

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 22nd, 2023

“By His Grace you are saved through faith”
Ephesians 2:8



Image: “Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.”
(Psalm 136:1)

Welcome to Grace! We're Glad You've Joined Us!

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins & worship activity bags (age 2-8) are available for your children to use during the service. Please see an usher if you need assistance finding them.

Children are **always** welcome - we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our Church Narthex and Entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again! If your child is using the bathroom during the worship service, we ask that you monitor them so that they are using it in a timely manner. We are glad that you're here!!!

If you would like to include a **prayer for someone** in our worship today, please add it to the **Prayer Request Sheet** found on the podium in the narthex.

We're glad you're with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Taggatz. If you are in search of a new church home, or are interested in learning more about Grace, we would be happy to visit with you. We hope you'll be back and give us an opportunity to know you!

As We Gather “Thanksgiving for All”

Thanksgiving can be a time when families come together to celebrate and give thanks to God for all that He has given us. These times of celebration can also be times of tension, stress, and conflict due to challenges in our relationships. Thanksgiving can also be a time of loss as we grieve those who are no longer with us. In all these things, we gather to give thanks to the God who has created all people and who desires all people to be saved through the knowledge of the saving truth about His Son, Jesus.

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...as outlined in your bulletin...

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” (LSB 809 vs. 1-3)

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30, 33*

Pastor: O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.

People: **These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.**

Pastor: When You give it to them, they gather it up;

People: **when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.**

Pastor: When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground.

People: **I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;**

Pastor: I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 Timothy 2:1, 4*

Pastor: As we gather in this land on Thanksgiving, we confess to God how we struggle to be thankful with our thoughts, words, and actions.

Silence for personal confession

Pastor: Creator God, You made Adam and Eve in Your image and placed them in the Garden of Eden, giving them dominion over every living thing. In their rebellion, they were banished from the garden. Though we have been re-created through the waters of Baptism,

our rebellious sinful nature still leads us away from Your way.
Forgive us, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Redeeming God, You freed the children of Israel from slavery to Egypt and led them to the Promised Land. You have freed us from our slavery to sin, yet like the Israelites, we struggle to live in that freedom and instead fall back into being slaves to our sinful nature. Forgive us, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, You led our forefathers to this land, where they could enjoy being able to worship You freely. As we live here today, there are times when we do not choose to enjoy this freedom. We neglect Your Word and Your Sacraments, the Means by which You grant us Your grace. Forgive us, Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: God's grace is at work among us as we gather this day. Because of Jesus, God graciously forgives us all our sins. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: O Lord,
People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Christ,
People: have mercy.

Pastor: O Lord,
People: have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Now Thank We All Our God” (LSB 895 vs. 1-3)

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, You provide us all we need for our bodies and lives. Lead us by Your Holy Spirit to see and be thankful for all of the blessings You give us, thanking You with our lips and our lives; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 8:1-10*

(God's instructions for His people as they prepare to enter the Promised Land)

“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

GRACE CHOIR “Praise & Thanksgiving”

GRADUAL *Psalm 145:15-16; 118:1*

Pastor: The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food in due season.

People: You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 *Timothy 2:1-4*

(Give thanks for all.)

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE *Psalm 136:1*

Pastor: Alleluia.

People: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:11-19*

(Jesus healed ten lepers, and only one thanked Him.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CREED *Apostles' Creed*
People: **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

SERMON HYMN “Before You, Lord, We Bow” (LSB 966 vs. 1-4)

SERMON “Why Christians Give Thanks” (Luke 17:11-19)

OFFERTORY HYMN “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” (LSB 806 vs. 1)

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. 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

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Thank You, Lord,

People: for food, health, clothing, and our homes.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for the many freedoms we enjoy in this land.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for leaders, teachers, preachers, family, and friends.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,
People: for the gifts You give to Your Church,

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,
People: for Baptism, the Lord's Supper, forgiveness, grace, hope, and Your Word.

Silence for giving thanks to God

Pastor: Thank You, Lord, for Jesus Christ, Your only Son, through whom You give us the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life in Your kingdom.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen!

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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, who created this world and everything in it—all of the people and all who dwell in it. In Your tremendous love for Your creation, You sent Your one and only Son into this world so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. You did not send Your

Son into this world to condemn it, but to save it. As He is risen from the dead, He has set us free and secured us a place in Your kingdom. 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 (*Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 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

Pastor: Holy are You, O Lord, God Almighty, for You have not only created this world and everyone in it, but You also sent Your Son to redeem it. As we gather at Your Table, we receive the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, which was poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins as it comes to us in, with, and under bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Grant that this bread of heaven and cup of salvation strengthen our faith and lead us to live lives of thankfulness in response to Your grace.

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

Pastor: 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Sit

AGNUS DEI (*Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 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.**

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

-“O Lord, We Praise Thee” (LSB 617 vs. 1-3)

-“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” (LSB 643 vs. 1-2)

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS (Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 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 THANKSGIVING Psalm 106:1

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
People: for His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: We thank You, Lord God, for the heavenly blessings You have given us in this Meal of Your Son's body and blood, which You have given us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. Lead us by Your Spirit to live lives of thankfulness in all of our relationships, and, empowered by Your grace, to reveal Your saving truth to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Psalm 67:1; Numbers 6:24-26*

Pastor: May God be gracious to us and bless us

People: and make His face to shine upon us.

Pastor: 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 ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Sit

CLOSING HYMN "Alleluia! Let Praises Ring" (LSB 822 vs. 1-4)

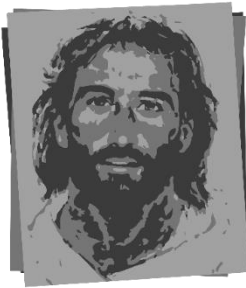
Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



 ***Altar Flowers*** 

Altar flowers this week are given by Pauline and Morgan Parker in memory of Chet Parker – and in honor of Morgan's Birthday



Holiday Worship Schedule for 2023

“Jesus: The Son of David, the Son of Abraham”

On Thursday nights @ 6:30pm at Grace during the last Thursday in November and the month of December we will once again be having our Advent Midweek Worship Services. There is great interest in genealogies today. In the past, such interest was usually confined to one dutiful family member who would gather all the information together and begin reconstructing the family tree. However, genealogy websites have simplified such work so that even the most casual observers are able to explore their family histories and better understand their pasts. The scientific advances of DNA are also allowing people to explore more than just one or two branches of the family tree and also to understand how all the generations of the past have come together in each unique, individual family member. In these weeks of Advent, the sermons will help us unpack the significance of Jesus’ genealogy and how God was at work weaving his plan of salvation throughout the history of his chosen people—*as he reveals in the Old Testament all the way through Joseph and Mary*. Here is the order of holiday worship for the coming month, we hope to see you in worship as we receive Christ’s gifts of Word and Sacrament for the forgiveness of our sins, eternal life, and salvation. Please note, there will be no Thursday night worship service on Thursday December 28th.

Wednesday November 22nd 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service with Communion— “Why Christians Give Thanks” (Luke 17:11–19)

Thursday Nov. 30th 6:30pm–Advent Midweek 1— “Jesus: The Son of David” (Matthew 1:1, 6)

Thursday Dec. 7th 6:30pm –Advent Midweek 2— “Jesus: The Son of Abraham” (Matthew 1:1–2)

[Sunday December 10th --Special Trim the Tree Service 2nd Sunday in Advent—Sunday worship services of 8am and 10:30am...](#)

Thursday Dec. 14th 6:30pm –Advent Midweek 3— “Jesus: The Son of Scandal” (Matthew 1:1, 3, 5–6)

Thursday Dec. 21st 6:30pm –Advent Midweek 4—“Jesus: The Son of Joseph” (Matthew 1:16)

Sunday December 24th 9:30am 4th Sunday in Advent with Communion

Sunday Dec. 24th 4pm, 5:30pm–Christmas Eve: “Jesus: The Son of Mary” (Matthew 1:16)

Monday Dec. 25th 9:30am–Christmas Day: “Christmas, as John Writes It” (John 1:1–14)

No Thursday evening worship on Thursday December 28th

Sunday December 31st 9:30am New Year’s Eve Worship— Guest Pastor Jim Klug

Sunday January 7th 8am & 10:30am Services— “People Who Don’t Belong” (Matthew 2:1–12)

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.

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