

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

June 8th & 11th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8

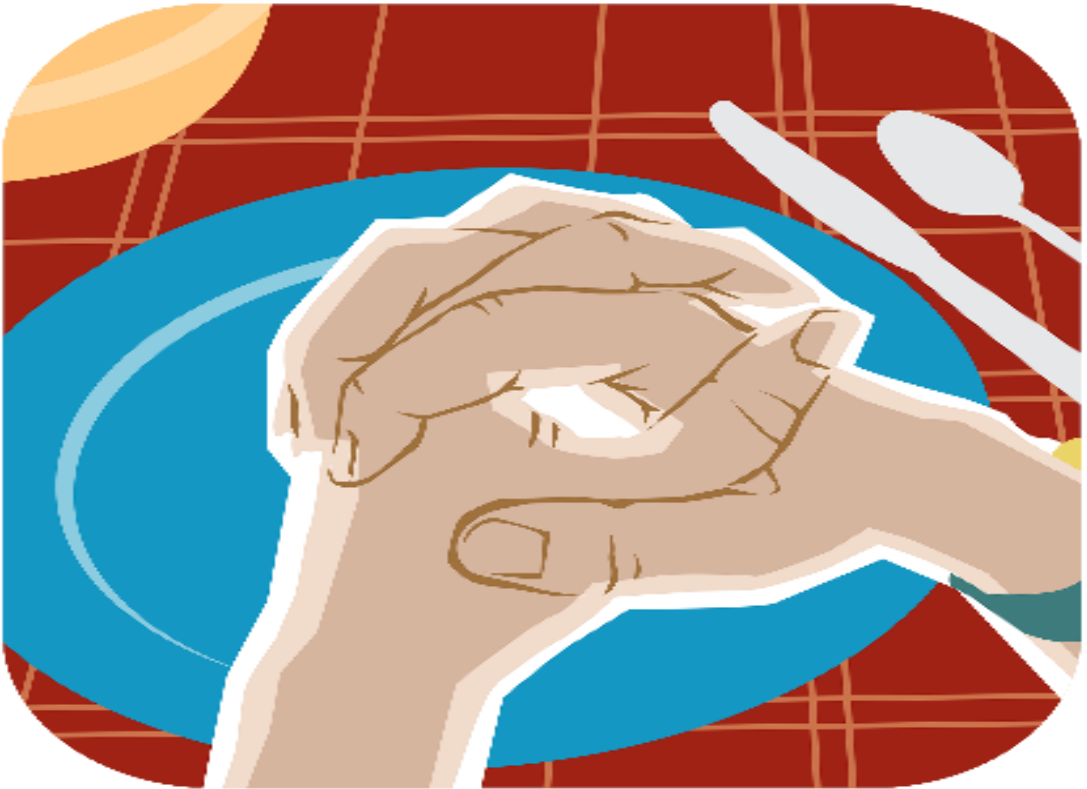


Image: "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blest. Amen, amen, amen."
(LSB 776)

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 “*Eating at the Table with Jesus*”

“*Thou spreadst a table in my sight*” (LSB 709:5). With poetic words, English hymn writer Henry W. Baker puts into verse one of the most beloved images of Psalm 23. The table that the Lord sets for His people is one of generosity and grace. The first time a table is mentioned in the Bible is in conjunction with the great reunion that the ruler Joseph in Egypt has with his estranged brothers who had come from their home in Canaan to ask for help in a time of famine. The Book of Genesis records that Joseph not only welcomed his brothers and saw to it that they were fed but also directed that “*portions were taken to them from Joseph’s table, . . . And they drank and were merry with him*” (Genesis 43:34). The Lord’s Table is a place for rejoicing—especially since, as we gather there, we are given a foretaste of the feast to come in our Lord’s eternal kingdom.

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 3, pg. 184

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 915 Today Your Mercy Calls Us (vs. 1-4)

Stand

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 50:7-10; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively)

The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth*
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you.*
I am God, your God.
Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;*
your burnt offerings are continually before me.
I will not accept a bull from your house*
or goats from your folds.
For every beast of the forest is mine,*
the cattle on a thousand hills.

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

The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth*
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Kyrie *LSB 186*

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

P Glory be to God on high:
C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 189*

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

- P Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Hosea 5:15–6:6*

(The Lord desires that His people show mercy.)

¹⁵I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me...

¹“Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.” ⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. ⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

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

Gradual (*Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b, read responsively*)

Great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised,*
and his greatness is un- | searchable.
On your wondrous works, I will | meditate,*
and I will declare your | greatness.

Epistle Lesson *Romans 4:13-25*

(An account of the faith of Abraham)

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

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be

guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

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

Stand

Alleluia LSB 190

- C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost *“Alleluia. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners. Alleluia.” (Matthew 9:13b)*

Holy Gospel Matthew 9:9-13

(Jesus calls Matthew as a disciple.)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.
- C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

⁹As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹²But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed *LSB 191*

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 "Welcomed by Jesus" (Matt. 9:9-13) 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 609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive (vs. 1-4)

Sermon “Prepared to Make a Defense” (1 Peter 3:15)

Sermon Text—1 Peter 3:15, “*but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.*”

Offertory LSB 192

- C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

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 194

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**

- P It is truly meet, 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 195*

- C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer *LSB 196*

- 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 197*

- 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 197*

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

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

- C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

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

-570 Just as I Am, without One Plea (vs. 1-6)

-628 Your Table I Approach (vs. 1-6)

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the
face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

- A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

- 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.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

- A Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction *LSB 202*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



Assisting with the Divine Service

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

	<u>Thursday 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 9:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Adam Voss	Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Cris Evers
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine Tuskowski	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Jim Robinson, Andrea Szefflinski, Tommy Szefflinski, Alyson Hengst	Lynn & Bob Buzzell, Eddie Taggatz, 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; **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 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; **Deborah Feller** (healing from Lyme Disease); **Darlene & Jerry Urbaniak's Nephew** (Alzheimer's); **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 Mirenda; **Evan** (healing & strength) son of Lance & Susan Kopperud; **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); **Chad Evers** (blood clots in heart & lungs) brother of Chris Evers; **Doc Medek** (healing & strength); **Keith Iverson** (hospice) brother of Phyllis Berglund; **Jennifer** (skin cancer) daughter of Tony & Suzie Mirenda; **Alan Umaske** (hospitalized) husband of Pam Umaske; **Scott** (kidney failure) brother of Pat Toman; **Marlene Voss** (hearing loss); **Rikky** (medical testing) friend of Joy Lussier; **Sally** (medical testing) sister of Pauline Parker; and **Michelle Jolie** (hospitalized) ECC Teacher.

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: We mourn with the family and friends of *Bob Jantz*, who was called home to heavenly rest, and the family of Joy Lussier's cousin, *Roxanne*, as they mourn the death of her husband. **We pray:** Lord God, heavenly Father, we pray for the family and friends of *Bob Jantz*, and the family of *Joy Lussier's cousin, Roxanne*, as they mourn her husband's death. Receive our humble thanks for all Your mercies granted to, *Bob Jantz & Roxanne's husband*, during their earthly life, especially for calling them by the Gospel and sustaining them in the true faith until their departure. Comfort those who mourn *Bob and Roxanne's husband's* death with the hope of the glorious resurrection and a happy reunion in heaven. Help us to remember that we are mortal, that we may ever prepare ourselves to fall asleep in faith and finally receive the glory promised to all who trust in Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

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: **July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30**. If you can help, please contact the church office by phone (414)-762-8990 or email: church@graceoakcreek.org. Thank you to those who have already reached out to help!!

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

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

Military Bible Sticks

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>**

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 \$18,095 for the Church & School furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

Volunteers Needed – Synod Convention—The LCMS Convention will be held July 28-August 3 at the Wisconsin Convention Center in downtown Milwaukee. Many volunteers are needed to serve in the days leading up to and throughout the convention in various areas – Hospitality, Information, Registration and more. Visit swd.lcms.org/serve to review the available slots and sign up by Tuesday, June 27. If you can speak Russian, Korean or Spanish, the International Guests Hospitality Committee could use your assistance in greeting guests at the airport and assisting at the convention. Thank you for serving at the Convention!

VOTERS MEETING

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our next Voters Meeting at Church!!! It will be on Sunday June 25th after the 9am worship service. Special topics will include: Pastor's Report, Election of new officers, and updates from church boards. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the ministries here at Grace!!! God bless you!

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 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.

A Place of Refuge ministries is proud to announce: LifeWalk 2023 will be hosted by St. Paul’s Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 10th 7821 W. Lincoln Ave. West Allis **Schedule:** 9:00 Registration 10:00 Welcome, Prayer & Start of the Walk 11:00 Finish the Walk, Prizes, Music & Lunch. To register, please go to: aplaceofrefuge.org and click on the Life Walk page. Get friends and family to sponsor your walk! Prizes will be given for most money raised and most sponsors. Join us for a fun filled and Love-for-Life event! *For details contact Toni Dunn 414.335.3553 or Dave Meissner 616.450.1507 “But Jesus said, Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14)*

SCRIP AT GRACE

Grace Lutheran participates in a fundraising program called Scrip, where you can purchase gift cards for over 1,000 retailers, entertainment, grocery and more. Each card is assigned a percentage that is given back to school, church and/or ECC. And the best part...you get to decide where it goes! It can be applied to your tuition payments at Grace, Martin Luther, daycare fees or Sponsor-A-Student account to help families receive financial assistance. Please consider purchasing those cards through our program instead of directly at the vendor or retailer! Gail Nowakowski is our Scrip Coordinator. If you would like to take a look at what Scrip cards are available to buy to help support the ministries of Grace, please reach out to Gail or grab a Scrip form on the table in the narthex. Gail’s contact information is as follows:

- 414.791.4075 and/or: gnowakowski@att.net

CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE — June 22–25, 2023. Getting to Milwaukee for the 40th Biennial LWML Convention can be part of the fun. Attendees can fly, but can also take a chartered LWML motorcoach from their district, the train, a boat across Lake Michigan, or as one member likes to travel – by bicycle. Check with your district leaders to see if a motorcoach is in the works. No matter how you travel, make plans now to come to Milwaukee to “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.”

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.

Those who have been nominated for upcoming board positions:

Board of Elders (3 needed)

- Keith Goodle
- Mike Toman
- Ron Savarino
- Lowell Johnson
- John Tindall
- John Penn

Board of Stewardship (1 needed)

- Laura Elliot
- Patrick Manoil

Board of Properties (2 needed)

- John Gottwald
- Mark Tuskowski
- Robert Morgan Jr.
- Keith Nowack
- Brent Endres
- Matthew Morrissette
- Anthony Hengst

Camping at Camp LuWiSoMo!!! Open now to mid-September, the campground is a great option for families and congregations to visit LuWiSoMo to relax, recharge, spend time together, and enjoy God's creation. It's a quiet, family friendly campground with both non-electric campsites and those with water and electric for campers, as well as a few cabins. Reservations are required. Learn more at www.luwisomo.org/campground and contact us to schedule your family time at LuWiSoMo today!

“Defending the Faith Sermon Series for the Summer of 2023”

This Summer we will have a special sermon series on, “*Defending the Christian Faith.*” Have you ever wondered how to answer someone for the hope you have in Christ Jesus and to do so with gentleness and respect, as St. Peter calls us to do in 1 Peter 3:15? Well, this sermon series is for you. Please join us as we will be answering certain objections to the Christian faith with the help of the Holy Spirit from God’s Word.

1. 6-11-23—Prepared to Make a Defense, 1 Peter 3:15
2. 6-18-23—How Do I Know He Lives?, Luke 24:36–48
3. 6-25-23—Stubborn Realities, Matthew 28:11–20
4. 7-16-23—The Fact’s for You, 1 Corinthians 15:1–20
5. 7-23-23—Seen with Our Eyes, Touched with Our Hands, 1 John 1:1–3
6. 7-30-23—Fallen, but Created . . . and Redeemed, Romans 8:18–23
7. 8-6-23—Not Denial, but the Good News, Romans 1:16–20
8. 8-13-23—God’s Great Big True Story, 2 Peter 1:16–21

Stewardship Minute

In his letter to the church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote, “*But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also*” (2 Corinthians 8:7). Paul is seeking the generosity of the people in Corinth for the distressed Christians in Jerusalem. He wants them, as he wants us, to excel in the grace of giving. With God’s help through the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit, we know that “*God is able to make all grace abound to [us], so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, [we] may abound in every good work*” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

WE ARE GOD’S MASTERPIECES EQUIPED TO DO GOOD WORKS.

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10).



IN THE WORD FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: How can water do such great things?

Verse of the week: Genesis 15:6—*[Abraham] believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 13

Hymn of the week: (LSB 768) “To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Rich Man and Lazarus—Luke 16:19-31

Monday— St. Barnabas, Apostle: Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3

Tuesday— Love Your Enemies—Matthew 5:38-48

Wednesday— The Lord’s Prayer—Matthew 6:1-18

Thursday— Lay Up for Yourselves Treasure in Heaven—Matthew 6:19-34

Friday— Jesus Is the Narrow Way—Matthew 7:1-14

Saturday— The Wise Man Builds His House on the Rock—Matthew 7:15-29

“The God who created us and redeemed us and lives in us has put His seal of ownership on us! He has chosen us and appointed us for a purpose—to live as Jesus’ disciples by bearing fruit for His kingdom. By God’s grace, and with His help, may we bear good fruit and make God-pleasing choices that glorify God who chose to create us and save us!” *Rev. Craig Michaelson, Faith Community Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, Nevada – 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 "Strength Out of Weakness" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The human 'heroes' of the Bible are normal people, deeply flawed and dearly loved by the God Who made them. (Judges 6:14-16) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: lhm.org** scroll down the page and click on, “listen now.” Or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings.

WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	103.3	FM	Sun	6:30 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	5:30 & 6:30 AM

**Growing In Grace
June 1 & 4, 2023**

Offering

General Offering	\$4,950.25		
On-Line Giving	\$1,915.95		
Missions	\$0.00	Attendance	129
Debt Fund	\$0.00	Communed	93
Mortgage Offering	\$120.00		
Portals of Prayer	\$0.00		
Total	\$6,986.20		

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	6/11	9:00am	Divine Worship
Tuesday	6/13	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	6/14	6:30pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	6/15	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	6/16	5:30 pm	Vacation Bible School
Sunday	6/18	9:00am	Divine Worship

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We have gathered today to celebrate the most precious gifts and treasures our Lord gives us: His forgiveness, life and salvation. It would be our honor to have you join us again next week as we “Celebrate, Teach, and Share” the Good News of God’s Grace among all people.

Grace is committed to supporting families through our Early Childhood Center, Day School, and High School. We are blessed to be a member of the Lutheran High School Association of Milwaukee.

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) thewordendures.blogspot.com
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262

Pastor
Church Office
Principal
School Office Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.
ECC Director
ECC Office

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