help and with the love and encouragement of His Church.

Our Grief Share grief recovery seminar and support group will meet on Monday evenings at Grace Lutheran School starting on Monday, June 26, 2023. This new Grief Share group will be a 13 week session. The sessions are held in our school library from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. The last session will be Monday, October 2, 2023, taking off on 7/3 and 9/4. The cost for attending is \$20.00. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Oak Creek. Lori Kachelmeier and Jeanne Meyer will be the leaders for this Grief Share Group. Grief Share features nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Seminar sessions include *"Is This Normal?"* *"The Challenges of Grief,"* *"Grief and Your Relationships,"* *"Why?"* and *"Guilt and Anger."* For more information or to register: go to the website: [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) and enter our zip code "53154" to the left of "find a group" box and do a search. It will bring up our Monday 6:30 pm meetings. For further questions please call Lori Kachelmeier at: 414-828-0290.

### **Military Bible Sticks–CAMPAIGN STARTS MAY25TH**

Our congregation has faithfully supported this mission for many years. We prayerfully ask you for this support again this year. The change this year is that Military Bible Sticks will be paired with a new mission from Faith Comes by Hearing. This new effort is called Vision 2033. Vision 2033 involves partnering with other missions, such as Lutheran Bible Translators, to translate the Bible into mission languages. These Bible sticks would have native speakers reading the Word and would be given to the missions in countries all over the world. That way people would be able to hear the Good News in their own languages. We are looking forward to being able to be a part of this new mission by Faith Comes by Hearing. Envelopes will be available for donating to Military Bible Sticks in the narthex on the white board. **A video will be shared with the congregation soon to share this mission's vision. For more in-depth information please go to: <https://faithcomesbyhearing.com/what-we-do/resources-for-churches>**

### **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE STARTS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

We will be switching to our Summer Schedule here at Grace starting Memorial Day weekend. This means that our Sunday morning worship time will be at 9:00am starting on Sunday, May 28th and this will go through Labor Day Weekend. There will not be Sunday School and Adult Bible Class during the summer. Thursday evening worship at 6:30pm will remain the same throughout the summer. We look forward to seeing you in worship!!!

**CALLING ALL GRADUATES!!!** Graduation is coming up for our 8<sup>th</sup> Graders at Grace Lutheran School, but also for those in our congregation that are graduating from High School and College. On Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> we will be acknowledging those in our congregation that are graduating from 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, High School, and College. We are asking that any High School or College age students of our congregation that are graduating would join us for this event. They may also wear their cap and gown to be recognized for their graduation. Please let us know what school they are graduating from, and if it is from college, what is their major? We will publish this information in the church's bulletins on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Please email this info to our Church Secretary, Sarah Anderson at: [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org)

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

### **PANTHER PALOOZA - COME ONE, COME ALL!**

Date: Friday, May 19      Time: 5:30-8:30pm      Where: Grace Lutheran School

Photo booth, concessions, facepainting, DJ & dancing, silent auction, games and prizes! This is going to be a great way to end this school year! We are currently looking for volunteers (a great way to get your yearly hours) to help with events and donations.

### **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)

To register your child for VBS this year, please go to this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y6hh9tc5>

### **Portals of Prayer Devotional**

Over the years the church has provided the Portals of Prayers devotional book to our members. Throughout these years the church has carried this expense. To help offset that burden we now have envelopes available in the narthex for our members to designate funds to this devotional book. It is our goal to continue to provide this amazing tool to our members in their faith journey.

**CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE — June 22–25, 2023.** The Saturday Evening Entertainment will be performed by the ladies of The Lutheran Ladies Lounge. These women produce a podcast inviting women to chat, learn, and laugh as they celebrate Lutheran life and culture in fellowship together. Their podcast was launched in 2019 by KFYO Radio (the official broadcast ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod) and has since rocketed in popularity. Come and “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations” with them in Milwaukee.

## Stewardship Minute

Richard Foster wrote, “*Nothing disciplines the inordinate desires of the flesh like service, and nothing transforms the desires of the flesh like serving in hiddenness. The flesh whines against service but screams against hidden service. It strains and pulls for honor and recognition.*” As God’s stewards, we are to serve all people, not just those who can bring us status or clout or return the favor. Helping others minimizes the problem of self-absorption or pride that interferes with a life of servanthood. When we do mundane, unnoticed acts of service for others, we receive the reward of knowing that it is really Christ we are serving (Matthew 25:40).

**A STEWARDSHIP LIFESTYLE IS  
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT  
AND FOLLOWS GOD’S WISDOM.**

“For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding” (Proverbs 2:6).



## IN THE WORD FOR THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Catechism:** Ten Commandments—9-10 (Primary Texts) Table of Duties—To Workers of All Kinds: Ephesians 6:5-8

**Verse of the week:** Mark 10:45, “*The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*”

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 66:1-8

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 526) “You are the Way; through You Alone” (stanzas 1-3)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— The Ministry of the Holy Spirit—John 16:5-15

Monday— The Work of the Holy Spirit—John 16:5-15

Tuesday— Your Sorrow Will Turn to Joy—John 16:16-23

Wednesday— Ask and You Will Receive—John 16:23b-33

Thursday— Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer—John 17:1-10

Friday— Jesus Prays for the Apostles—John 17:11-19

Saturday— Jesus Prays for All Who Will Believe in Him—John 17:20-26

“We were created by a loving God, redeemed by His self-sacrificial act of love, and called to love one another. God loves us; therefore, our life has value. God calls us to love; therefore, our life has purpose. And this, dear friend, is the greatest purpose.” *Hannah Nissing, Bulldogs4Life, the Y4Life team at Concordia, Nebraska – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679.

**LUTHERAN HOUR "Sojourn"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler Prosperity preachers promise health, wealth, and happiness--but that's not what Christians should expect. (1 Peter 2:11-12) 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

### Growing In Grace April 27<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Offering**

General Offering	\$2,571.00	
On-Line Giving	\$819.03	
Missions	\$0.00	<b>Attendance</b> 128
Debt Fund	\$0.00	
Mortgage Offering	\$1,000.00	
Lutheran Schools	\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,390.03</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	5/7	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Divine Worship-MITES</b>
		9:15am	Adult Bible Study
		9:15am	HS Sunday School
		9:15am	Sunday School
		<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Divine Worship-MITES-CONFIRMATION</b>
Tuesday	5/9	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	5/10	9:30am	Ladies Bible Study
		6:30pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	5/11	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Friday	5/12	3-4:30pm	Grace Lutheran School Diaper Drive
Sunday	5/14	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		9:15am	Adult Bible Study
		<b>10:30am</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  
Principal  
School Office Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.  
ECC Director  
ECC Office

[church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org)  
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[school@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org)  
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### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office

#### Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

