

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## The 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

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

Ephesians 2:8



Image: "The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." (Matthew 13:43)

# 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 get to know you!

### **As We Gather “God’s Plans”**

God's plans are far beyond our understanding. Even His divine existence sends our minds reeling. No wonder that Jesus' disciples, and we who follow them, cannot figure out why He lets His and our spiritual enemies live with us. But because we have been given faith by the Holy Spirit, and although we cannot understand God's plans, in the death and resurrection of Christ, our Lord, we trust His divine wisdom. We have the firstfruits of the Spirit and know that the Spirit intercedes for us. Thus, even in the groans of our prayers, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. In sure hope, we wait for the day when we shall “*shine like the sun*” in our Father's 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 4, pg. 203*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (vs. 1-3)

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Confession and Absolution LSB 203

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 86:11-15; antiphon: v. 6, read responsively)*

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*

**listen to my | plea for grace.**

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk | in your truth;\*

**unite my heart to | fear your name.**

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,\*

**and I will glorify your name for- | ever.**

For great is your steadfast | love toward me;\*

**you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.**

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men | seek my life,\*

**and they do not set you be- | fore them.**

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious,\*

**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and | faithfulness.**

**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.**

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*

**listen to my | plea for grace.**

*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, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy**

hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AT GRACE (*Thursday & Sunday worship services*)**  
**(*Your 2023-2024 Officer & Board Members of Grace—At our June Voter’s Meeting our congregation elected these members to serve on our Church Council & Board positions. Today they are installed in their positions. Thank you so much for your willingness to serve!!! In the announcements you will find the current officers and the new officers that are being installed.*)**

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 44:6-8***

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. <sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. <sup>8</sup>Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

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 8:18-27***

<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was

subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

*Stand*

**Alleluia Verse for the 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost—***“Alleluia. I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.”* (Matthew 13:35b)

**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.**

**Holy Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

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

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but

while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup>And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ <sup>28</sup>He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . .

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup>and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

### **Apostles’ Creed *LSB 207***

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.**



The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**Children’s Message “Let God Handle It” (Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43)** 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 892 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (vs. 1-4)**

**Sermon “Seen with Our Eyes, Touched with Our Hands” (1 John 1:1-3)**

Sermon Text: 1 John 1:1-3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

**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 website 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**

**-685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (vs. 1-4)**

**-861 Christ Be My Leader (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 761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



### *Altar Flowers*



Altar flowers today are given by Mike and Barb Huber in celebration of their 29<sup>th</sup> 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; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **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** (lung cancer) friend of Tony & Suzie Mirenda; **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 Mirenda; **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** (healing & strength) friend of Jill Nowack; **Ethan Summers** (critically injured) former student of Roxanne Taggatz; **Ginny Schmeiser** (healing & strength); **Michelle Lyman** (healing after knee surgery) daughter of Greg & Gail Nowakowski; **Tom Novak** (recovery after a stroke) Rod Novak's brother; **Drew** (healing after surgery) friend of Travis Voss; **Annette** (healing & strength) cousin of Pauline Parker and Rose Adams; **Chad Verzella** (healing after heart attack) Grace School

parent; **Heather** (medical tests) daughter in law of Pauline Parker; **Jennifer** (diagnosed with MS); and **Rachel Goodle** (prayers for God's strength).

**For our Homebound Members at Grace:** Carol Loveall, Betty Lemmer (hospice), Kathy Gaudian, Bernice Byklum, June Roewer (hospice), Art Steinborn, Patricia Groth, and Gloria Kilponen.

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

### **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>Elders</u>	<u>Thursday 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 9:00am</u>
<u>Readers</u>	Richard Jackson	Rick Weeks
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Miranda	Beth Jackson
<u>Linens</u>	Janine Tuskowski	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Ushers</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
	Marlene Voss, Lance	Lynn & Bob Buzzell, Leah
	Kopperud	Abelt

**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.



**Your 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Giving Statements are available in the Narthex.** Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace!!!

**Board Member Installation will be taking place TODAY on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, July 23 during our worship services.** Thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord and His people in the Church with the gifts that God has given to you!!!

**Your 2023-2024 Grace Officers & Board Members** (\*indicates a new board member)

**President**—Tony Miranda

**Treasurer**—Lynn Buzzell

**Vice President**—Tom Hengst

**Financial Secretary**—Lori Kachelmeier

**Secretary**—Debbie Oelke

**Board of Elders**—Greg Nowakowski, Eric Kamprath, Adam Voss, Dick Jackson, Mike Huber, Rick Weeks, and \*Keith Goodle

**Board of Church Properties**—Ben Heinen, Justin Mendez, Mark Lutzke, Mike Zanardi, Tim Cooks, Dick Schaefer, and \*John Gottwald

**Board of Evangelism**—Chris Evers, Barb Huber, Mitzi Gamroth, Diane Pielsnik, Kathy Szefflinski, and Gail Nowakowski

**Board of Finance**—David Pankow, Nick Norton, and Lori Jablonski

**Board of Stewardship**—Jane Durant, Gail Olen, Dave Stecker, and \*Patrick Manoil

**Board of Education**—Kathy Kolb, Lisa Kamprath, Melissa Pepler, Jill Nowack, Chris Cotter, and \*Bob Buzzell

### **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 \$19,490 for the Church & School furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

**Grace Fellowship Opportunity on Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> after worship!!!** Our Fellowship Committee will be having coffee and homemade sweets on Thursday, July 27th and Sunday, July 30th after each worship service in the church narthex . Please take the opportunity to stay after worship and have Christian fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ! God’s grace be with you all!!!

**Volunteers Still Needed – Synod Convention**—The LCMS Convention will be held July 29-August 3 at the Wisconsin Convention Center in downtown Milwaukee. Many volunteers are STILL needed to serve in the days leading up to and throughout the convention in various areas. Visit [swd.lcms.org/serve](http://swd.lcms.org/serve) to review the available slots. Thank you for considering serving at the Convention!

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

### **IN THE WORD FOR THE 8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Catechism:** The Second Article of the Creed

**Verse of the week:** Romans 6:22-23—*But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 33:1-11

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 819) “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— Feeding of the 4,000—Mark 8:1-9

Monday— Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me—Matthew 16:24-28

Tuesday— The Transfiguration—Matthew 17:1-13

Wednesday— A Boy Is Healed—Matthew 17:14-21

Thursday— Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection—Matthew 17:22-27

Friday— Who Is the Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven—Matthew 18:1-14

Saturday— If Your Brother Sins—Matthew 18:15-22

“Jesus, who is all Man and all God, becomes one of us in order that all of us might become one with Him. Finally, a sigh of relief, a cry of joy, even, a shout of thanksgiving! God is on the throne. Amen.” *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, Guest Speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – 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 "Pulling for Others"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How did two young men start out with similar circumstances but end up in such different places? Was it the choices they made or the pull that others had on their lives? (Romans 8:31-39) **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 103.3 FM Milwaukee, WI Sun 6:30 am  
 WTMJ 620 AM Milwaukee, WI Sun 5:30 and & 6:30 am

**Growing in Grace  
 July 13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Offering**

<i>General Offering</i>	\$2,502.25	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	\$830.49	
<i>Missions</i>	\$0.00	<i>Attendance</i> 100
<i>Debt Fund</i>	\$0.00	<i>Communed</i> 73
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	\$70.00	
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	\$0.00	
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>\$3,402.74</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	7/23	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Monday	7/24	6:30pm	Grief Share
Tuesday	7/25	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Thursday	7/27	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Sunday	7/30	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		10:00am	Fellowship Time

## SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

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

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) <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		<a href="mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org">pastor@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Church Office		<a href="mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org">church@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org">school@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Director		<a href="mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org">eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Office		<a href="mailto:ecc@graceoakcreek.org">ecc@graceoakcreek.org</a>

### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

