

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Lenten Midweek Service

February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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



Image: "O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." (*Gradual for Lent*)

# 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—“St. John Passion: What Kind of King Is This?”**

From earliest days the Christian Church employed the weeks before Easter—what came to be called the season of Lent—as the time of the year to prepare candidates for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the catechumenate. Paul wrote, “*We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life*” (Romans 6:4). Our midweek Lenten services prepare us to consider our identity and connection with the Passion of Christ as the baptized children of God. As He testified before Pilate that His kingdom is not of this world so are we, by our Baptism, “*fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God*” (Ephesians 2:19).

### **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** “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (LSB 709 vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 118:24; 113:3; Joel 2:13; Matthew 16:24; Isaiah 53:5*

**Pastor:** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**People:** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Pastor:** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**People:** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**Pastor:** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**People:** slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

**Pastor:** Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

**People:** let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

**Pastor:** Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

**People:** He was bruised for our iniquities.

**Pastor:** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**People:** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Sit*

**HYMN** “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (LSB 709 vs. 5-6)

## ✠ WORD ✠

### FIRST READING *Ephesians 1:3-10, 15-22* (*Spiritual blessings in Christ*)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth...

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN** “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives” (*LSB* 602 vs. 1-5)

*Stand*

**SECOND READING** *John 18:28-40*  
*(Jesus before Pilate)*

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**RESPONSORY** *1 John 2:1; Psalm 32:1*

**Pastor:** We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**People:** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

**Pastor:** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**People:** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

**Pastor:** We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**People:** He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

**CATECHISM** *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.

**CATECHISM** *Ten Commandments*

**People:** You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**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.

*Sit*

**HYMN** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (*LSB 341 vs. 1-5*)

**SERMON** "What Kind of King Is This?" (*John 18:28-40*)

**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 LSB, pp. 265-66**

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Thy kingdom come. O Lord, rule our minds, hearts, and lives that we may know and believe Your Word of truth and that we may live our lives as forgiven sinners in true freedom serving others as You have served us. Hear us for the sake of Your love.

**People: Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR THE WORD**



Pastor: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

**Pastor:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

*Sit*

**CLOSING HYMN** “Beautiful Savior” (LSB 537 vs. 1-4)

### **BLESSING**

**Pastor:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Pastor:** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**People: Amen.**

### **Announcements**

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

**C:** Thanks be to God!



### 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 2-29</u>
<u>Elder</u>	Lance Kopperud
<u>Reader</u>	Kathryn Szefflinski
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	*No Communion*
<u>Linens</u>	Char Klipfel
<u>Acolyte</u>	Elder
<u>Ushers</u>	Mark Roettgen
	Connie Roettgen
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen



## **Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church**

**Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

### *“St. John Passion”*

From earliest days the Christian Church employed the weeks before Easter—what came to be called the season of Lent—as the time of the year to prepare candidates for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the catechumenate. Paul wrote, *“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life”* (Romans 6:3–4). Baptism involves death, burial, and resurrection. During Lent, we discover that Jesus is not the only one who suffers, dies, and rises again. Our midweek Lenten services prepare us to consider our identity and connection with the Passion of Christ as the baptized children of God. We do so through the eyes of the Holy Evangelist, Saint John, as we hear, in John 18–19, of Jesus’ betrayal and arrest, Jesus facing Annas and Caiaphas, Jesus before Pilate, Jesus delivered, Jesus crucified, and Jesus’ death and burial. Look for this Lenten season to provide a deeper understanding of your Baptism into the passion and death of Christ, with the result as Paul describes it: we are *“always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies”* (2 Corinthians 4:10).

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

## 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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ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
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