

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share*

## The Day of Pentecost

May 16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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



**Image:** "Then He said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." *Ezekiel 37:4-6*

# 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 “*Restoration through the Spirit*”**

The Day of Pentecost is more connected to Easter than to the Sundays after Pentecost. It is the fiftieth day of Easter, marking the new dawn under the guidance of the Spirit. The Lord works through the preached Gospel and our life together as the baptized around His Table to deliver what He has promised. Thus, the ministry of the Spirit is not some ethereal reality experienced in our feelings, but the concrete reality of the Word spoken into our ears to bring forth faith and the body and blood of Jesus received by faith in Holy Communion. This is the way the Spirit continues to work in us and for us and we continue to receive His ministry by faith and to celebrate this with great joy.

### **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 497 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord (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 104:24, 27-28, 30; antiphon: Liturgical Text, read responsively*)

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the | faithful,\*  
**and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle- | luia.**

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you | made them all;\*

the earth is full of your | creatures.  
These all | look to you,\*  
to give them their food in due | season.  
When you give it to them, they gath- | er it up;\*  
when you open your hand, they are filled with | good things.  
When you send forth your Spirit, they are cre- | ated,\*  
and you renew the face | of the ground.

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.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the | faithful,\*  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle- | luia.

*Kyrie LSB 204*

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

*Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204*

C 1 To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.

Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day** *LSB 205*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; 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*

**Old Testament Reading** *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

*(The valley of the dry bones hears the Word of the Lord.)*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise

you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

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

**Gradual** (*Acts 2:17b; Romans 10:10, responsively*)

I will pour out my Spirit | on all flesh,\*  
**and your sons and your daughters shall | prophesy.**  
With the heart one believes and is | justified,\*  
**and with the mouth one confesses | and is saved.**

**Second Reading** *Acts 2:1-21*

*(The Spirit descended upon the disciples as Jesus had promised.)*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, <sup>11</sup>both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” <sup>12</sup>And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup>But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>15</sup>For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup>But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams;  
<sup>18</sup>even on my male servants and female servants

in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.  
<sup>19</sup>And I will show wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;  
<sup>20</sup>the sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.  
<sup>21</sup>And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord  
shall be saved.’”

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

*Stand*

### **Alleluia and Verse LSB 205**

- C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Alleluia Verse for Pentecost Sunday** “*Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.*” (Liturgical Text)

**Holy Gospel John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

**([Jesus said] “When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth.”)**

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

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus said:] “When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. <sup>27</sup>And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. . . .

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

- 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 "A Breath of Fresh Air" (Ezekiel 37:1-14)** 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 496 Holy Spirit, Light Divine (vs. 1-4)**

**Sermon "The Spirit Restores" (Ezekiel 37:1-14)**

### **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. In these last days, You have poured out Your Holy Spirit on Your Church that Your sons and daughters might proclaim the wonders of Your salvation in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your gathered people that, faithfully eating and drinking the body and blood of Your Son, we may go forth to proclaim His salvation to the ends of the earth. 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

-913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In (vs. 1-3)

-500 Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid (vs. 1-4)

*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 212*

A Let us pray. Almighty God, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, comfort us in all our temptations and afflictions, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth that we, being steadfast in faith, may increase in all good works and in the end obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (vs. 1-3)**

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord  
People: **Thanks be to God!!!**



*Altar Flowers Given by Jim and Janine Pieper*

*In Honor of their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

**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); Sabrina (cancer); Lori Jablonski (cancer) and Jessie Marshall (healing & strength) friend of Cathy Weeks; Steve Benzie (stomach pain, hernia); 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; and Mariya (cancer); and Brooke Bzdawka (healing & strength) relative of Sharon Bzdawka; Jan Barrett (healing & strength); Sue de Shano (broken ankle) sister of Carol Loveall; Tim Gerum (recovery from a fall) husband of Missy Gerum, and friend of Sharon Iseli; The Lauters Family; Mary Goodle (healing & recovery) mother of Keith Goodle; Chris Cotter (healing & strength); and Brian (hospitalized) Margie Spaeth's nephew; and Nick Loveall (deployed as a soldier to Poland, for protection) Grandson of Carol Loveall.

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

We mourn with the families of Pauline Parker, Carol Loveall, and Rose Adams, as they grieve over the death of their relative, Frank Magestro. We pray: *Almighty God, Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, deal graciously with Frank Magestro's family, as they mourn his death, that casting every care on You, they may know the consolation of Your love. Help them to know that because Jesus lives, they too shall live and have eternal life in His name (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>Thursday 5/16 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 5/19 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 5/19 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Keith Goodle	Brandon Dachel	Eric Kamprath
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Kathryn Szefflinski Morgan Parker	Kathryn Szefflinski Morgan Parker
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Ushers</u>	Doug Klipfel Char Klipfel		Tommy Szefflinski Andrea Szefflinski
<u>Livestream</u>			Jennifer Olen

### *Congratulations to those who are graduating!*

Kindergarten—*those graduating from Grace Lutheran School:*

Jackson, Everly, Selena, Scarlett, Simon, Walton, Biruk, Jaxson, Violet, Cole, Kairo, Harper, Kennedy, Brynn., Emmett., Carly, Ruby, and Victoria.

8th Grade—*those graduating from Grace Lutheran School: Garrison H., Chloe J., Travis S., and Martin T.*

**A Prayer for our Graduates**—*Lord God, Heavenly Father, You provide schools and teachers for faithful instruction and dedicated learning. Receive our thanks for the knowledge gained by those who are now graduating. As they continue to learn and grow, grant them Your Holy Spirit that their talents and abilities may be used for Your glory and as a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*



### **Coffee and Baked Goods Fellowship -After Services at Church**

*Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>*

### **Ice Cream Social at Grace**

*Thursday June 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>*

*\*If you would like to bake for the Coffee Fellowship please let Pauline know.*

### **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.

**Celebration for Mrs. Hagar - Sunday, June 2nd** Join us in celebrating Mrs. Hagar's 10 years of teaching at Grace Lutheran School! Worship with us at 9am on Sunday, June 2nd, and then join us for a potluck meal in the school gym at 10:30am, served by our Grace Lutheran PTLs. Let's come together to celebrate Mrs. Hagar's dedication and service to our school. **If you would like to bring a dish to pass, please visit this link to sign up:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf\\_5HT1WGaSLdZK8tYUCROIjCVv6rLztWkC0OQeM875JRGOQ/vie/wform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_5HT1WGaSLdZK8tYUCROIjCVv6rLztWkC0OQeM875JRGOQ/vie/wform). You can also sign up for the potluck for Mrs Hagar at church in the narthex as well.

**Grace Debt Reduction Campaign**—During our April Voters Meeting, President Tony Mirenda spoke about the \$28,000 matching fund challenge that we have before our congregation. As you may know, our congregation carried over debt from last year, and we are currently \$65,000 behind. However, our congregation has been blessed with generous givers who recently donated \$28,000 in undesignated memorial money to Grace. Our congregation's challenge is to raise up to \$28,000 to match the memorial money that was given to us. We are asking our members to prayerfully consider giving beyond their firstfruits giving that they normally give to Grace on a weekly basis. **We have already received \$3,300.00 from some generous givers to help us begin to achieve this goal, and we would like to reach the goal of matching the \$28,000 by July 1st, 2024, when we begin the next fiscal year.** We have a poster in the narthex to help us track our progress toward meeting this goal. Thank you for your support of the ministries at Grace and please pray that we can meet our Debt Reduction Matching Challenge goal by July of this year!

**Join Us for Grace Lutheran School Panther Palooza on May 17th!** Grace Lutheran Church Families: Grace PTLs is excited to announce that we will be hosting the annual Panther Palooza at Grace Lutheran School on Friday, May 17th, from 5:30 - 8:00 pm at the school campus. This event promises to be a fantastic opportunity to meet other Grace Lutheran School families and have a great time together. There will be games, a bouncy house, a silent auction, food, and many more fun activities for everyone to enjoy. This is a perfect chance to have fun and get to know our Grace Lutheran School families better! We hope to see you all there for a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship.

### **Military Bible Sticks— Campaign from Thursday, May 23rd through Sunday, July 7th.**

Our congregation has faithfully supported this mission for many years. We prayerfully ask you for this support again this year. The change this year is that Military Bible Sticks will be paired with a new mission from Faith Comes by Hearing. This new effort is called Vision 2033. Vision 2033 involves partnering with other missions, such as Lutheran Bible Translators, to translate the Bible into mission languages. These Bible sticks would have native speakers reading the Word and would be given to the missions in countries all over the world. That way people would be able to hear the Good News in their own languages. We are looking forward to being able to be a part of this new mission by Faith Comes by Hearing. Envelopes will be available for donating to Military Bible Sticks in the narthex on the white board. A video will be shared with the congregation soon to share this mission's vision. For more in-depth information please go to: <https://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/> Here is an interview on the history of Military Bible Sticks: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-6mwlc1Bvo>

**Grace Lutheran Oak Creek Vacation Bible School (VBS) - Friday, June 14th** Join us for a fun-filled day at VBS on Friday, June 14th at Grace Lutheran School. The theme this year is "*Dive In – Come explore under the sea with us.*" Supper will start at 5:30 PM, and VBS activities will begin at 6:00 PM. Our Bible lesson for the evening will be from 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 for this year's VBS will be a dolphin. There will also be a bonfire that you are invited to join us in around 8:30pm at the school. **To register for VBS, please follow this link:**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JTPsKjy2\\_AfT1TdMXbJjklE0FaIAZPfeYNNpssEKGQ0/viewform?edit\\_requested=true&fbzx=-5942196203433033615](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JTPsKjy2_AfT1TdMXbJjklE0FaIAZPfeYNNpssEKGQ0/viewform?edit_requested=true&fbzx=-5942196203433033615)

### **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, June 2<sup>nd</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).

**Important Date for Sunday School & Adult Bible Class Coming Up**--This is a reminder that the last day of Sunday School & Adult Bible Class will be Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for having your children attend Sunday School this year, as they have had the opportunity to learn more about God's love for them in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord!

**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE STARTS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND** We will be switching to our Summer Schedule here at Grace starting Memorial Day weekend. This means that our Sunday morning worship time will be at 9:00am starting on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and this will go through Labor Day Weekend. There will not be Sunday School and Adult Bible Class during the summer. Thursday evening worship at 6:30pm will remain the same throughout the summer. We look forward to seeing you in worship!!!

**Adult Bible Class Topic— Lectionary Bible Study on the Bible Readings for Each Sunday.** On Sunday mornings in the school library from 9:15-10:15am, we will be studying the Bible Readings for each particular Sunday through Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. This will focus on the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, the Epistle reading, and the Gospel reading for each Sunday, please join us as we grow together in our understanding of God's Word!!! **Sunday School** is the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month in the School from 9:15-10:15am.

**CULVER'S DINING OUT** - Mark your calendar for Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> for the next Culver's Dining Out event. Flyers will be coming home next week. The event is 10 am to 10 pm!

**June 23<sup>rd</sup> Voters Meeting following 9am worship at Grace!** Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our next Voters Meeting at Church!!! It will be on Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> after the 9am worship service. Special topics will include: Pastor's Report, Election of new officers, and updates from church boards. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the ministries here at Grace!!! God bless you!

**Giving Tree in our Church Sanctuary begins on Memorial Day Weekend!!!** The *Giving Tree* from our Board of Stewardship will be up soon in our Church Sanctuary. Proceeds from the *Giving Tree* this year will go to support our *Church's Good Samaritan Fund*, which helps out those in need from our Church, School,



and Early Childhood Center, and the Oak Creek Community. Thank you for your generosity and support for those who are in need!!!

**Are You Interested in Serving on a Church Board?** Elections are coming up for various boards at our Church at our June Voter's Meeting. Do you feel called to serve in leadership here at Grace Lutheran Church? Please consider contacting the Church Office and we will let you know what responsibilities each board position has. We will also connect you with the current board members who are serving so that you can ask them questions pertaining to their current board responsibilities. The term of service is three years, and your service would begin in July of 2024. Please call the Church Office for what board positions are currently available for the next term.

**Experience the Holy Land, Plus Optional Egypt Extension!!!** This Holy Land Tour will be hosted by LCMS Pastors Aaron Koch & Tony Oliphant from March 17-26, 2025. The cost is \$4627 from Chicago, IL. Details for the trip can be located in the church narthex. Questions? Please contact Pastor Aaron Koch at: 414-795-9005 or [pastor.koch@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.koch@gmail.com). Register online at: [registernow.ittworld.com](http://registernow.ittworld.com). Tour code: Koch25. Early bird savings off the total trip cost with your initial deposit of \$500!!!

### **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 \$27,886.63 for the church & school furnace fund, thank you for your support!**

## **IN THE WORD FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**Catechism:** Table of Duties—To Employers and Supervisors: Ephesians 6:9; To Youth: 1 Peter 5:5-6

**Verse of the week:** Revelation 21:4, *“God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”*

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 143

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 498 “Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest” (stanzas 1 and 6)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

**Sunday**— If Anyone Loves Me He Will Keep My Word—John 14:23-31

**Monday**— Peter and John Heal the Lame Man—Acts 3:1-10

**Tuesday**— Peter Preaches in the Temple—Acts 3:11—4:4

**Wednesday**— Peter and John Are Arrested—Acts 4:5-22

**Thursday**— Peter and John Give Thanks for Being Persecuted—Acts 4:23-31

**Friday**— Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Holy Spirit—Acts 4:32—5:16

**Saturday**— An Angel Frees the Apostles from Prison—Acts 5:17-42

“Go to church together and get God’s message into your ears, into your life, into your relationships. And the Spirit who created you and recreates you into the best version of yourself, that self that God has in mind for you, will work in your relationship and make it into one that is life-giving. But married or single, divorced or twice-divorced, wid-owed, brokenhearted, or thriving, we all live in the echo of Easter: Christ is risen. Indeed. Alleluia. We walk in the power of Pentecost. Alleluia.” *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* “Hurting from abortion or going through a crisis pregnancy? Word of Hope can help. [word-of-hope.org](http://word-of-hope.org); Call 888-217-8679.

**LUTHERAN HOUR "Waiting, But Not Alone"** Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Jason Broge. Jesus leaves His followers waiting for Him to return but He promises they will not be left alone. (Acts 2:1-21) **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** We read in 1 Peter 4:10, “*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good steward of God’s varied grace.*” God wants us to use the talents and abilities that He has given us the best way we can. Paul said, “*Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men...*” (Colossians 3:23). With God’s help, we can begin and live each day with the joy and vigor that come from hearts filled with thanksgiving to God for His love, His guidance, His presence, and His strength in whatever we do. The world does notice how we work, does hear how we speak, and does watch how we behave. Let us help people see the love of the Lord through us.

**GIVING IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PASS ALONG THE JOY OF OUR FAITH IN CHRIST.**

“You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God”  
(2 Corinthians 9:11).



**Footsteps of Paul and Glories of Greece Tour** Join Pastor Doug Schroeder from Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Greenfield (LCMS) as we tour Thessaloniki (Thessalonica), Athens, Kalambaka, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, and Crete! We will be departing **July 19, 2024**, and the tour is 8 days, \$4,298 including airfare and hotels. An additional 3-day cruise will have shore excursions to Patmos, Ephesus, and Santorini, at \$1,298. This is a rare departure from Pastor Doug’s Holy Land tours. Let’s see these wonderful locations! Full details are on their website: [ourshpherdlutheran.org](http://ourshpherdlutheran.org).

## Growing in Grace – May 9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1882.00</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1625.99</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$350.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance: 28/80</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Communed: 84</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$3877.99</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	5/19	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Study Sunday School Divine Worship Coffee Social After Worship
Monday	5/20	6:30 pm	Grief Share
Tuesday	5/21	7:00 am 10am-10pm	Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner) Culver's Dinng Out Event
Wednesday	5/22	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	5/23	6:30 pm	Divine Worship Military Bible Stick Campaign
Friday	5/24	-----	-----
Saturday	5/25	-----	-----
Sunday	5/26	9:00 am	Divine Worship

## SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

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

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) <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, 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>
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### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office

#### Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

