

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The 6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 6th & 9th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8



Image: *"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."*
(Matthew 11:28)

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 "Prisoners of Hope"

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion." When we hear these words of the prophet Zechariah in the season of Advent, we are evermore ready to rejoice, especially as Christmas approaches. But to hear these words now in the middle of summer may strike us as a little more challenging. The pressures and doldrums of daily life can wear away momentary joys. In fact, the call to rejoice can seem pointless echoing against the hard walls of a prison of our own making. No matter how many Christmases we have celebrated, like the apostle Paul, we may continue to feel trapped by our unrelenting sinfulness. True joy comes only as we receive the comforting words of our Lord, *"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"* (Matthew 11:28). Herein is the goal of Christmas. Here today by means of the Word of God and the receiving of His body and blood, God gives you faith to believe and to receive eternal salvation. By God's Word, even today *"it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas."* For here is where true joy is found.

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*

Opening Hymn 717 Eternal Father, Strong to Save (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 91:2, 9-10; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively*)

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my | fortress,*
my God, in | whom I trust.”
Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.
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.

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

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. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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 *Zechariah 9:9-12*

(The coming of Zion's King)

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

Gradual (*Romans 11:33, 36, read responsively*)

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle Lesson *Romans 7:14-25a*

(The Law & Sin)

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ 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 6th Sunday after Pentecost *"Alleluia. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Alleluia."* (Matthew 11:28)

Holy Gospel *Matthew 11:25-30*

(The Father revealed in the Son)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

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

Sermon

Guest Pastor: Jim Klug

Offering/Attendance

As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord's Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

You can now give online. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving by texting **graceoc** to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site at graceoakcreek.org. You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write 'online giving' on the outside and place it in the offering plate.



Stand

Prayer of the Church (After each petition the Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation responds saying, "Hear our prayer.")

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface *LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 208*

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 209*

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 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

-864 Shepherd of Tender Youth (vs. 1-5)

-606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus (vs. 1-3)

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 966 Before You, Lord, We Bow (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

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



Altar Flowers



Altar flowers today are given by Ron & Mary Savarino in celebration of their 55th anniversary.

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); **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** (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.

We Mourn: We mourn with the family and friends of *Gary Rubingh, a relative of the Taggatz family, the family of Alan Umaske, and Hazel Hermann, mother of Terri Meyer, who were called home to heavenly rest.* We pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, we pray for the family and friends of *Hazel Hermann, Gary Rubingh & Alan Umaske,* as they mourn their deaths. Receive our humble thanks for all Your mercies granted to, *Hazel, Gary & Alan,* during their earthly lives, especially for calling them by the Gospel and sustaining them in the true faith until their departure. Comfort those who mourn *Hazel, Gary & Alan's* deaths 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

Special thanks to Pastor Jim Klug for filling in for Pastor Taggatz, while Pastor is on vacation with his family through Sunday July 9th. 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 9th. 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.

Please note: Even though our Church Secretary position is currently vacant, you can still contact the Church office by email at: 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. 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!!!**

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

Stewardship Minute

The Apostle Paul talks about the attitude we should have “*as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved.*” He counsels us to be compassionate and humble, to be kind and patient, and to forgive others as we have been forgiven. He tells us to let Christ’s peace reign in our hearts “*and be thankful*” (Colossians 3:12-15). Too often, when we pray, we put an agenda before God. We tell Him what we want Him to take care of: *find that person a job, heal that other person, solve our money problems, and keep our kids safe.* We add our thanks as an afterthought. Try spending your whole prayer time offering thanks. In fact, the Bible tells us, “*Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you*” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

STEWARDSHIP IS FAITH IN ACTION, SEEKING TO DO GOD’S WILL.

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God...” (Romans 12:2).



IN THE WORD FOR THE 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: The Office of the Keys—What is the Office of the Keys? Where is this written? What do you believe according to these words?

Verse of the week: 1 Corinthians 1:18—*For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 27

Hymn of the week: (LSB 688 “‘Come, Follow Me,’ the Savior Spake”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— “I will make you fishers of men...”—Luke 5:1-11

Monday— The Purpose of Parables—Matthew 13:10-23

Tuesday— The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares—Matthew 13:24-35

Wednesday— Parables of the Kingdom—Matthew 13:36-46

Thursday—The Parable of the Dragnet—Matthew 13:47-58

Friday— John the Baptist Is Beheaded—Matthew 14:1-13

Saturday—The Feeding of the 5,000—Matthew 14:14-21

“Announcing a pregnancy, feeling a fetus kick, cradling a newborn, attending a Baptism, what happens and what we experience defy description. Grieving and believing over a terminal diagnosis, listening to an aged neighbor’s wisdom and reminiscences, holding a loved one’s hand at a hospital bedside, singing hymns and reciting Scriptures as a relative enters eternity, the encounter exceeds even the beauty and power of words.” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

LUTHERAN HOUR "Lean Into the Villain's Story" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Jesus changes the way we see ourselves and others, even our villains. He died and rose for them, too. (Romans 7:24) **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

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>	Lance Kopperud	Mike Huber
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine Tuskowski	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Jim Robinson	Lynn & Bob Buzzell

**Growing In Grace
July 6th & July 9th, 2023**

Offering

General Offering	\$1,416.25	
On-Line Giving	\$0.00*	
Missions	\$20.00	Attendance 69
Debt Fund	\$0.00	Communed
Mortgage Offering	\$1,020.00	
Portals of Prayer	\$0.00	
Total	\$2,456.25	

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!!! *Online amount was not available at the time of bulletin printing.

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	7/9	9:00am	Divine Worship - Mites
Monday	7/10	6:30pm	Grief Share
Tuesday	7/11	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	7/12	6:30pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	7/13	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Sunday	7/16	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		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office		church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

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