

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
www.graceoakcreek.org

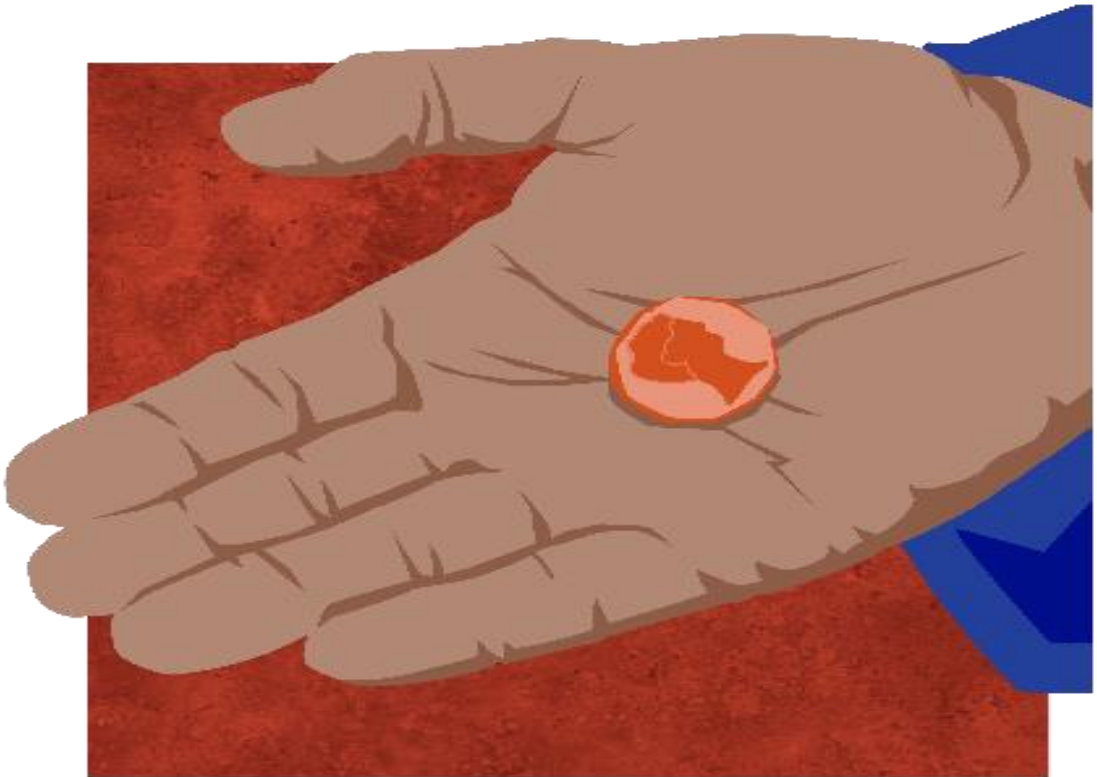
*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share*

## The 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

October 19<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

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

Ephesians 2:8



*Image: "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."  
(Matthew 22:21)*

# 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 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 "Trusting against All Odds"***

The most profound comfort lies in the assurance that God is always working out His purpose no matter the circumstances or the people. God's saving purpose cannot be thwarted. Isaiah lived in an age of bad news and despair, but he was confident that God could overcome them all. In the short term, this redemption came through an unlikely messianic figure named Cyrus. At the appointed time, however, the true Messiah would come and save Israel and all who trust in Him. God is in charge—not just of the ups and downs of this world's good and bad news but for the sake of His saving work. Jesus' power is greater than every other power, and His saving purpose will prevail. This is our comfort.

### **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 1, pg. 151

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good (vs. 1-3)

*Stand*

Confession and Absolution LSB 151

*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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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 121:1-4, 7-8; antiphon: v. 5, read responsively*)

The LORD is your | keeper;\*

**the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.**

I lift up my eyes | to the hills.\*

**From where does my | help come?**

My help comes | from the LORD,\*

**who made | heaven and earth.**

He will not let your | foot be moved;\*

**he who keeps you will not | slumber.**

Behold, he who keeps | Israel\*

**will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.**

The LORD will keep you from all | evil;\*

**he will | keep your life.**

The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in\*  
**from this time forth and for- | evermore.**

**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.**

The LORD is your | keeper;\*

**the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.**

### **Kyrie LSB 152**

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

### **This Is the Feast LSB 155**

C **This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; 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 *Isaiah 45:1-7*

**(“I am the LORD, and there is no other.”)**

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:  
<sup>2</sup>“I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, <sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.”

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

Gradual (*Psalm 91:11; 103:1, read responsively*)

He will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
to guard you in | all your ways.  
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,\*  
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

### Epistle Lesson 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

*(Become imitators of us and of the Lord.)*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. <sup>9</sup>For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

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

*Stand*

### Alleluia and Verse LSB 156

- C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Alleluia Verse for the 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** *“Alleluia. You have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. Alleluia.”* (Colossians 2:10)

### Holy Gospel Matthew 22:15-22

*(“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”)*

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

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. <sup>16</sup>And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?”

<sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” <sup>21</sup>They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>22</sup>When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

### Apostles’ Creed *LSB 159*

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 “Inspired by Hope” (1 Thess. 1:1-10)** 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 726 Evening and Morning (vs. 1-3)**

**Sermon “A Hope that Won’t Disappoint” (1 Thess. 1:1-10)**

### Offertory *LSB 159*

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

## Offering/Attendance

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

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



*Stand*

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

### ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

#### **Preface** *LSB 160*

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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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 161*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.**



**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161***

- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer *LSB 162***

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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 161***

- 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 163***

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

### Agnus Dei LSB 163

- C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*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:

1. *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)*
2. *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)*
3. *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)*
4. *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

- 731 O God, Forsake Me Not (vs. 1-4)
- 738 Lord of All Hopefulness (vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**Thank the Lord *LSB 164***

- C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Post-Communion Collect *LSB 166***

- 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.**

**Benediction *LSB 166***

- 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 850 God of Grace and God of Glory (vs. 1-3)**

**Announcements**

**Pastor:** Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

**People:** Thanks be to God!



**⊗*Altar Flowers*⊗**

**Altar flowers this week are given by Rick and Kathy Weeks  
in honor of their 7<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**

**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; Sindy Schmidt (healing); Sandra Mallas (health, peace, comfort); Gary Forsythe (dementia); 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); Keith Iverson (hospice); Scott (kidney failure); Marlene Voss (hearing loss); Rikky (medical testing); Dina (healing & strength); Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Rachel Goodle (prayers for God's strength); Brooke Bzdawka (blood clot); Daniel Abelt (cancer); and Alyssa (healing & strength); Phyllis Berglund (cancer); Michael Abelt (healing & strength); Jerry Svcek (in rehab following major surgery & stroke); and Carl Smith (cancer); Stephanie (pregnant with twins); Doug Klipfel (procedure on his ear); Katie Bailey Klinge (cancer); Nelson Durant (recovery from hip surgery); and Andora (surgery for cancer); Rod Novak (healing & strength); Sabrina (cancer) Great Niece of Sharon and Dennis Iseli.

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

**We mourn:** With the family and friends of **Gina Rottman, Aunt of John Penn**, as they mourn her death.  
**We pray:** *Lord God, heavenly Father, we pray for the family and friends of Gina Rottman, the Aunt of John Penn, as they mourn her death. Receive our humble thanks for all Your mercies granted to Gina 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 Gina'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:			414-762-8990
Church Office:			414-762-9615
Requests on prayer line:	10am-3 pm	Carol Thurber	414-764-5574
	3pm-9 pm	Pauline Parker	

## 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 8:00 am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Greg Nowakowski	Rick Weeks
<u>Readers</u>	Kathryn Szefflinski	Erika Vitek	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Lynn Buzzell	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolyte</u>		Claire Gamroth	Marty Taggatz
<u>Ushers</u>	Marlene Voss	Nick Norton	Ron Savarino
	Lance Kopperud	Evie Gamroth	Lowell Johnson
			Eddie Taggatz

**During this year's stewardship emphasis, you will receive a Commitment Form as well as a Time and Talents Survey. Please fill these out and bring them to church on Harvest Sunday (Commitment Sunday) Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> or return it to the church office when convenient.** *(Extra commitment forms are available on the back table of the church and will be included next week in your bulletin).* I, as your Pastor, ask that as you approach your commitment decisions and how God can use your time, talents, and treasures for service in God's Kingdom and in His Church. Please seek God's guidance in prayer. Let the love of God guide you in your decision.

**Your 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter giving statements are available in the narthex.** Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace!!!

**Volunteers Needed to Assist with Worship!** We are in need of additional people to assist as ushers and lay readers during worship services, especially for Sunday mornings at 8am and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. Ushers arrive early, greet people and hand out bulletins before service, gather offerings and assist with communion during service, and straighten up the church after service. Lay readers proclaim God's word to the congregation by reading the Old Testament and Epistle lessons during the worship service. If you are able and willing to help in either of these capacities, please sign up on the sheet in the back of church -- your assistance is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to approach the elder on duty with any questions you may have about these opportunities.

**COUSINS NIGHT FOR GRACE ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> FROM 4-7PM!!!** Get together your Grace family and friends for a special fundraising night through Cousins Subs! Details are as follows: 20% of sales from 4-7pm on Monday, November 6th, 2023 will be donated to Grace Lutheran School at our Cousins Subs located at 2327 W Ryan Road, Oak Creek WI 53154. Please join us for a night of fun, food, and fellowship and to support Grace Lutheran School!!!

**Carol Flanary, the Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin, will be coming to speak on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> at both worship services and also to our Bible Class that Sunday in our Church Sanctuary.** Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of WI is a non-profit, state licensed outpatient mental health care agency and adoption service provider, serving the State of Wisconsin. Their licensed therapists and psychologists provide counseling to children, individuals and families with mental health concerns, alcohol and drug addictions, family counseling and adoption services for people of all ages. Come and hear what Carol Flanary has to say about what the ministry of Lutheran Counseling and Family Services has to offer for people in the State of Wisconsin!!!

### **New Members Class on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-5:30pm at Grace Lutheran School**

Our next New Members class will take place in our Grace Lutheran School building located at 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. I am looking to have the New Members Class on Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-5:30pm. Please also let us know if you might need childcare for this event. Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, this class will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations. Watch an introductory video at: [www.lhm.org/GodConnects](http://www.lhm.org/GodConnects).

**2023 Church Pictorial Directories are in!!!** If you took part in getting you and your family's picture taken for our 2023 Pictorial Directory, you are eligible to receive a free directory. We will be handing the directories out before and after our worship services. Also, an app for your smartphone and/or tablet will also be made available to everyone in our congregation with information from our new church directory, this app will be completely free and look for an email with instructions coming soon to let you know how you can download the app and use it to stay connected with your fellow church members and things happening in our congregation.

### **Choir at Grace**

Choir practice will be starting soon on Thursday evenings. Our first practice will be October 19<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Kathy Kolb for further details.

**All Saints Day**—Any members who would like to recognize those of the Christian faith who have fallen asleep in Jesus this last year from November 2022 to the present, please let our church office know by Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. We will be remembering the saints who have gone to heaven in a special All Saints Day worship service on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**SOCKTOBER HAS BEGUN!!!** The glove said to the sock, “*Looks like you could use a hand!*” SOCKTOBER begins October 1 Yes, we can use a hand to fill the bin full of socks for the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. New or gently used socks in all sizes, men's, women's, and children's are needed. Look for the designated sock bin in the narthex!

**The ladies of Rise and Sonshine are eager to begin this study this month on Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am-9:30am, at school.** Ladies of Grace, you are invited to study God's Word with your fellow sisters in Christ! The book is available thru Concordia Publishing House and Amazon. Feel free to contact Jennifer Olen ([olenjennifer@aol.com](mailto:olenjennifer@aol.com)) with questions.



4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT TO BE HELD AT GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PARKING LOT: Children from Grace Lutheran and the surrounding community are invited to come to a “Trunk or Treat” event at Grace Lutheran School’s parking lot on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00pm. The children can come to our school parking lot to receive some Halloween Candy, some Christian tracts, and they will be able to have fellowship with other children and with members of our congregation. We are in need of volunteers for this event, please

contact Pastor Taggatz or the Grace Lutheran Church Office if you are interested in helping out with this event and providing candy for the children through the trunk of your car, truck or van: 414-762-8990 or [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org). During a Trunk or Treat event the trunk of one’s car is opened displaying candy, and often games are made available, and certain Halloween decorations. Because this is a Christian event, please do not decorate or come in costume with goblins, witches, and other occult attire. Ideas for how to decorate the trunks of your cars for this event can be found on Pinterest. The Oak Creek Fire & Police Department will be at this year’s Trunk or Treat to talk about fire and public safety with the children and *Better Together Café* will also be there to offer sweet treats and drinks for all who come to this event. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave Oak Creek WI 53154

**Stephen Ministry Training at Grace**—Are you interested in becoming a Stephen Minister? Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ’s love and care to people during a time of need. Trainees learn how to listen to, care for, and walk with those going through difficult times in life. After being matched with a person experiencing a life crisis, the Stephen Minister meets with that person on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. The caring relationship lasts as long as the need for care exists. We are going to begin a new training session for Stephen Ministers in February of 2024. The training is scheduled to take place on Sunday evenings from 6-8:30pm starting February 11<sup>th</sup> and ending June 23<sup>rd</sup>. (We will take off for Easter Monday and Memorial Day). If you would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry, you can contact Jeanne Meyer at: [meyorch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meyorch@sbcglobal.net) or 414-423-0010. Look for a special informational meeting between our Sunday morning worship services in December where you will have more information to learn about training to become a Stephen Minister at Grace! To learn more about Stephen Ministry you can also go to this website: [www.stephenministries.org/stephenministry/default.cfm/917](http://www.stephenministries.org/stephenministry/default.cfm/917)

### **Grief Share Group starting in October at Grace Lutheran School**

No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a loved one recently? At the end of October we are starting a special seminar and support group that we sponsor for people dealing with the loss of a family member here at Grace Lutheran. We understand how deeply grief and loss hurt people and families, and we simply wanted you to know about our Grief Share group. It’s a place where many people have found they can begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord’s help and with the love and encouragement of His Church. Our Grief Share

grief recovery seminar and support group will meet on Monday evenings starting October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00pm in the school library and it will end on Monday February 12<sup>th</sup>. We will take off December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. There will also be a special lesson on “Surviving the Holidays,” for those grieving the death of loved ones, which will take place on Monday November 20<sup>th</sup>. The cost for attending is \$20.00. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Lori Kachelmeier and Jeanne Meyer will be the leaders for this Grief Share Group. Grief Share features nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Seminar sessions include “*Is This Normal?*” “*The Challenges of Grief*,” “*Grief and Your Relationships*,” “*Why?*” and “*Guilt and Anger*.” For more information or to register: go to the website: [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) and enter our zip code "53154" to the left of "find a group" box and do a search. It will bring up our Monday 6:30 pm meetings. For further questions please call Lori Kachelmeier at: 414-828-0290.

**Worship Services at Willow Crest Nursing Home Volunteers Needed**--Grace Lutheran Church members have helped out with leading worship services at Willow Crest Nursing Home on Sunday mornings. We have started leading these worship services again and could use some volunteers to help out with this ministry. The worship services are roughly 30 minutes long and are held at 10:00am on Sundays at Willow Crest Nursing Home located at: 3821 Chicago Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172. We typically meet at Willow Crest at 9:45am to get prepared for the service and are done by 10:45am. You may end up leading a worship service at Willow Crest once a month, or every 5 to 6 weeks, depending on how many people are willing to volunteer. We would also provide you with resources to help you lead worship services at Willow Crest, and if you would like to shadow someone to see how the worship services are conducted, we can show you how it is done. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jeanne Meyer at: [meyorch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meyorch@sbcglobal.net) or 414-719-2257.

### **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 \$24,511.63 for the church & school furnace fund, thank you for your support!!!**

**Adult Bible Class Topic— God’s Word for Today: 1 & 2 Thessalonians—*The Lord is Faithful*.** On Sunday mornings in the school building, we will be studying 1 & 2 Thessalonians from 9:15-10:15am. In this bible study you will learn that God gave Paul a vision. In it, a man from Macedonia pleaded with Paul saying, “*Come over to Macedonia and help us*” (Acts 16:9). Following the Lord’s call, Paul and his entourage eventually reached Thessalonica. In his two letters addressed to the Thessalonian Christians, Paul expresses his deep care as a founding pastor concerned about his fledgling congregation. In addition to Christian persecution, the Lord’s second coming, the antichrist, and Christian discipline, in this bible study you will learn about:

1. the power of the word of God;
2. the importance of living a God-pleasing life;
3. the reason why we are faithful to the bible's teachings.



## IN THE WORD FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Catechism:** Creed—Second Article

**Verse of the week:** Genesis 3:15, “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 48

**Hymn of the week:** (LSB 746) “Through Jesus’ Blood and Merit” (stanza 1)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

**Sunday**— The Parable of the Wedding Feast—Matthew 22:1-14

**Monday**— Moses Dies on Mount Nebo—Deuteronomy 32:48-52; 34:1-12

**Tuesday**— St. James of Jerusalem—James 1:1-12

**Wednesday**— Joshua Takes Moses’ Place & Prepares to Cross the Jordan—Josh 1:1-18

**Thursday**— Rahab the Harlot Hides the Spies—Joshua 2:1-24 & Israel Crosses over the Jordan—Joshua 3:1-17

**Friday**— Israel Celebrates the Passover in the Promised Land—Joshua 5:10-15

**Saturday**—Reformation Reading—Revelation 14:6-7

“So no matter how offensive we find a neighbor, we do not regard her or him as enemy, adversary, or opponent. God has created, redeemed, and called each one as His own precious treasure, the same as us. We want to rejoice with them as brothers and sisters unto eternity in all the blessings our Savior Jesus has obtained for us.” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – 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 "Matching Pace"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler.

Hear about the Savior Who walks beside us, at our pace, and teaches us to walk with others.

(Psalm 96:13) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: [lhm.org](http://lhm.org)** scroll down the page and click on, “listen now.” Or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings.

WTMJ 103.3 FM Milwaukee, WI Sun 6:30 am

WTMJ 620 AM Milwaukee, WI Sun 5:30 and & 6:30 am

**Stewardship Minute**— Do you express your gratitude to God for your gifts? Being thankful is a prominent theme in God’s Word. Living with an attitude of gratitude helps us appreciate the gifts both physically and spiritually that we receive. As God’s people, we express our gratitude as we give thanks to God throughout the day. Our thanksgiving is demonstrated when we use our faith that God has given us to live in obedience to His Word. Our thankfulness is illustrated by the lifestyles that we lead. Our gratitude can be expressed at every level and in every activity of life. As Paul wrote to the Corinthians “*So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God*” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

**GOD'S STEWARDS HAVE BEEN  
ENTRUSTED BY GOD WITH  
RESOURCES AND GIFTS TO  
MANAGE FOR HIM.**



“What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? (1 Corinthians 4:7).

**LWML SWD Zone 1 Fall Rally- Saturday October 21**

**9am-11am**

**Trinity Lutheran- Downtown  
1046 N. 9 th Street, Milwaukee**

**Program: “Out of the Ashes” Trinity Tour  
Ingathering Items for Pathfinders – Serving homeless youth  
Travel size personal hygiene products: deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes,  
Kleenex, and hand sanitizer.  
Carpool will leave Grace Lutheran School at 8:30am**

**Any questions-please contact Jennifer Olen 414.305.3740**

On **Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>**, the Martin Luther High School will host a Fall Band Festival. This concert features the ML Woodwind Ensemble, Varsity Band, Symphonic Band, and 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade Kadet Band. Along with the individual performances, the festival includes a special 65-piece combined 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade band.

The Symphonic Band will premiere an original composition by Martin Luther graduate, Jeffrey Torres. His piece, A Life Well Lived, honors the life and work of the first band director at ML, Mr. David H. Krubsack. This concert, free to the public, will be held at **2:00pm** at Martin Luther High School. A free offering will be taken. Please come and enjoy God’s gift of music with some very talented young adults!

**Growing in Grace**  
**October 19<sup>th</sup> & October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

**Offering**

General Offering	\$1703.25		
On-Line Giving	\$1771.65		
Missions	\$0.00	<i>Attendance</i>	136
Debt Fund	\$0.00	<i>Communed</i>	97
Mortgage Offering	\$0.00		
Portals of Prayer	\$0.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3474.90</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	10/22	<b>8:00 am</b> 9:15 am <b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b> Adult Bible Study <b>Divine Worship</b>
Monday	10/23	-----	-----
Tuesday	10/24	<b>7:00 am</b>	Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner) Pastor Away at Conference
Wednesday	10/25	-----	Pastor Away at Conference
Thursday	10/26	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Friday	10/27	<b>6:00 pm</b>	Trunk or Treat
Sunday	10/29	<b>8:00 am</b> 9:15 am <b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b> Adult Bible Study <b>Divine Worship</b>

## SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

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

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) <a href="http://thewordendures.blogspot.com">thewordendures.blogspot.com</a>
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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	414-762-8869
	ECC	414-856-9262

Pastor		<a href="mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org">pastor@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Church Office	Heidi Brunzelle, Church Secretary	<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>
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**Church & ECC**  
3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

**School & Church Office**  
**Mailing Address**  
8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

