

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share*

## Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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



**Image:** "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." (Zechariah 9:9)

## 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 “A Glorious Death”**

The death of Jesus on the cross is not cause for continued sorrow or ongoing relief. As the Epistle points out, our Lord's giving of Himself for our sin makes His a glorious death. It causes “*every tongue [to] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father*” (Philippians 2:11). How do we do that? First, our Lord's death draws us to Him, where we find forgiveness, grace, and mercy. Then, each day we are given opportunity to die to sin ourselves and to receive Christ's forgiveness. It is an ongoing process that involves interacting with the people around us, with whom we share Christ's invitation to heaven itself. We sing “*Hosanna*,” which means “*save us*.” Because of the cross, we are confident that we have been saved already.

### **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

### ✠ PROCESSION OF PALMS ✠

**CHILDREN'S PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION WITH PALMS**— (*Pastor Taggatz, and the children of our congregation will parade around the sanctuary to remember how the crowds of Jerusalem gave praise to Jesus as He entered Jerusalem to suffer and die for our sins, adults of our congregation are welcome to wave their palm branches too during the Palm Sunday Procession*).

**Processional Hymn 443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (vs. 1-3)**

*Stand*

**Holy Gospel John 12:12-19**  
**(The triumphal entry)**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup>And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

<sup>15</sup>"Fear not, daughter of Zion;  
behold, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

<sup>16</sup>His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. <sup>17</sup>The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. <sup>18</sup>The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. <sup>19</sup>So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Collect for Palm Sunday

- P Let us pray. Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

*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 24:7-10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26, read responsively*)

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!\*

**We bless you from the house | of the LORD.**

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,\*  
**that the King of glory | may come in.**

Who is this King of | glory?\*

**The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in | battle!**

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O | ancient doors,\*  
**that the King of glory | may come in.**

Who is this King of | glory?\*

**The LORD of hosts, he is the King of | glory!**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!\*

**We bless you from the house | of the LORD.**

**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 205*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; 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*

**Old Testament Reading** *Zechariah 9:9-12*

**(The King comes humbly on a donkey.)**

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup>I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless

pit. <sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

**Grace Choir (10:30am only) “As We Come into His Presence”**

**Gradual (*Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a, read responsively*)**

- P Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood,
- C **thus securing an eternal redemption.**
  
- P Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,
- C **so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**
  
- P He sent redemption to His people;
- C **He has commanded His covenant forever.**

**Epistle Lesson *Philippians 2:5-11***

**(*Because of His humble death, Christ has been exalted by the Father.*)**

<sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

*Stand*

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

**Verse for Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion “*He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*” (Philippians 2:8b)**

**Holy Gospel *John 12:20-43***

***(The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified)***

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

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup>“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. <sup>34</sup>So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” <sup>35</sup>So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. <sup>36</sup>While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. <sup>37</sup>Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, <sup>38</sup>so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,  
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

<sup>39</sup>Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

<sup>40</sup>“He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their heart,  
lest they see with their eyes,  
and understand with their heart, and turn,  
and I would heal them.”

<sup>41</sup>Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. <sup>42</sup>Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; <sup>43</sup>for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

- 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 "Jesus' Time Is Come!" (John 12:20-43)** 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 451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted (vs. 1-3)**

**Sermon "Jesus' Ultimate Glory" (John 12:20-43)**

**Rite of First Communion—** *Today we celebrate with Clare Gamroth & Ethan Concepcion, who will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time. We rejoice that these students will be receiving the Lord's body and blood, in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the first time for the assurance of the forgiveness of their sins!*



## 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**

**-619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior (vs. 1-5)**

**-428 Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow (vs. 1-4)**

***Stand***

**Post Communion Cantic—774 Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy**

**1   Feed Thy children, God most holy;  
     Comfort sinners poor and lowly.  
      O Thou Bread of Life from heaven,  
      Bless the food Thou here hast given!  
As these gifts the body nourish,  
May our souls in graces flourish  
     Till with saints in heav'nly splendor  
     At Thy feast due thanks we render.**

**Post-Communion Collect *LSB 212***

- A   Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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 441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty (vs. 1-5)

### 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; Sindy 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 Guzewicz; 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; Sue de Shano (broken ankle) sister of Carol Loveall.

*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!!!** Today we celebrate with *Clare Gamroth & Ethan Conception*, who will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time during our 10:30am Sunday morning worship service. We rejoice that these students will be receiving the Lord's body and blood, in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the first time for the assurance of the forgiveness of their sins!

***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>Sunday 3/24 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/24 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Mike Huber
<u>Readers</u>	Glenn Dotson	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Acolyte</u>		Ethan Concepcion
<u>Ushers</u>	Henry Tindall	Ron Savarino
	Benjamin Tindall	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.

**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 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30pm (with communion)

"Hey, It's Not about Me!"

Luke 14.12–14, Maundy Thursday

2. March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (no communion) Good Friday

"Our Lord Did This for You!"

Psalms 22, 12pm-Noon Day Service

3. March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (no communion)

"Real Life after Good Friday"

Mark 15.33–34, 6:30pm Tenebrae Service

4. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (no communion) "Larger than the Stone"

Mark 16.1–8, 6:00am Easter Sunday Sunrise Service

5. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (with communion) "A Startling New Reality!"

Mark 16:1–8 8:30am & 10:00am 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](mailto:olenjennifer@aol.com)

### **Hunger Task Force**

*The Evangelism Board finished their drive for Hunger Task Force! We raised **\$535.00**, and **128 pounds** of peanut butter was donated! A very big thank you to everyone who donated!*

### **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!)*

**Join us for Financial Peace University!!!** Learn to take control of your money, attack debt with a vengeance, and pay it off fast. Save for emergencies. Choose the right insurance plans. Invest wisely and build wealth. Give generously (the best part). When: Monday's April 8 through May 20 Time: 6 PM to 8 PM Where: The Art/Science Room at Grace Lutheran School Cost: \$20 (for the workbook) Questions: Call Lisa Kamprath at 414-659-0161.

**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 over 4510 stamps. (This is not just from the Fellowship and Prayer Ministry but for all of Grace.)



# IN THE WORD FOR PALM SUNDAY/SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

**Catechism:** Table of Duties—What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17

**Verse of the week:** Luke 11:28, “*Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!*”

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 31:9-16

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 451 “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” (stanzas 1-4)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— St. Mark Passion 14:1—15:47 (or Mark 15:1-47)

Monday— Jesus’ Betrayal and Arrest—John 18:1-27

Tuesday— Jesus Faces Pontius Pilate—John 18:28-40

Wednesday—Jesus Faces the Sanhedrin-Mark 14:53-72/Sac. of the Altar

Thursday— Jesus Is Crucified—John 19:1-24

Friday—Jesus’ Side Is Pierced—John 19:25-42

Saturday— Job Confesses the Hope of the Resurrection—Job 19:23-27

“So let us be sober, putting on faith and love as our breastplate and the hope of salvation as our helmet, encouraging one another and building each other up as together we faithfully wait, expectantly wait, joyfully wait—for Jesus.” *Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – 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 "Repurposed Joy and Junk"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. There are artists who can take old junk and turn it into something new and beautiful. Dr. Michael Zeigler tells how Jesus repurposes both the junk and the joy in our lives. (Mark 14:1-11)

**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

**CHRISTIAN GIVING IS NOT  
MEASURED BY THE SIZE OF THE  
GIFT, BUT BY THE SIZE OF THE  
HEART.**

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).



**Stewardship Minute**— It is only through God’s grace that we become faithful stewards. The grace that was given to us through Christ’s work on the cross also changes us into people willing to use our time, talents, and treasures for God’s purpose. God’s supply of grace is our power supply. By grace, we can live lives of service to Him and others. The wonderful thing is that God’s grace has not been given to a few of us, or half of us, but to each one of us. We each have a meaningful part to play as we serve God by serving others.

**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 14<sup>th</sup> & March 17<sup>th</sup>

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$10,562.30</i>		
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1065.57</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	<b><i>Total Attendance</i></b>	<i>40/83</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	<b><i>Total Communed</i></b>	<i>52</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>		
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$11,677.87</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	3/24	8:00 am	Divine Worship – Palm Sunday
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 am	Divine Worship – Palm Sunday
Monday	3/25	6:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Tuesday	3/26	7:00 am	Men’s Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	3/27	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
		6:10 pm	Lutheran Schools Night – Milwaukee Brewers
Thursday	3/28	6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Divine Worship (No Communion)
Friday	3/29	12:00 pm	Good Friday Noon Service (No Communion) Good Friday Tenebrae Service (No Communion)
Saturday	3/30	-----	-----
Sunday	3/31	6:00 am	Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
		7:00 am	Easter Breakfast
		8:30 am	Easter Sunday Festival Service
		10:00 am	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>
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>
Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org">school@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Director		<a href="mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org">eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Office		<a href="mailto:ecc@graceoakcreek.org">ecc@graceoakcreek.org</a>

### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

