

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The 9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 27th & 30th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8



Image: "You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth."
(Deuteronomy 7:6)

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 “*The Kingdom of Heaven: To Die For*”

Jesus' parables in today's Gospel are a bit difficult to understand. In the first the kingdom of heaven is hidden, like treasure in a field. In the second it is extremely costly, like a large, perfect pearl. And we rejoice that we have found the Kingdom and value it above all. But what about that third parable, in which angels sort evil and righteous people like fish being burned or saved? Can we sinner-saints be confident as that day approaches? We can, for our inclusion in the Kingdom is not because of anything we have done. First, God chose us to be a people for His treasured possession, the Old Testament Reading tells us. Then, explains the Epistle, “*Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us*” (Romans 8:34). Our heavenly Father sent His Son to give us His own righteousness. For our Lord, incorporating us in the kingdom of heaven was something to die for.

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 804 O Worship the 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 (*Psalm 105:2-6; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively*)

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*

make known his deeds among the | peoples!

Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*

tell of all his | wondrous works!

Glory in his | holy name;*

let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD | and his strength;*

seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done, *

his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his | servant, *

children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!

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.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*

make known his deeds among the | peoples!

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. Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; 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 *Deuteronomy 7:6-9*

(In His steadfast love, God keeps His promises.)

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

- 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 8:28-39*

(All things work together for those who love God.)

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any

charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God 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 9th 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)

Holy Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

(The parables of the hidden treasure, pearl of great price, and catch of fish)

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

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,

which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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 (Sunday 9am only) “All or Not?” (Matt. 13:44-52) 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 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure (vs. 1-4, 6)

Sermon (Thursday 6:30pm, Pastor Jim Klug) “A Sin Boldly Story” (Gen. 25:20-34)

(Sunday 9am) “Fallen, but Created . . . and Redeemed” (Rom. 8:18-23)

Sermon Text— Romans 8:18-23

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 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. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 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.

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

-651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord (vs. 1-5)

-571 God Loved the World So That He Gave (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 802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (vs. 1-4)

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



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. Pastor Bill Wurm (Alzheimers disease); Tom Janes (healing & strength); Larry Abelt Sr. (healing & strength); Myles King (blood disorder); Cindy Riemer (cancer); Michael Helzer (cancer); Michael Parker (healing & strength); Jim & Kari (healing and strength); Greg Voss (healing & strength); Curt Bayer (cancer) former member of Grace; Cindy Schmidt (healing); Sandra Mallas (health, peace, comfort); Claire Dotson (hospice); Gary Forsythe (dementia); Lisa Kamprath's sister (cancer); Dominic (recovery from a stroke); Brittany (cancer); Greg (cancer); Judy (poor eyesight); Darlene & Jerry Urbaniak's Nephew (Alzheimer's); Linda (brain cancer); Bryan (cancer); Jenny Rice (cancer); Dale (cancer); Cathy (healing & strength); Cookie (lung cancer; Evan (healing & strength); Sue Klemme (pancreatic cancer); Chad Evers (blood clots in heart & lungs); Keith Iverson (hospice); Jennifer (skin cancer); Scott (kidney failure); Marlene Voss (hearing loss); Rikky (medical testing); Sally (medical testing); Dina (healing & strength); Ginny Schmeiser (healing & strength); Michelle Lyman (healing after knee surgery); Tom Novak (recovery after a stroke); Drew (healing after surgery); Chad Verzella (healing after heart attack) Grace School parent; Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Rachel Goodle (prayers for God's strength); Nathan Taggatz (fighting Midnight Forest Fire near Clearwater, ID) Pastor Taggatz's brother; Lynn Van Kanegan (hospitalized); Rose Adams (knee surgery); and Pastor Schmidt (hospitalized).

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

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

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! We thank God that *Jim & Clare Sauer's son, James Sauer*, and his fiancé *Ayisha Jaffer*, as they celebrate their marriage this weekend. We pray: Heavenly Father, look in favor upon Your servants, *James & Ayisha*. Consecrate and sanctify their

marriage by Your holy Word, that they may live in steadfast love and faithfulness to one another. Grant them grace ever to remember with gladness that You have joined them together as husband and wife. In Jesus' name we pray. 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

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>	Greg Nowakowski	Adam Voss
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Glenn Dotson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine Tuskowski	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Marlene Voss, Lance Kopperud	Lynn & Bob Buzzell, Leah Abelt

Special thanks to Pastor Jim Klug for filling in for Pastor Taggatz today on Thursday July 27th. Pastor Taggatz will be back to leading worship on Sunday July 30th. God's continued blessings to him and his family as he continues to minister to God's people!!!

Please note: Our part time Church Secretary position has been filled. Welcome to Jennifer Goetsch, who will be starting on Monday July 31st. You can still contact the Church office by email at: church@graceoakcreek.org anytime or by phone at: 414-762-8990 on Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9am -12:30pm.

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

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 \$19,690 for the Church & School furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

Grace Fellowship Opportunity on Thursday, July 27th and Sunday, July 30th 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!!!

“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. 7-30-23—Fallen, but Created . . . and Redeemed, Romans 8:18–23
2. 8-6-23—Not Denial, but the Good News, Romans 1:16–20
3. 8-13-23—God’s Great Big True Story, 2 Peter 1:16–21

IN THE WORD FOR THE 9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: The Lord’s Prayer—First Petition

Verse of the week: Matthew 7:15-16a—“*Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.*”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 26

Hymn of the week: (LSB 745) “In God, My Faithful God”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday—“Beware of False Prophets”—Matthew 7:15-23

Monday— The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant—Matthew 18:21-35

Tuesday— Jesus Teaches on Marriage and Divorce—Matthew 19:1-12

Wednesday— Jesus Blesses the Children—Matthew 19:13-15

Thursday— The Rich Young Ruler—Matthew 19:16-30

Friday— The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard—Matthew 20:1-16

Saturday— Jesus Predicts His Passion a Third Time—Matthew 20:17-28

“The Church is under an incredible assault, but perhaps never has the opportunity been greater. The question is whether we wish to take it, whether we want to be salt, or whether we’ll just mark time, leaving nothing but ruins for those who follow in our footsteps.” *Rev. Peter Scaer, Concordia Theological Seminary – 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 "If It Seems Slow, Wait for It" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Some ideas spread slowly. That doesn't make them bad ideas. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about God's slow solution to setting a broken world right. (Habakkuk 2:3 and Romans 10:9) **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 103.3 FM Milwaukee, WI Sun 6:30 am
 WTMJ 620 AM Milwaukee, WI Sun 5:30 and & 6:30 am

Mission Speaker at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Greenfield on Saturday, August 5th at 5 p.m.

You are invited to hear the Rev. Dr. Alexey Streltsov, visiting us from the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church. Dr. Streltsov is Rector of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, one of just two confessional Lutheran seminaries still fully operating in Russia. Its professors are working to supply pastors for the Siberian Church and churches in surrounding areas. Join us Saturday and hear what Rev. Dr. Streltsov has to say about the state of the church in Russia and the efforts of the Siberian Church to restore the Lutheran Church there and in nearby countries. Pastor Streltsov will be preaching at the 5 p.m. service on Saturday, August 5th. Mt. Zion is located at 3840 W. Layton Ave in Greenfield.

SET APART TO SERVE

LCMS CHURCH WORK RECRUITMENT





DID YOU EVER CONSIDER SERVING IN THE CHURCH OR AT AN LCMS SCHOOL?

Are you thinking about a second career in full-time church work?

Many LCMS pastors, teachers, deaconesses and commissioned church workers held other successful careers before pursuing a second career in service to Christ's church. You could do the same!

Have you been praying about a full-time vocation in the church? You can use your experience and skills from your current work as a second-career church worker.

Ready to learn more about opportunities to pursue a second career in full-time church work? Our seminaries and Concordia universities are happy to answer your questions. Visit lcms.org/sas for more information.

Our Lutheran schools, located all around the country, are seeking educators who are interested in a Lutheran school setting. If you are interested, speak with a local LCMS school administrator about open positions in your area.

FIND SCHOOLS IN YOUR AREA.

Interested in SEMINARY EDUCATION?



weareyourseminaries.org

Interested in TEACHING?



locator.lcms.org/school

Growing in Grace
July 20th & 23rd, 2023

Offering

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$4,440.00</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1,049.77</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Attendance 83</i>
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Communed 71</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$5,489.77</i>	

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	7/30	9:00 am	Divine Worship
Monday	7/31	6:30 pm	Grief Share
Tuesday	8/1	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Thursday	8/3	6:30 pm	Divine Worship
		7:30 pm	Fellowship Fun Time
Sunday	8/6	9:00 am	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
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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
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ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
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