

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## Easter Sunrise Service

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

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



**Image:** "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea." (*Exodus 15:1b*)

# 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 “*This Is the Day*”**

At last! The day of Easter is finally here! *Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!* The darkness of death is now overwhelmed by the light of Christ's resurrection victory. Satan stands defeated, and death is destroyed. The enemy no longer has power over Christ Jesus, nor does he have claim over your life either! As you bow in faith before Jesus and rise to sing your praises to Him early this Easter morning, may the joy of this day inspire you to find joy in your Savior every day. New beginnings start at the empty tomb, and there's no better way to begin our Easter celebration than at the break of day, joining together to sing the praises of Him who died yet was raised to life again. “*This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it*” (Psalm 118:24).

### **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 the bulletin

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**OPENING HYMN** “He’s Risen, He’s Risen” (LSB 480 vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 118:24*

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Pastor:** This is the day that the LORD has made;

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

### INVOCATION

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

**People:** Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on the promises of God’s Word.*

**Pastor:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People:** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**Pastor:** As we bow before You in faith at the break of day, we take refuge in the mercy You provide for us through Your Son’s victory over sin, death, and the grave.

**People:** Forgive us, renew us, and lead us. Enliven us by Your Spirit. Fill our hearts with joy that we may walk by faith this day and always to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**Pastor:** Almighty God in His mercy has raised Christ from the dead and crowned Him with glory and honor. Because the risen King has conquered death and delivered us from our sins, we stand forgiven in His sight. As your pastor, it is my joy this Easter morning to forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

✘ **WORD** ✘

**INTROIT** *Exodus 15:2a, 6, 13, 17-18; antiphon: v. 1b*

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously;

**People: the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.**

Pastor: The LORD is my strength and my song,

**People: and He has become my salvation.**

Pastor: Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,

**People: Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.**

Pastor: You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You have redeemed;

**People: You have guided them by Your strength to Your holy abode.**

Pastor: You will bring them in and plant them on Your own mountain,

**People: the place, O LORD, which You have made for Your abode,**

Pastor: the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established.

**People: The LORD will reign forever and ever.**

**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.**

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously;

**People: the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.**

**KYRIE**

Pastor: Risen Redeemer,

**People: have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Conquering King,

**People: have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Victorious Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**People: grant us Your peace.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" (*LSB 465 vs. 1-4*)

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You defeated death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life.

**People: Take away all gloom and sadness, and fill us with the joy of His resurrection victory;**

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Exodus 15:1-11*

**(The Israelites praise the Lord for His triumph and their salvation.)**

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, “I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him. The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is his name. “Pharaoh’s chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy. In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble. At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. The enemy said, ‘I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.’ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters. “Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN** “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain” (LSB 487 vs. 1-5)

**EPISTLE LESSON** *1 Corinthians 5:6b-8*

**(“Let us therefore celebrate the festival.”)**

Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**VERSE** *2 Timothy 1:10b*

Pastor: Alleluia. Christ Jesus abolished death

**People: and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 20:1-18*

*(Mary Magdalene sees the risen Lord Jesus.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CREED** *Apostles' Creed*

**People:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

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

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

*Sit*

**SERMON HYMN**                    “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” (LSB 467 vs. 1-4, 6)

**SERMON “Larger than the Stone” (Mark 16:1-8)**

Sermon Text— When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**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**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Gracious Father, You have made this day to be a day of rejoicing! As Your sons and daughters, we rejoice before You as we stand at the empty tomb of Your Son. Much like the ancient children of Israel rejoiced before You after You led them through the Red Sea and drowned their enemies who pursued them, we praise You for the deliverance You have given us from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. You provide well, O God, for all of our needs of body and soul, and we entrust the cares of our personal lives, our families, our community, and our congregation to You. Because Jesus lives, victorious over death and the grave, we are confident that there is no obstacle that can ever keep us from experiencing the life and love You give. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**hear our prayer and fill us with Your joy!

**Pastor:** Conquering King, by Your rising to new life from the grave on Easter morning, You shattered the rod that oppressed us and the burden that weighed us down. You lifted the curse of death from our backs and set us free from the chains that once had bound us. Risen Redeemer, because You have set us free, we are free indeed! Help us to live in the freedom, joy, and peace of Your resurrection victory. Satan has no authority over us because we have been named and claimed by You in the water of Baptism, which unites us to Your saving death and resurrection. Because You live, we shall live also—now, by faith, and on the future Day of resurrection, we shall live face to face with You in Your eternal kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**hear our prayer and fill us with Your joy!

**Pastor:** Renewing Spirit of truth, grant joy to all who receive Your Word this day. With hearts restored and minds at peace, help us to cling to Jesus and hold fast to His promises. We pray for all who are sick and troubled, weary and downtrodden, [*especially . . .*]. Be their sure defense and help them to know that nothing can ever sever them from You, O Lord! All we need, You will dispense, for Jesus is our confidence. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**hear our prayer and fill us with Your joy!

**Pastor:** Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our living Lord, who remembers us in His kingdom and teaches us to pray:



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

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

**CLOSING SENTENCES** *Psalms 118:23-24*

**Pastor:** This is the LORD's doing;  
**People:** it is marvelous in our eyes.

**Pastor:** This is the day that the LORD has made;  
**People:** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24-26*

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**People:** Amen.

**EASTER ACCLAMATION**

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**People:** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Sit*

**CLOSING HYMN** "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia" (LSB 463 vs. 1-4)

**Pastor:** Go in Peace and Serve the Lord  
**People:** 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 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; and 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.

*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 3/31 6:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/31 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/31 10:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Adam Voss	Mike Huber
<u>Readers</u>		Cris Evers	Chris Cotter
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	*No Communion*	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Ushers</u>	Kathy Szefflinsk	Henry Tindall	Ron Savarino
		Benjamin Tindall	Lowell Johnson
			Tatiana Concepcion
			Ethan Concepcion
<u>Acolyte</u>			
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	Glenn Dotson	

**Easter Breakfast - Sunday, March 31st:** Our Youth Group will be hosting an Easter Breakfast in the Church Narthex on Easter Sunday following our Easter Sunrise Service and before our 8:30 and 10am Easter Sunday Worship Services. Breakfast will be served from 7am-8:20am and 9:30-9:50am. **Please sign up in the church narthex or send an email to our church email address to let us know how many in your family are coming to:** [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org). A freewill offering will be taken to support our Youth Group. Thank you for your support!

### **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!

## Holy Week Services for Grace Lutheran Church



1. March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (no communion)

“Larger than the Stone”

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

2. 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

### **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 EASTER SUNDAY

**Catechism:** Creed—Second Article

**Verse of the week:** 1 Corinthians 5:7b-8, *“Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”*

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 16

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 467 “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday—The Resurrection of Our Lord—Mark 16:1-8

Monday— The Emmaus Disciples—Luke 24:13-35

Tuesday— The Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:36-49

Wednesday— The Resurrection Catch—John 21:1-14

Thursday— Jesus Reinstates Peter—John 21:15-25

Friday— The Song of Moses—Exodus 15:1-18

Saturday— The Valley of the Dry Bones—Ezekiel 37:1-14

“The disciples and the first century Christians may have felt like they were on the losing side. They had their doubts and fears. Maybe you do, too. They may have lost some earthly things. You may, too. But Jesus takes away the fear and the doubt. You have hope in His resurrection. You have hope even through the trials of life. You have a living hope in your living Lord.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* Hurting from an abortion or going through a crisis pregnancy? Call 888-217-8679.

**LUTHERAN HOUR "Eucatastrophe"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The top three best-selling books all present visions of hope, but how they hope to achieve it is a much different story. (Mark 16:6-7) **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

### **Stewardship Minute “Go and Tell Christ Is Risen!”**

In 1 Corinthians 15, the Resurrection Chapter, the Apostle Paul writes, “*What I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins...that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures ...*” (1 Corinthians 15: 3). Through Christ’s Resurrection, God assures us that we are forgiven and that we, too, will rise again. Surely this is the message of first importance that we as stewards of our Risen Lord and Savior will desire to pass on. Go and tell that Christ is risen!

The text "He is Risen" is written in a large, elegant, black cursive font. The letters are interconnected, with a soft, flowing style. The "H" and "R" are particularly prominent, with long, sweeping tails. The overall appearance is that of a handwritten message or a decorative graphic.

**Prayer:** *Dear Lord, without Your gracious aid I would be forever in the depths, forever bound to sin, forever lost. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and life You have given me through Your Son, Christ, my Redeemer. Help me boldly go out and tell others that Christ is risen! In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.*

### **Blessings on your stewardship journey!**

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> & March 24<sup>th</sup>

<i>General Offering</i>	\$4308.00		
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	\$1193.21		
<i>Missions</i>	\$0.00		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	\$0.00	<b>Total Attendance</b>	40/125
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	\$0.00	<b>Total Communed</b>	80
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	\$0.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5501.21</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	3/31	<b>6:00 am</b> <b>7:00 am</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Easter Sunday Sunrise Service</b> <b>Easter Breakfast</b> <b>Easter Sunday Festival Service</b> <b>Easter Sunday Festival Service</b>
Monday	4/1	-----	-----
Tuesday	4/2	<b>7:00 am</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Men’s Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)</b> <b>Stephen Ministry Meeting</b>
Wednesday	4/3	<b>9:30 am</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Ladies Bible Study</b> <b>All Boards Meeting</b>
Thursday	4/4	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Divine Worship</b>
Friday	4/5	-----	-----
Saturday	4/6	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Rise &amp; Sonshine Bible Study</b>
Sunday	4/7	<b>8:00 am</b> <b>9:15 am</b> <b>9:15 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship - Palm Sunday</b> <b>Adult Bible Study</b> <b>Sunday School</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>
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Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445

Fax:	Church/School	414-762-8869
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Pastor		<a href="mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org">pastor@graceoakcreek.org</a>
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