

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

June 22<sup>nd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

Ephesians 2:8



Image: *"Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."* (Mathew 10:31)

# 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 "Hope in the World"*

It is not easy to live in this world as a believer in the one true God. Faith is challenged, truth is questioned, and persecution is faced. Though hardships and challenges are there and will continue, we are reminded this is nothing new since the fall into sin. The Lord doesn't leave us though in midst of doubt and despair as we deal with division and even danger. He gives His presence and assures His lasting promises. In the Old Testament, the prophet Jeremiah and his people faced hardships, yet they modeled how our witness and testimony can be ones of boldness and confidence as we sing to and praise the Lord, for He "*delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers*" (Jeremiah 20:13). As Paul would face countless challenges in his Gospel proclamation to the ends of the earth, he reminds us that, even amid the battle of sin, we have received grace and that the "*free gift of God is eternal life*" (Romans 6:23). Jesus also reminds us that as divisiveness and persecution can be expected even from those closest to us, because of His everlasting promises we are able to "*fear not.*" The psalmist also assures that the Lord remains our refuge and our fortress. The world around us won't change until Christ returns, but the Lord doesn't change either. In and through Him, with faith and confidence we keep our trust.

## **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 905 Come, Thou Almighty King (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 (*Psalms 56:3-4, 10-11; antiphon: v. 13, read responsively*)

For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,\*  
**that I may walk before God in the | light of life.**

When I | am afraid,\*

**I put my | trust in you.**

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.\*

**What can flesh | do to me?**

In God, whose | word I praise,\*

**in the LORD, whose | word I praise,**

in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.\*

**What can man | do to me?**

**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.**

For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,\*  
**that I may walk before God in the | light of life.**

#### **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, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading** *Jeremiah 20:7-13*

*(Jeremiah's complaint and God's assurance)*

<sup>7</sup>O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. <sup>8</sup>For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. <sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. <sup>10</sup>For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! "Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" say all my close friends, watching for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him." <sup>11</sup>But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. <sup>12</sup>O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. <sup>13</sup>Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual** (*Psalms 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 6:12-23*

*(St. Paul describes what it means to be alive in Christ)*

<sup>12</sup>Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup>What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, <sup>18</sup>and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** *"Alleluia. Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven. Alleluia."* (Matthew 10:32)

### Holy Gospel *Matthew 10:5a, 21-33*

***(Warnings and promises as Jesus sends out the Twelve)***

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

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, . . .

<sup>21</sup>“Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

<sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup>It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

<sup>26</sup>“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. <sup>27</sup>What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. <sup>28</sup>And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup>Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup>So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

- 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 "Have No Fear" (Matt. 10.5, 21-33)** 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 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (vs. 1-4)**

**Sermon John 3:16-18**

(Thursday 6:30pm, Guest Pastor Jim Klug)

**"Stubborn Realities" Matthew 28:11-20**

(Sunday 9am, Pastor Taggatz)

**Sermon Text: Matthew 28:11-20**

While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers and said, "Tell people, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.' And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day.



Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### 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. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. 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 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

-684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary (vs. 1-4)

-620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing (vs. 1-6)

*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 779 Come, My Soul, with Every Care (vs. 1-4)**

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God!!!**



***Altar Flowers***



Altar flowers today are given by Jen Olen in honor of LWML Convention.

**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.

Elders

Readers

Communion Set-up

Linens

Ushers

Thursday 6:30pm

Lance Kopperud

Pastor Klug

Janine Tuskowski

Donna Dotson

Jim Robinson, Andrea

Szeflinski, Tommy

Szeflinski, Alyson Hengst

Sunday 9:00am

Ricky Weeks

Glenn Dotson

Lynn Buzzell

Donna Dotson

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 Umaske** (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; **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 Miranda; **Evan** (healing & strength) son of Lance & Susan Kopperud; **Sue Klemme** (pancreatic cancer) friend of Cathy Weeks; **Chad Evers** (blood clots in heart & lungs) brother of Chris Evers; **Keith Iverson** (hospice) brother of Phyllis Berglund; **Jennifer** (skin cancer) daughter of Tony & Suzie Miranda; **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; **Dina** (hospitalized) friend of Jill Nowack; **Ethan Summers** (critically injured) former student of Roxanne Taggatz; **Ginny Schmeiser** (hospitalized); and **Alan Umaske** (hospice).

**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 *Gary Rubingh*, a relative of the Taggatz family, who was called home to heavenly rest. We pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, we pray for the family and friends of *Gary Rubingh*, as they mourn his death. Receive our humble thanks for all Your mercies granted to, *Gary*, during their earthly life, especially for calling him by the Gospel and sustaining him in the true faith until his departure. Comfort those who mourn *Gary'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](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

**Special thanks to Pastor Jim Klug** for filling in for Pastor Taggatz on Thursday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, while Pastor Taggatz is helping out with the LWML Convention here in Milwaukee. God's continued blessings to him and his family as he continues to minister to God's people!!!

**Pastor Taggatz and his family will be on vacation June 26-July 9<sup>th</sup>.** While Pastor is away, Pastor Jim Klug will be leading our Thursday and Sunday worship services. Pastor Doug Schroeder, from Our Shepherd (LCMS) in Greendale, will be covering any Pastoral calls while Pastor is away. Pastor Schroeder can be reached at: 414-421-2060 or 414-840-6016 or [dougs@ourshepherdlutheran.org](mailto:dougs@ourshepherdlutheran.org).

**Please note:** Even though our Church Secretary position is currently vacant, you can still contact the Church office by email at: [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org) or by phone at: 414-762-8990.

**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](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org). Thank you to those who have already reached out to help!

### **Giving Tree**

The *Giving Tree* from our Board of Stewardship is up in our church sanctuary. Please consider making a donation to our ministries to help us to continue the mission work of our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center. The needs of our ministries are on the *Giving Tree* for you to take a look at. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministries here at Grace! If you are giving a monetary donation to one of the ministry needs for Grace please write checks payable to: "Grace Lutheran."

### **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 both the school and 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 \$19,140 for the Church & School furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

### **VOTERS MEETING**

We will have a voter's meeting on Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> 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!

**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](http://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!

**CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE – JUNE 22 – 25, 2023**

Bring your Gifts from the Heart to the convention and spread God’s love. Recipients include Phil’s Friends, Refuge for Women, Orphan Grain Train, and MOST Ministries. The complete list is in the *Lutheran Women’s Quarterly* winter issue or check [lwml.org/2023-convention](http://lwml.org/2023-convention) for more information. Some of the items include eyeglasses, hygiene kits, quilts, gift cards, fuzzy socks, and hats. Honor God by serving others with your gifts. See you in Milwaukee as we “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations!”



**2023 LWML Convention-Milwaukee**

**June 22-25, 2023**

**Convention Offerings**

4 Offerings will be taken at the LWML convention

**Offering #1- 2023-2025 LWML Mission Goal**

**Offering #2-We Are Called to Care**

This offering will support families and children in the foster care system in Plano, Illinois, by helping to create a visitation/therapy room.

**Offering #3-Support of the scholarship fund at Wolf River Lutheran High School, Shawano, Wisconsin.**

The students and leaders want to provide a Christian education to those who believe in Christ’s saving grace by providing a Christian education to any student regardless of race or economic standing.

**Offering #4-Milwaukee Area Crisis Pregnancy Centers, through Concordia Gospel Outreach.**

Help Concordia Gospel Outreach, the charitable arm of Concordia Publishing House, provide Gospel-based materials including Bibles, the children’s book *Alive Before You Were Born*, and other devotional materials to up to 20 Milwaukee area crisis pregnancy centers.

If you would like to bless these missions but are unable to attend convention, online donations will be accepted through June 30, 2023 Links can be found at [www.lwml.org/convention-offering](http://www.lwml.org/convention-offering)



## “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. 6-25-23—Stubborn Realities, Matthew 28:11–20
2. 7-16-23—The Fact’s for You, 1 Corinthians 15:1–20
3. 7-23-23—Seen with Our Eyes, Touched with Our Hands, 1 John 1:1–3
4. 7-30-23—Fallen, but Created . . . and Redeemed, Romans 8:18–23
5. 8-6-23—Not Denial, but the Good News, Romans 1:16–20
6. 8-13-23—God’s Great Big True Story, 2 Peter 1:16–21

### Stewardship Minute

During Jesus’ last three years on earth, He spent much time nourishing and teaching His disciples. Only when they were prepared to go out into the world to preach, teach, and heal did He send them. Leaving without provisions, the disciples were totally dependent upon those whom the Lord would send them for their support (Luke 9:1-6). The disciples relied upon the power of the Gospel to move the hearts of their listeners who would willingly provide for their needs. They were to travel light and trust in the Lord. Just as the work of the 12 original disciples was funded by other believers, we assist the spreading of the Gospel by supporting today’s disciples and missionaries around the world. As we provide for church workers locally and abroad in the name of Jesus, we are serving the Lord Himself.

### THE SECRET OF CONTENTMENT IS GRATITUDE FOR WHAT GOD GIVES US.

“In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Him Who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:12b-13).



## IN THE WORD FOR THE 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Catechism:** Christian Questions with Their Answers—What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge? Why should we remember and proclaim His death?

**Verse of the week:** 1 Timothy 1:15—This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 103:1-13

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 608) “Lord, to You I Make Confession”

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— The Lost Sheep and Lost Coin—Luke 15:1-10

Monday— A Girl Is Raised and a Woman Is Healed—Matthew 9:14-26

Tuesday— Two Blind Men Are Healed—Matthew 9:27-34

Wednesday— The Sending Out of the Twelve—Matthew 9:35—10:15

Thursday— The Promise of Persecution—Matthew 10:16-31

Friday— Confessing Christ Before Men—Matthew 10:32—11:1

Saturday— John the Baptist Sends Disciples to Jesus—Matthew 11:2-19

“We need campfires and cookouts and picnic lunches filled with laughter. Yet, as members of the household of God, we also need conversation and consolation and prayer. We need to gather, in person, at the Communion rail. Surrounded by our eternal family, we need to hear God’s promises and rejoice in His forgiveness.” *Michelle Bauman, Y4Life – 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 "Tears, Fires, and a Song"** Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy. Despite their tears, prophetic Christians are on fire with the Word of God and always have a song to sing. We embody both the deep sadness and the unrelenting commitment of the God we serve, and we never lack a reason for praise. (Jeremiah 20:7-13) **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**  
**June 15<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Offering**

General Offering	\$3,180.00	
On-Line Giving	\$	
Missions	\$60.00	<b>Attendance</b> 113
Debt Fund	\$20.00	<b>Communed</b> 81
Mortgage Offering	\$100.00	
Portals of Prayer	\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,360.00</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	6/25	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		10:00am	Voter's Meeting
Monday	6/26	6:30pm	Grief Share
Tuesday	6/27	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Thursday	6/29	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Saturday	7/1	7:30am	Just a Cup of Coffee
Sunday	7/2	<b>9:00am</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  
Principal  
School Office Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.  
ECC Director  
ECC Office

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### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

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