

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

The Transfiguration of our Lord

February 8th & 11th, 2024

*"By His Grace you are saved through faith."
Ephesians 2:8*



Image: “And after six days Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. . . . And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is My beloved Son; listen to Him.” (Mark 9:2-4, 7)

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 “Listen to Him”

Within the pandemonium of the transfiguration, the voice speaks: “*This is My beloved Son; listen to Him*” (Mark 9:7). Moses is there and gone. Elijah is there and gone. The disciples are with Him on the mount and then head down into the valley. But the glory of the Lord will not depart. It will remain: *lifted high upon the cross, revealed in the empty tomb, and placed upon the followers of Jesus*. It is the Word that endures forever, the Word made flesh, and the Word who speaks through the voice of Scripture. The call remains: “*Listen to Him.*”

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 3, pg. 184*

✘ PREPARATION ✘

Prelude - “Rigaudon” Andre Campra

Opening Hymn 837 “Lift High the Cross) (vs. 1-5)

Stand

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 99:1-5; antiphon: v. 9, read responsively*)

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;*
for the LORD our God is | holy!

The LORD reigns; let the peoples | tremble!*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the | earth quake!

The LORD is great in | Zion;*

he is exalted over all the | peoples.

Let them praise your great and | awesome name!*

Ho- | ly is he!

The King in his might loves | justice.*

You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in | Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his | footstool!*

Ho- | ly is he!

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.

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;*

for the LORD our God is | holy!

Kyrie *LSB 186*

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

P Glory be to God on high:

C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 189*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Grace Lutheran Blessings for Baby—A Place of Refuge

Pastor: Today we give thanks to God and ask God's blessing on these baby items for *A Place of Refuge, a Ministry of the South Wisconsin District*, that helps mothers and their babies going through crisis pregnancies with ongoing spiritual and physical support during a time of great difficulty. The people who have donated these baby wipes, coloring books, bibs, infant socks, sleepers, headbands, wash clothes, toys, and baby powder have prayed for the mothers and their babies who will receive them. These items become a tangible reminder of the support of this community of faith here at Grace Lutheran Church Oak Creek. These blessing for baby items are a way that we as a faith community can reach out and touch the lives of one another and of our neighbors.

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You blessed your people in generations past, and you continue to guide us along our life's journeys. We give you thanks, O God, as we offer these items for the care and support of mothers going through crisis pregnancies and to their young children for your glory and praise. We pray for these mothers and their babies, as they are served through the Christian ministry of A Place of Refuge, that they would not only see that You as our Heavenly Father care for them physically, but that You all the more have cared for them spiritually through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, and that You would provide an opportunity for these mothers and their babies to be brought into the Christian faith and find a Christian home with You, both now in Your Church on earth, and forever with You in heaven. We ask you to bless these fruits of our labor, to give us joy in all things, and to lead us to the building up of your kingdom. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Healer and Savior of the world.

People: Amen.

Rite of Holy Baptism (Thursday Night Service only, LSB pg. 268)—We rejoice in the baptism of *Gabriel Kopperud, the Grandson of Lance & Susan Kopperud, and son of Evan Kopperud* on Thursday February 8th. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!!!

Old Testament Reading 2 Kings 2:1-12

(Elijah is taken up into heaven)

¹When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²And Elijah said to Elisha, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he said, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.” ¹⁰And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” ¹¹And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8, read responsively)

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*

bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle Lesson 2 *Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1-6*

(We all, with unveiled face, behold the glory of God.)

¹²Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

¹Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ²But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

Stand

Alleluia *LSB 190*

- C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for The Transfiguration of our Lord "*Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips. Alleluia.*" (Psalm 45:2a)

Holy Gospel *Mark 9:2-9*

(With Moses and Elijah at His side, Jesus reveals His glory.)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.
- C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them

Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” ⁸And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed *LSB 192*

- 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 "Are You Listening?" (Mark 9:2-9) 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 413 O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair (vs. 1-4)

Sermon "Listen to Jesus" (Mark 9:2-9)

Offertory LSB 192

- C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.**

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 194

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**
- P It is truly meet, 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 at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of 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 195*

- C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer *LSB 196*

- P 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.**
- C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 197*

- 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 197*

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

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

- C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

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

-585 "Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide" (vs. 1-5)

-414 "Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here" (vs. 1-5)

Stand

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

Christ A Let us pray. O Lord, You have brought us to the mountain where the glory of
has been revealed in the Gospel preached and in the Sacrament administered. Lead us now down the mountain that we may not be lost in the darkness of doubt or fear nor surrender to the shadow of death without faith in Him who died that we might live and lives that we might never die. Keep us in this glory of Christ until time surrenders to eternity, finding perfect fulfillment in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

A Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Farewell to Alleluia *Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, 7*

Pastor: This week with Ash Wednesday, we begin our observance of Lent. To highlight the penitential nature of the season, it is the Church's custom to suspend the use of the word "*Alleluia*," which means "*Praise the Lord*." A tradition has been in place since the fifth century not to use the joyful word "*Alleluia*" in worship from the conclusion of worship on the final Sunday before Lent, which is today, until the first service on Easter Sunday. The text of our closing hymn, "*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*," dates back to the eleventh century and links us to a millennium of God's people at worship. We now repeat words from the Book of Ecclesiastes, which remind us that there are appropriate times for all things, including a time to keep silence, which we will observe regarding use of the "*Alleluia*" throughout Lent.

Pastor: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;

People: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

Pastor: a time to break down, and a time to build up;

People: a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

Pastor: a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

People: a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Pastor: As part of our observance of a holy Lent as it begins this week, we now say farewell to Alleluia until the time of our rejoicing anew at the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

Benediction *LSB 202*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
- C Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn 785 “We Praise You, O God” (vs. 1-3)

Postlude “March” by JS Bach

Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!



*Altar Flowers provided by Tony and Suzie Miranda
In honor of Tony’s Birthday on February 11th*

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. Pastor Bill Wurm (Alzheimer’s disease); Tom Janes (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); 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); Cookie (lung cancer); Evan (healing & strength); Sue Klemme (pancreatic cancer); Scott (kidney failure); Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Rachel Goodle (prayers for God’s strength); Daniel Abelt (cancer); and Alyssa (healing & strength); Michael Abelt (healing & strength); Stephanie (pregnant with twins); Katie Bailey Klinge (cancer); Andora (surgery for cancer); Sabrina (cancer); Lori Jablonski (cancer) and Jessie Marshall (healing & strength) friend of Cathy Weeks; Steve Benzie (stomach pain, hernia); Craig (stem cell transplant); Dianna Abelt (healing and strength); Sara Keno (seizures); Dale Schmidt (Huntington’s Disease); and Mike Zanardi (pancreatic cancer); Sharon McCaigue (cancer); and Cheryl (cancer) friend of Sharon Iseli; Daniel Sinnen (cancer) Grandson of Bernice Byklum; Carol Long (cancer) friend of Joy Lussier; and Blaine Goldner (kidney transplant) friend of Carol Loveall; Henry (spinal cancer) friend of Sharon Iseli, Sharon Iseli (healing); Lisa (pancreas, and kidney transplant) friend of Dena Guziewicz; Larry Herte (knee surgery). Sarah Nickols (gallbladder surgery) ECC parent; Leah Abelt’s Father (healing & strength); Allyson Hengst (healing for her ankle); and Mariya (cancer); Brooke Bzdawka (healing &

strength) relative of Sharon Bzdawka and **Andora** (thanksgiving for successful surgery and follow up treatment for cancer).

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

We mourn with the family of Keith Iverson, the Uncle of Carla Berglund, who was recently called home to heavenly rest. We pray: *Almighty God, Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, deal graciously with the family of Keith Iverson, as they mourn his death, that casting every care on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Help them to know that because Jesus lives, they too shall live and have eternal life in His name. Amen.*

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! We thank the Lord that on Thursday February 8th, *Gabriel Kopperud, the grandson of Lance & Susan Kopperud, and son of Evan Kopperud,* was baptized into the Christian faith through both water and the power of God's Word in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism here at Grace! We praise the Lord that his name is written in God's book of life!!!

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

Thank you to the Martin Luther Brass Choir for leading us in worship this morning! God's blessings to all of you!!

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 2/8 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 2/11 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 2/11 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Greg Nowakowski	Eric Kamprath
<u>Readers</u>	Kathryn Szefflinski	Erica Vitek	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Kathy Szefflinski	Kathy Szefflinski
	Morgan Parker	Morgan Parker	Morgan Parker
<u>Linens</u>	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel
<u>Acolyte</u>	Elder	Abby Norton	Elder
<u>Ushers</u>	Mark Roettgen	Nick Norton	Eric Kamprath
	Connie Roettgen	Drew Salzer	Lisa Kamprath
			Martin Taggatz
<u>Livestream</u>		Glenn Dotson	

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.

Your 2024 Grace Lutheran Giving Statements are available to pick up in the Narthex. Thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace this past year. We couldn't do the work of ministry at our Church, School, and ECC without your prayers and support. God bless you!!!

February 11th-New Member Potluck

TODAY Sunday February 11th, following our 10:30am worship service, we will be having a New Member Potluck in our School Gymnasium. During the month of January, we will have a sign-up sheet in the Church Narthex requesting our members to bring a main entrée, side dish, and/or desserts for this event. Please plan on coming to our New Member Potluck to get a chance to meet and get to know our new members at Grace! Please bring a jar of peanut butter to the New Member Potluck on Sunday February 11th as a kickoff to the Hunger Task Force fundraiser! Thank you for helping out those in need!!!

Hunger Task Force - Annual Fund Drive

The Evangelism Board along with the *Hunger Task Force* is holding their Annual Fund Drive **starting February 11th**. The best way to support the *Hunger Task Force* is to make a monetary donation. The *Hunger Task Force* will then purchase the food to be distributed to those in need. There are envelopes on the table in the back of church to put your donations. The envelopes then can be placed in the offering plate. Checks should be made out to: Grace Lutheran Church. Please write *Hunger Task Force* in the memo section of your check. Thank you in advance for your generosity! *Grace Evangelism Board*. Please bring a jar of peanut butter to the New Member Potluck on Sunday February 11th as a kickoff to this fundraiser and thank you for helping out those in need!!!

Save the Date! We will be having a Tea Party on March 16th, at 2:00pm at Grace School!

The theme: " My Cup Has Overflowed" from *John 13:4-5*. This will be a celebration before Easter. Please bring a kitchen towel to be exchanged, and you can choose a tea cup and saucer! We ask that those who would like to - share a time when God has made your cup overflow, with a few short words or story. If you would like to write something out and have one of us read your story, please let us know. If you would like to donate your favorite tea or hot chocolate, or if you have tea cups and saucers that you purchased for the Tea Party, please bring them to church and place them on the top of the coat rack in the entrance. You may also take them into the church office - or leave them outside the office door if no one is in. Please let Pauline know what you are donating at 414-764-5574. Please donate these items before the end of February. We will have small sandwiches, tea, hot chocolate, exchange of tea towels, dessert, and our special readings and our stories to share. It will be a fun afternoon of celebration! **An email was sent to you on February 1st, with a link to submit your RSVP to the event. There will also be a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board at church. We hope to see you there!**

Choir at Grace

Choir practice is on Thursday evenings in the church following worship. Please consider joining our church choir. Music has a unique way of connecting us with God, and being a part of the choir is a beautiful opportunity to share your voice and your faith. Whether you're an experienced singer or someone who simply loves to sing, we welcome you with open arms. Martin Luther once said, "*He who sings, prays twice.*" Please contact Kathy Kolb, our Choir Director, for further details if you are interested in joining our church's choir.

Altar Guild -We at Grace are blessed with not just one faithful and selfless individual who tends to the altar, we have a whole team of such folks! And we are looking for more to join the team! Altar Guild duties are divided into Communion Set-up and Linen Care. Our schedules are flexible so we can accommodate your schedule. Questions about serving? **Contact:** Jennifer Olen 414.305.3740 olenjennifer@aol.com OR ask one of the altar ladies as you see her working in the altar room!

Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church

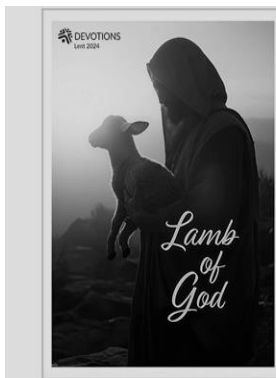
Ash Wednesday February 14th – Easter Sunday March 31st, 2024



1. February 14th, 2024 6:30pm (with communion, no Thursday Service this week) Ash Wednesday: “The Powerless “I Am,” John 18:1–11
2. February 22nd, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 2: “Two Interrogations,” John 18:12–27
3. February 29th, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 3: What Kind of King Is This?” John 18:28–40
4. March 7th, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 4: “Whom Do We Follow?” John 19:1–16a
5. March 14th, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 5: “Wisdom Has a Friend on the Cross,” John 19:16b–27
6. March 21st, 2024 6:30pm (no communion) Lenten Midweek 6: “Jesus Finishes the Battle for Your Salvation,” John 19:28–42
7. March 28th, 2024 6:30pm (with communion) “Hey, It’s Not about Me!” Luke 14.12–14, Maundy Thursday
8. March 29th, 2024 (no communion) Good Friday “Our Lord Did This for You!” Psalm 22, 12pm-Noon Day Service
9. March 29th, 2024 (no communion) “Real Life after Good Friday” Mark 15.33–34, 6:30pm Tenebrae Service (no communion)
10. March 31st, 2024 (no communion) “Larger than the Stone” Mark 16.1-8, 6am Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
11. March 31st, 2024 (with communion) “A Startling New Reality!” Mark 16:1–8 8:30am & 10am Easter Sunday Festival Service

Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

“Lamb of God”



In *Lamb of God*, we have God’s Son come to earth as the eternal Word, Jesus Christ. Throughout John’s Gospel, Jesus is made known to us as both God and Man, full of grace and truth. He has come into the world to seek us out—you and me—to rescue us from the power of evil, and to make us His beloved children forever. Jesus was born for sacrifice and servanthood. As God’s beloved Lamb, He intimately joined our lives in the flesh, compassionately healing, teaching, and loving us as our Good Shepherd. On the cross, He gave His life for our transgressions, and three days later He rose triumphant in victory over sin, death, and the devil. We are offering these devotions at our Church in both a physical booklet form and we will be emailing them out to our members. This devotional will include our Lenten Worship Schedule for Grace with contact information for our Church. To view the devotions online go to: <https://www.lhm.org/lent/> Consider using this devotion not only for your own personal and family devotions

during the Lenten season, but also to share with your neighbor, family member, friend, or co-worker so that they too can share in the comforting Gospel of our Lord's passion and death for the forgiveness of our sins.



Easter Lilies/Plants

To help make our Easter celebration more memorable, Milaeger's is offering a beautiful assortment of plants to celebrate the glorious Easter holiday. 1) Sign-up for your preferred flower/plant on sheets posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. 2) Enclose cash or check in the envelopes provided and place in offering basket or hand to an elder. **All money and orders need to be placed by February 25th, 2024.**

Save the Date March 16, 2024—You are cordially invited to South Wisconsin District LWML Heart to Heart Sisters Event! Doors open at 8:30am and end at 2:30pm. Hosted at Granville Lutheran School: 8242 N Granville Road Milwaukee, WI 53224. The theme: *"Hearts for the Harvest."* (Matthew 9:37-38) Program brings LCMS ethnic groups and LCMS ethnic pastors together for a 1 day event. This year, we will have a cooking demonstration, African dance, ethnic choirs, children choirs, door prizes, and more! For more information: Email: jamellis2003@yahoo.com or visit www.lwml-swd.org

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 \$27,006.63 for the church & school furnace fund, thank you for your support!** *(In the month of December, we had to replace the twin furnaces to the school gym and 1st Grade classroom at a cost of about \$9,000, we couldn't have been able to replace these furnaces without your help and support from our furnace fund, which has been approved in our previous voter's meetings. We actually saved \$1000 by purchasing the two furnaces together. Thank you!)*

Adult Bible Class Topic— God's Word for Today: 1 Peter "God's Chosen People." On Sunday mornings in the school library from 9:15-10:15am, we will be studying 1 Peter. In this Bible Study you will learn that by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the apostle Peter writes His first epistle to those concerned about living their Christian faith in a sometimes unresponsive and even hostile environment. Peter's words of hope are just as timely today as they were for the believers of the first century who first received them.

IN THE WORD FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

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

Verse of the week: Isaiah 1:18, *"Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD, "though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool."*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 51

Hymn of the week: LSB 614 "'As Surely as I live,' God Said" (stanzas 5-8)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Jesus Gives Sight to a Blind Man—Luke 18:31-43

Monday— The Miraculous Catch of Fish—Luke 5:1-11

Tuesday— Jesus Forgives the Paralytic—Matthew 9:1-13

Wednesday— Jesus Sends Out the Twelve—Matthew 9:35—10:20, 40

Thursday— Fasting, Almsgiving, and Prayer—Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Friday— Holy Absolution for the Erring Brother—Matthew 18:14-22

Saturday— Parable of the Unforgiving Servant—Mt. 18:21-35

“We live dripping with the promise of Baptism. We live fueled by the fire of God’s Word. We live created on the sixth day and recreated by God’s grace to be followers of Jesus seven days of the week until that great eighth day, called eternity, when we will sing praise in His presence forever. We live and we love and we are loved in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, sin forgiven, shame erased, status: all very good.” *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” - 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 "What Is Evangelism?" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How do you encourage someone to receive the gift God has for them? That's what evangelism is all about. (Mark 9:7-8) **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

**A FAITHFUL STEWARD SEES A NEED
AND DOES WHAT HE/SHE CAN DO TO
FILL IT.**

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace”
(1 Peter 4:10).



Stewardship Minute— Scripture is full of instances where God has used ordinary people like us to accomplish extraordinary things. He chose a stammering Moses to lead His people out of bondage, self-serving fishermen James and John to lead His Church and spread the Gospel, impulsive Peter’s confession upon which to build His Church, and an unhealthy Paul to be the first great missionary to the Gentiles. God uses imperfect people, those whom the world considers weak and flawed, to extend His kingdom. We are far from perfect, but we, like Moses, James, John, Peter, and Paul, are privileged by God’s grace to participate in the work of His kingdom.

Growing in Grace - February 1st & 4th

General Offering \$8821.25
On-Line Giving \$1531.89

<i>Missions</i>	\$200.00	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	\$120.00	<i>Total Attendance</i> 119
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	\$1000.00	<i>Total Communed</i> 83
<i>Lutehran Schools</i>	\$100.00	
<i>Total</i>	\$11,773.14	

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 COMING WEEK

Sunday	2/11	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 6-8:30 pm	Divine Worship Adult Bible Study Divine Worship New Member Potluck & Hunger Task Force Stephen Ministries
Monday	2/12	6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class Grief Share
Tuesday	2/13	7:00 am 6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner) Stephen Minsitry Meeting
Wednesday	2/14	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study Ash Wednesday – Divine Service (With Communion)
Thursday	2/15	-----	-----
Friday	2/16	-----	-----
Saturday	2/17	-----	-----
Sunday	2/18	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Study Sunday School Divine Worship

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

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

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) thewordendures.blogspot.com
--------	----------------------	--

Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445

Fax:	Church/School	414-762-8869
	ECC	414-856-9262

Pastor		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Heidi Brunzelle, Church Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

School & Church Office

Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

