

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

Holy Trinity Sunday

May 23rd & 26th, 2024

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



Image: “Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” (John 3:5-8)

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 “*The Blessed Trinity*”

We ponder today the great mystery of God—that God is one and that this one God is three persons. The liturgy in its proclamation focuses on the divine mystery of the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity is not so much truth to be understood as it is truth to be confessed. We confess the Father from whom all things come, the Son who is the incarnate Lord Jesus Christ, and the Spirit who proceeds from the Father through the Son. Throughout the centuries of the Christian Church, the confession of the Holy Trinity has been a hallmark of faithful believers. We sing of the Trinity and, with the profound words of the Athanasian Creed, we confess the Holy Trinity to be the one true God.

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 905 Come, Thou Almighty King (vs. 1-4)

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 16:8-11; antiphon: Liturgical Text, spoken responsively*)

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.

I have set the LORD always be- | fore me;*

because he is at my right hand, I shall not be | shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re- | joices;*

my flesh also | dwells secure.
For you will not abandon my soul | to Sheol,*
or let your holy one see cor- | ruption.
You make known to me the | path of life;*
in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for- |
evermore.

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.

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*
Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.

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. Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 6:1-8*

(The prophet Isaiah is overcome by his sinfulness and God's holiness, but the Lord takes his sin away and sends him to be His prophet.)

¹In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!"

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b, spoken responsively*)

Great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised,*
and his greatness is un- | searchable.
On your wondrous works, I will | meditate,*
and I will declare your | greatness.

Second Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-36

(Three thousand people heard Peter's message of the resurrection of Jesus and Him being both true God and the Messiah.)

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— ²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;
²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.
²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.
²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.’

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

- 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 Trinity Sunday *"Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory! Alleluia." (Isaiah 6:3b)*

Holy Gospel John 3:1-17

(Nicodemus, the "teacher of Israel," is taken to school by Jesus, who shares God's plan of salvation in a nutshell.)

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

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

Athanasian Creed LSB 319 *(spoken responsively by whole verse)*

- L Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.

- C **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**
- L And the catholic faith is this,
C **that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**
- L For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.
C **But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**
- L Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
C **the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**
- L the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;
C **the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**
- L And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
C **just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinities, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**
- L In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
C **and yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.**
- L So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
C **and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**
- L So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
C **and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**
- L Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
C **The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.**
- L The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
C **The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.**
- L Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

- C **And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;**
- L but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.
- C **Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.**
- L But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C **Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.**
- L He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age:
- C **perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;**
- L equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- C **Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:**
- L one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- C **one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.**
- L For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- C **who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,**
- L ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- C **At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.**
- L And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- C **This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.**

Children’s Message “God Has a Good Recipe” (Acts 2:14a, 22-36) 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 940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (vs. 1-4)

Sermon “Glimpses of God” (John 3:1-17)

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. 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. You once revealed Your name to Moses in the burning bush; and through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, You unveiled the mystery of Your holy name in the Trinity of persons and the Unity of being. Grant that we, who have been baptized and instructed in the triune name, may faithfully eat and drink of Your Son's body and blood and worship You in spirit and truth, O Father, through Your Son in the Holy Spirit. 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

-617 O Lord, We Praise Thee (vs. 1-3)

-506 Glory Be to God the Father (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. We give You thanks, almighty God, that nothing escaped Your definite

plan of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Thank You, Jesus, for giving us Your true body and blood in this Meal. We ask You to continue to lead and guide us by Your Holy Spirit on our journey this side of eternity, so that when we do see You face to face, it will not be with terror, but great joy. We ask You this with the Father 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.**

Sit

Closing Hymn 507 Holy, Holy, Holy (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God!!!**



Altar Flowers Given by Bill and Kathy Szefflinski

In Honor of their 32nd Wedding Anniversary on May 30th

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); Mariya (cancer); 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; Brian (hospitalized) Margie Spaeth's nephew; Nick Loveall (deployed as a soldier to Poland, for protection) Grandson of Carol Loveall; Paul (recovery from surgery) brother of Jim Pieper; Pauline Parker (healing and strength); Jake (cancer) Grandson of Rose Adams; Gilbert Kahle (medical tests) friend of the Taggatz Family; and Terri (healing and strength) friend of Joy Lussier.

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. **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 5/23 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 5/26 9:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Mike Huber	Greg Nowakowski
<u>Readers</u>	Kathryn Szefflinski	Jennifer Lau
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Kathryn Szefflinski Morgan Parker
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Ushers</u>	Doug Klipfel Char Klipfel	Tommy Szefflinski Andrea Szefflinski
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen

OUR GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PANTHER NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX HERE AT CHURCH FOR ANY PARISHIONERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PICK IT UP TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR LUTHERAN SCHOOL...

Ice Cream Social at Grace

Thursday June 6th and Sunday June 9th

**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_5HT1WGaSLdZK8tYUCRQIjCVv6rLztWKC0QEgM875JRGOQ/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 Miranda 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 \$3,400.00 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!

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

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 2nd 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.

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 26th 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!!!

June 23rd 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 23rd 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.

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 HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

Catechism: Table of Duties—To Widows: 1 Timothy 5:5-6; To Everyone: Romans 13:9; 1 Timothy 2:1

Verse of the week: 1 John 4:19, “We love Him because He first loved us.”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 29

Hymn of the week: LSB 940 “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” (stanzas 1 and 4)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Jesus Appears to Nicodemus—John 3:1-17

Monday— The Choosing of the Seven—Acts 6:1-7

Tuesday— Stephen Is Accused of Blasphemy—Acts 6:8—7:16

Wednesday— Stephen Bears Witness Before the Sanhedrin—Acts 7:17-36

Thursday— The Martyrdom of Stephen—Acts 7:37-60

Friday— The Ministry of Philip—Acts 8:1-13

Saturday— The Sin of Simon the Sorcerer—Acts 8:14-25

“May God send an army of angels to protect the babies in the womb from the laws being enacted in some states that are taking away protections for God’s smallest, most vulnerable humans. May hearts be changed with the truths found in Scripture. And may the influence the devil has on our society, with his culture of death, be deposed.” *Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* “Hurting from abortion or going through a crisis pregnancy? Word of Hope can help. word-of-hope.org; Call 888-217-8679.

LUTHERAN HOUR "Penultimate Sacrifice" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler.

Memorial Day honors those who made "the ultimate sacrifice" in service to country, but there was one Sacrifice infinitely greater. (Acts 10:1-2) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at:** 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 God calls us to be His stewards. He not only calls us, but He equips us to be faithful stewards. In our stewardship journey, God transforms us from owners to stewards, from kingdom building to submission, from bondage to freedom, and from obligation to joyful obedience. In our journey as God’s stewards, we seek to understand the heart and nature of God in Whose image we have been created. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we understand our identity and role as God’ stewards, and we become aware of our purpose. May God help us all hear the words, “*Well done, good and faithful servant*” (Matthew 25:23).

LET US BECOME MACEDONIAN PEOPLE AND GIVE WILLINGLY, FREELY, AND JOYFULLY.

“For [the Macedonians] gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their accord, begging earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints” (2 Corinthians 8:3).



Growing in Grace – May 16th & 19th

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$3202.25</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1020.04</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance: 28/80</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$40.00</i>	<i>Total Communed: 90</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$4392.29</i>	

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	5/26	9:00 am	Divine Worship
Monday	5/27	-----	-----
Tuesday	5/28	7:00 am	Men’s Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	5/29	-----	-----
Thursday	5/30	6:30 pm	Divine Worship
Friday	5/31	6:30 pm	8 th Grade Graduation
Saturday	6/1	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	6/2	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) thewordendures.blogspot.com
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		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Heidi, Church Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

School & Church Office Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

