

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share*



## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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



**Image:** "Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent, and blind; Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find. Health this fountain will restore; They that drink shall thirst no more." (LSB 435:3)

# **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 "What a Priest We Have in Jesus!"***

Today's Epistle speaks of Jesus, our High Priest. High priests are called to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people as well as themselves. Jesus is a different sort of high priest who offers Himself as sacrifice, once for all, that we might be forgiven and granted eternal salvation. In the Gospel, Jesus proclaims that He came not to be served, but to serve. He came to offer His life as a ransom for us. As we follow Jesus, we are called to reflect His actions and attitude of service and sacrifice. May we likewise go to serve and sacrifice for others.

### **We invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer**

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer.** Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

## Order of Service...Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 203

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus (vs. 1-3)

*Stand*

**Confession and Absolution LSB 203**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

### ✠ WORD ✠

**Introit (Psalm 116:1-4, 8; antiphon: Psalm 43:1, read responsively)**

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,\*  
**from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!**

I love the LORD, because | he has heard\*  
**my voice and my pleas for | mercy.**

Because he inclined his | ear to me,\*

**therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;\*

**I suffered distress and | anguish.**

Then I called on the name | of the LORD:\*

**“O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!”**

For you have delivered my | soul from death,\*

**my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.**

**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.**

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,\*

**from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!**

#### **Kyrie LSB 204**

**C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

*During Lent, the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted...*

#### **Salutation and Collect of the Day LSB 204**

**P The Lord be with you.**

**C And also with you.**

**P Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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*

**Rite of Holy Baptism (Sunday 10:30am only, LSB pg. 268)—We rejoice in the baptism of *Greyson Alexander Reed, son of Joshua & Erin Reed*, on Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!!!**

**Old Testament Reading *Jeremiah 31:31-34***

***(God’s new covenant)***

<sup>31</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hebrews 12:2 (read responsively)**

[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, despis- | ing the shame,\*  
**and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

**Epistle Lesson Hebrews 5:1-10**

**(Jesus is our great High Priest.)**

<sup>1</sup>Every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup>He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. <sup>3</sup>Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. <sup>4</sup>And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup>So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
after the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

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

*Stand*

*During Lent, the Alleluia is omitted...*

**Verse for The Fifth Sunday in Lent** *"Even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."* (Mark 10:45)

**Holy Gospel Mark 10:32-45**

***(The Son of Man came to serve and give His life.)***

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

<sup>32</sup>And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, <sup>33</sup>saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. <sup>34</sup>And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

<sup>35</sup>And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." <sup>36</sup>And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" <sup>37</sup>And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." <sup>38</sup>Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" <sup>39</sup>And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, <sup>40</sup>but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." <sup>41</sup>And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. <sup>42</sup>And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup>But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Apostles' Creed LSB 207

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**Children's Message "High Priest, Greatest of All" (Hebrews 5:1-10)** 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 543 What Wondrous Love Is This (vs. 1-4)**

**Sermon "Jesus, our Great High Priest" (Hebrews 5:1-10)**

**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 208*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### **Sanctus** *LSB 208*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 209***

- P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## **Lord's Prayer *LSB 209***

- C Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **The Words of Our Lord *LSB 209***

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **Pax Domini *LSB 209***

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

## Agnus Dei LSB 210

- C    1    O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
          You take the sin of the world away;  
          O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
          Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2    O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
          You take the sin of the world away;  
          Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
          And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit*

## Distribution

### We celebrate the Lord's Supper

Members of our sister LC-MS congregations are invited to join us for communion. Guests to our Lutheran Church are invited to first speak with Pastor before joining at our Lord's Table. We hope you will learn more about us as we gather to "*Celebrate, Teach, and Confess*" the Good News of God's Grace! In the Bible, the Apostle Paul wrote: *Let a person examine himself and so eat of the bread, and drink of the cup* (1 Cor. 11:28). Before attending the Lord's Supper, ask yourself the following questions:

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**

**-433 Glory Be to Jesus (vs. 1-6)**

**-919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus (vs. 1-6)**

*Stand*

## **Nunc Dimittis LSB 211**

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.

## **Post-Communion Collect LSB 211**

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## **Benedicamus LSB 212**

A Let us bless the Lord.  
C Thanks be to God.

## Benediction LSB 212

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
- C Amen.

## Closing Hymn 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain (vs. 1-4)

### Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!



### WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord.* 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); Scott (kidney failure); Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Rachel Goodle (prayers for God's strength); Daniel Abelt (cancer); and Alyssa (healing & strength); Stephanie (pregnant with twins); Sabrina (cancer); Lori Jablonski (cancer) and Jessie Marshall (healing & strength) friend of Cathy Weeks; Steve Benzie (stomach pain, hernia); Craig (stem cell transplant); Sara Keno (seizures); Dale Schmidt (Huntington's Disease); and Mike Zanardi (pancreatic cancer); Sharon McCaigue (cancer); and Cheryl (cancer) friend of Sharon Iseli; 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); Allyson Hengst (healing for her ankle); and Mariya (cancer); and Brooke Bzdawka (healing & strength) relative of Sharon Bzdawka; Jan Barrett (healing & strength); Donnie (healing & strength) Morgan Parker's Uncle; Brixton (healing & strength) Great Grandson of Ron & Mary Savarino; Bob (healing & strength) relative of Pauline Parker.

*For our Homebound Members at Grace:* Kathy Gaudian, Bernice Byklum, Art Steinborn, Patricia Groth, and Gloria Kilponen, Doc Medek.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! We thank the Lord that on Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>, *Greyson Alexander Reed, son of Joshua & Erin Reed*, 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!!!

We mourn with the families of **Pastor & Roxanne Taggatz**, as they mourn the death of **Roxanne's father, Pastor Bill Wurm, Ethan & Tatiana Concepcion**, as they mourn the death of their half sister, **Amaya**, and **Katie Bailey Klinge** (daughter of former Grace Principal, **Andrew Bailey**) and **Sue Klemme**, friend of **Cathy Weeks**. We pray: *Almighty God, Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, deal graciously with the families of Pastor Bill Wurm, Amaya, Katie Bailey Klinge, and Sue Klemme, as they mourn their deaths, 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 (John 14:19). 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:**

Church Office:		414-762-8990
Requests on prayer line: 10am-3 pm	Carol Thurber	414-762-9615
3pm-9 pm	Pauline Parker	414-764-5574

### **Assisting with the Divine Service**

We thank God for all those individuals who have been involved in supporting our worship services this week. If you are interested in assisting in any of the ways shown below, please speak with pastor or one of our elders.

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Sunday 3/17 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/17 10:30am</u>
<u>Readers</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Eric Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Erica Vitek	Edward Taggatz
<u>Linens</u>	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Acolyte</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Ushers</u>	Henry Tindall	Ethan Concepcion
	Benjamin Tindall	Ron Savarino
		Lowell Johnson
		Tatiana Concepcion
<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

**Lutheran Schools Night**, Saturday, April 27th. Join us for a night of family fun as the Milwaukee Brewers take on the New York Yankees, 6:10 PM. You can select seats from the Loge Outfield Box (where our group has been in past years) or from outfield box, infield box or terrace infield seats. Tickets range from \$15-\$59. You can also purchase a parking pass in advance.. For groups of 10+, please contact Teddy Sibilski, Milwaukee Brewers. If you are ordering tickets for a group, you can forward tickets via text or email to individuals Ballpark App. Purchase your tickets online at <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Lutheranschools24> or scan the QR code by April 12. Questions? Contact Robin, SWD, [mueller@swd.lcms.org](mailto:mueller@swd.lcms.org). Go Brewers!

**Save the Date!!!** Our Vacation Bible School this Summer will be taking place on Friday June 14<sup>th</sup> at Grace Lutheran School. We are in need of Teachers and Volunteers for our upcoming VBS. If you would like to help out, please contact our Sunday School Superintendent and VBS Coordinator, Jill Nowack at: [sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org). Thanks for your consideration in helping out with this exciting event!!! The theme this year will be: "Dive In" - Come explore under the sea with us. VBS - 2024—Friday, June 14 starting with supper at 5:30 PM and VBS starts at 6:00 PM. Our Bible lesson will be in 1 Samuel 20 where, Jonathan Serves God by helping David. The Bible Verse for the evening will be, "Serve one another in love" (Galatians 5:13). The sea creature will be a dolphin.

### **Hunger Task Force - Annual Fund Drive**

The Evangelism Board along with the *Hunger Task Force* is holding their Annual Fund Drive **starting February 11<sup>th</sup>**. 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 11<sup>th</sup> as a kickoff to the Hunger Task Force fundraiser! Thank you for helping out those in need!!!

### **NEW MEMBERS CLASS**

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, March 17<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. Let us know if you might need child-care. Watch an introductory video at: [www.lhm.org/GodConnects](http://www.lhm.org/GodConnects).

**The Grace Lutheran Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm. DONATIONS NEEDED.** This Easter Egg Hunt will be for preschool through 4th grade, and it will be held at Grace Lutheran School. Our Grace Lutheran Youth Group members and their parents will be helping out with this event. **We are asking for donations of already filled plastic Easter Eggs for this Easter Egg Hunt.** If you would like to drop off your donations, you can do so at church or at our Grace Lutheran School/Church office. We are inviting the families from our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center to attend this event. Please join us!!!

**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](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>**

1. March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 6:30pm (no communion)  
Lenten Midweek 6: “Jesus Finishes the Battle for Your Salvation,” John 19:28–42
2. March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30pm (with communion)  
“Hey, It’s Not about Me!”  
Luke 14.12–14, Maundy Thursday
3. March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (no communion) Good Friday  
“Our Lord Did This for You!”  
Psalm 22, 12pm-Noon Day Service
4. March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (no communion) “Real Life after Good Friday”  
Mark 15.33–34, 6:30pm Tenebrae Service (no communion)
5. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (no communion) “Larger than the Stone”  
Mark 16.1–8, 6am Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
6. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (with communion) “A Startling New Reality!”  
Mark 16:1–8 8:30am & 10am Easter Sunday Festival Service

**Altar Guild Opportunity!** After many years of using her gifts to cross stitch Grace's baptismal napkins, Debbie Oelke will be retiring her needle and scissors. We are looking for someone to take up their needle and scissors to make these beautiful keepsakes for those coming to the baptismal font. If you are interested or have questions about what is involved in making these, please reach out to Jennifer Olen 414.305.3740 olenjennifer@aol.com

### **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 \$27,676.63 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 unreceptive 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.

**A huge thank you to Thrivent Financial!!** Please join us in thanking Thrivent for all the help they give us at Grace over the years, to sponsor so many of the events that we hold, and for purchasing stamps for our Prayer Ministry, over \$2,373.00 and over 4 since December 2019 ver 4510 stamps. (This is not just from the Fellowship and Prayer Ministry but for all of Grace)

## IN THE WORD FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Catechism:** Table of Duties—What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors: 1 Corinthians 9:14; Galatians 6:6-7; 1 Timothy 5:17-18

**Verse of the week:** 1 Corinthians 13:7-8a, “[Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails.”

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 43

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 430 “My Song Is Love Unknown” (stanzas 1-5)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— Before Abraham Was, “I AM”—John 8:42-59

Monday— Jesus Faces the Sanhedrin—Mark 14:53-72

Tuesday— Jesus Faces Pontius Pilate—Mark 15:1-15

Wednesday— St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus—Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Thursday—Jesus’ Betrayal and Arrest—Mark 14:43-52/Sac. of the Altar

Friday— The King of the Jews Is Mocked—Mark 15:16-32

Saturday— Jesus’ Death and Burial—Mark 15:33-47

“God loves everybody. God loves people that are big and small. God loves people that are every age. God loves people no matter where we live. All people are special to God. The Bible says, ‘For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand’ (Ephesians 2:10). God has good things for each of us.” *Timothy, a sixth grader from southern Minnesota, who has Down syndrome – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org) [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); Hurting from an abortion or going through a crisis pregnancy? Call 888-217-8679.*

**LUTHERAN HOUR "The Strangest Request"** Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe](#). God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations through the gift of a son named Isaac. But then God asked Abraham to return that gift in a most shocking way. (Genesis 22:1-14) **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

**GOD OWNS EVERYTHING. THIS  
IS A FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH  
FOR OUR STEWARDSHIP.**

“I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds. For every beast of the forest is Mine, the cattle on a thousand hills”  
(Psalm 50:9-10).



**Stewardship Minute**— God showed us His love and grace by what He was willing to give us. “*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life*” (John 3:16). God’s grace is given to us without any merit on our part. Grace is not something we’ve earned. It is a free gift to us, but it comes at a high cost to our Lord. Grace has been defined as “*God’s Riches at Christ’s Expense.*” By grace, we believe that the tremendous love Christ poured out on the cross is available for us! The Holy Spirit opens our eyes and minds so we can see Who God is and what He does for us.

**Easter Breakfast - Sunday, March 31st:** Our Youth Group will be hosting a Potluck Easter Breakfast at the school from 7-9:00am on Easter Sunday. Please RSVP and sign up for a dish to share. A freewill offering will be taken to support our Youth Group. Thank you for your support!

**Grief Share Group starting on March 11<sup>th</sup> 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? On March 11<sup>th</sup> 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 Church Oak Creek. 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 meets on Monday evenings at Grace Lutheran School March 11<sup>th</sup>-the middle of June 2024 from 6:30-8:30pm in the School Library. The cost for attending is \$20.00. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Oak Creek, WI. 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, call our Church office at 414-762-8990 or email us at: [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org).

**Growing in Grace – March 7<sup>th</sup> & March 10<sup>th</sup>**

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$10,604.00</i>		
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1780.65</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>116</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$12,584.65</i></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 COMING WEEK**

Sunday	3/17	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b>
		<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
		<b>1:00-5:00 pm</b>	<b>New Member Class</b>
Monday	3/18	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Confirmation Class</b>
Tuesday	3/19	<b>7:00 am</b>	<b>Men’s Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)</b>
		<b>10 am-10 pm</b>	<b>Culver’s Dining Out Event</b>
Wednesday	3/20	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Ladies Bible Study</b>
		<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
Thursday	3/21	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Lent &amp; Divine Worship (No Communion)</b>
Friday	3/22	-----	-----
Saturday	3/23	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Rise &amp; Sonshine Bible Study</b>
		<b>2:00 pm</b>	<b>Tea Party at Grace School</b>
Sunday	3/24	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship - Palm Sunday</b>
		<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b>
		<b>10:30 am</b>	<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>
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 ECC	414-762-8869 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>
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### Church & ECC

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Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

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