

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

5th Sunday after Pentecost

June 20th & June 23rd, 2024

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



Image: “[Jesus] awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.” (Mark 4:39)

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 "Questions to Live (and Suffer) By"

For all of the Bible's reassurances of how much God loves us, cares for us, protects and guides us, it is, nevertheless, of our fallen, sinful nature that we still at times harbor doubts and even despairingly want to argue with God Himself and question His love and promises. The undying question is "*Why?*" The troubles, setbacks, trials, tragedies, and reverses in life do that. The Word before us today describes those times with the imagery of the destructive power of raging water and the greater power of God to deliver from threatening distress. Even when threatened with a raging flood, we are reminded that our help is still in the God who created everything. The trials of the otherwise "*blameless and upright*" man of God named Job (1:1) and the Lord's patient yet commanding love in His answer to Job's complaint should remind us to live our faith in daily repentance yet always still in praise of our saving 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 1, pg. 151

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 728 How Firm a Foundation (vs. 1-5)

Stand

Confession and Absolution LSB 151

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

C **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 God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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 107:29-32; antiphon: v. 28, read responsively)

Then they cried to the LORD in their | trouble,*
and he delivered them from | their distress.

He made the | storm be still,*
and the waves of the | sea were hushed.

Then they were glad that the waters were | quiet,*
and he brought them to their desired | haven.

Let them thank the LORD for his | steadfast love,*

for his wondrous works to the chil- | dren of men!
Let them extol him in the congregation of the | people,*
and praise him in the assembly of the | elders.

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.

Then they cried to the LORD in their | trouble,*
and he delivered them from | their distress.

Kyrie *LSB 152*

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for
the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray
to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

This Is the Feast *LSB 155*

C **This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people
of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, in Your mercy guide the course of this world so that Your Church may joyfully serve You in godly peace and quietness; 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 *Job 38:1-11*

(God is Creator, you are not!)

¹Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: ²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. ⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b, read 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.

Epistle Lesson 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

(Christ's love compels perseverance through all hardships.)

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

¹¹We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. ¹²You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. ¹³In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse LSB 156

- C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for the 5th Sunday after Pentecost—“Alleluia, alleluia! Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey Him? Alleluia, alleluia!” (Mark 4:41b)

Holy Gospel Mark 4:35-41

(Jesus calms the storm.)

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

³⁵On that day, when evening had come, [Jesus] said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. ³⁷And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?”

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

Apostles’ Creed *LSB 159*

- 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 “God Knows How!” (Job 38:1-11) 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 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us (vs. 1-4)

Sermon “The Good Samaritan” (Luke 10:25-37)

Sermon Text—Luke 10:25-37: Behold, a lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

Offertory *LSB 159*

- C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

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 160*

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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 161*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of

the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer *LSB 162*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 162*

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 163*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

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

-818 In Thee Is Gladness (vs. 1-2)

-743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure (vs. 1-6)

Stand

Thank the Lord *LSB 164*

- C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect *LSB 164*

- A Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Benediction *LSB 166*

- 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 717 Eternal Father, Strong to Save (vs. 1-4)



Altar Flowers given by
Joy Lussier
In honor of her Mother's Birthday
And her 53rd 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); 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); 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; Brian (hospitalized) Margie Spaeth's nephew; 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; Terri (healing and strength) friend of Joy Lussier; Lowell Johnson (medical testing); and Betty (healing & strength) Lori Kachelmeier's mother; and Oleta Partl (healing & strength); Bob Morgan (healing & strength); John (recovery from surgery) Jim Pieper's brother.

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 our beloved South WI District President Pastor John Wille who was called home to heavenly rest this past week, and the family of Cindy Riemer, who fell asleep in Jesus last Friday. *"We know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."* (2 Corinthians 5:1) **We pray:** Lord God, heavenly Father, receive our humble thanks for all Your mercies granted to our dear friends, District President Rev. Dr. John Wille & Cindy Riemer, during their earthly lives, especially for calling them in the true faith until their departure. Comfort those who mourn their deaths with the hope of the glorious resurrection and a happy reunion in heaven. Help us to remember that we are mortal, that we may ever prepare ourselves to fall asleep in faith and finally receive the glory promised to all who trust in Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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.

Thursday 6/20 6:30pm Sunday 6/23 9:00am

<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Greg Nowakowski
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Erica Vitek
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Staci Scherer	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Keith Goodle	Mike Huber
	Jim Robinson	
<u>Livestream</u>		Glenn Dotson

Volunteers Needed to Assist with Worship!

We are in need of additional people to assist as ushers and lay readers during worship services, especially for Sunday mornings at 8am and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. Ushers arrive early, greet people and hand out bulletins before service, gather offerings and assist with communion during service, and straighten up the church after service. Lay readers proclaim God's word to the congregation by reading the Old Testament and Epistle lessons during the worship service. If you are able and willing to help in either of these capacities, please sign up on the sheet in the back of church -- your assistance is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to approach the elder on duty with any questions you may have about these opportunities.

Pastor Taggatz's Summer vacation will be taking place Monday June 24th through Monday July 8th. Rev. Dr Nathan Meador, from the South WI District, will fill in for Pastor Taggatz on June 30th, July 3 & 7th and Pastor Jim Klug will fill in for Pastor Taggatz on June 27th.

Pastor Doug Schroeder, from Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Greendale, LCMS, will be taking Pastor's emergency calls while he is gone from June 24-July 8th... **If you are in need of Pastoral care while Pastor Taggatz is gone**, Pastor Schroeder can be reached at: 414-840-6016 & canus4ever@gmail.com.

Welcome to our new members at Grace! We are excited to welcome two new families at Grace, they are **Alayna and Jonathan Riffer**, and their children **Addelynn and Cooper**, and **Samantha Gonsowski** and her children, **Jaelynn, Jackson, and Madison**. Welcome to Grace, we are so glad that you have joined our church!!!

Installation of New Officers at Grace will be taking place during the July 14th worship service at 9am. All newly elected officers are asked to join us at Grace for worship on that day so that they can be installed to their selected offices to serve on our Church Boards at Grace! Thank you for your willingness to serve and God bless you in your years of service at Grace!!!

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...

Please note, that due to the July 4th holiday on the first Thursday of next month, our midweek worship service will be taking place on Wednesday July 3rd at 6:30pm, instead of Thursday evening. Thanks for your understanding and we look forward to seeing you in worship that week.

Special thanks to Jill Nowack, our VBS Coordinator, those who helped teach our Bible Lessons, lead arts and crafts, games, our opening and closing devotion, helped out with the set up and clean up, and the food for our Vacation Bible School on Friday June 14th. We couldn't have put the VBS on without your prayers and support. Thank you for sharing the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ with our children this year!!! The theme this year was "*Dive In - Come explore under the sea with us.*" Our Bible lesson for the evening was from 1 Samuel 18:1-12 & 19:1-7, where Jonathan serves God by helping David. The Bible verse for the evening was "*Serve one another in love*" (Galatians 5:13). We had about 30 youth attend this year!!!

If you missed the Information Meeting for attending the 2025 LCMS National Youth Gathering this past Tuesday June 11th at Grace Lutheran School and are still interested in taking part in fundraising and participating in the youth gathering for next year, please contact Pastor Taggatz at: pastor@graceoakcreek.org. **All confirmed youth ages 14-19 are welcome to attend the gathering. The Youth Gathering for next year is July 19-23, 2025 in New Orleans, LA. Lisa Kamprath, our Board of Education Chair, will be leading the youth to the Gathering next Summer.**

Lutheran Young Adults League is pleased to invite you to the Chinooks Baseball Game on June 26th at 6:35pm! Join us in the Modelo Beerpen at Kapco Park (12800 N. Lake Shore Dr. Mequon, WI 53097). **Sign up** to score a free ticket that includes all-you-can-eat ballpark fare, sides, desserts, and two drinks! To sign up, please contact LYAL via Facebook, Instagram, or email bergkarl1@gmail.com! Play Ball!!! LYAL (ages 21-35) provides opportunities to meet new people, forge friendships & have fun!

“Parables for Pentecost” (Sermon Series for this Summer)

Join us this summer as we embark on a journey through some of the most captivating and thought-provoking teachings of Jesus—His parables. These stories, often simple yet profound, reveal deep truths about the nature of God's Kingdom and our role within it. Each week, we will explore a different parable, seeking to understand its meaning in its original context and how it applies to our lives today. As we explore these parables, may we be challenged to examine our hearts and lives in light of God's Kingdom. May we be inspired to live lives of faithfulness, compassion, and generosity, reflecting the character of our Heavenly Father to a world in need.

1. June 20th & 23rd—The Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25–37
2. July 11th & 14th—A Hostile Takeover, Luke 12:13–21
3. July 18th & 21st—What Is God the Father Like? Luke 15:1–3, 11–32
4. July 25th & 28th—The Shrewd Steward, Luke 16:1–14
5. August 1st & 4th—Grace and the Double Standard, Matthew 18:21–35
6. August 8th & 11th—Denarius and the Evil Eye, Matthew 20:1–16
7. August 15th & 18th—Vine Grifters, Luke 20:9–20

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 \$9,395.00 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>

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. What we are doing with our hail damaged church and school roofs with insurance. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the ministries here at Grace!!! God bless you!

Giving Tree in our Church Sanctuary—The *Giving Tree* from our Board of Stewardship is 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 \$26,886.63 for the church & school furnace fund, thank you for your support!**

IN THE WORD FOR THE 5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—Part IV

Verse of the week: Romans 8:33-34 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Psalm of the week: Psalm 27

Hymn of the week: LSB 696 "O God, My Faithful God"

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Be Merciful as Your Father in Heaven Is Merciful—Luke 6:36-42

Monday— Paul, the Roman Citizen, Leaves Philippi—Acts 16:35-40

Tuesday— Paul Preaches in the Synagogues at Thessalonica & Berea—Acts 17:1-15

Wednesday— Paul Preaches in the Areopagus of Athens—Acts 17:16-34

Thursday— The Ministry of Paul in Corinth—Acts 18:1-22

Friday— Paul's Third Missionary Journey Begins—Acts 18:23—19:10

Saturday— The Miracles Worked by Paul—Acts 19:11-20

"The state of marriage is under a full assault from the devil. He will use whatever means necessary to destroy what God has created. Pray also for all God's children. Pray that love may abound in all homes. Pray that forgiveness may be the first word spoken between husbands and wives, parents and children. Pray that you and all people receive an increase of the Holy Spirit, for it is only through Him that we may repent of our sinful lives, amend our ways, and live joyfully in the comfort of God's grace." *Rev. Matthew Wietfeldt, Concordia Theological Seminary – 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 "You're Really into This, Aren't You?" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. People can be passionate about sports, gardening, video games, or family. All those things can be good, but none of them can save you. (Acts 16:30) **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 The night of Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples, He rose from the table, got a basin of water, and proceeded to wash His disciples' feet. They were embarrassed, for this was the task of a servant, not their Lord. But He insisted. We stewards must ask ourselves if we, too, are willing to do the lowly, the distasteful, the unappreciated, even the misunderstood in order to fulfill Christ's command, "Feed My sheep" (John 21:17). God works through each of us to serve Him and His Church. May God find us available and willing when He calls us into service.

AS WE PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHERS, GOD'S LOVE IS SEEN IN AND THROUGH US.

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40).



Growing in Grace – June 13th & June 16th

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1813.33</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1035.79</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<i>Portyals of Prayer</i>	<i>10.00</i>	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$510.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance: 46/41</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Communed: 72</i>
<i>Military Bible Sticks</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>	
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>50.00</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$3449.12</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	6/23	9:00 am	Divine Worship Voter's Meeting after Worship
Monday	6/24	-----	-----
Tuesday	6/25	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	6/26	-----	-----
Thursday	6/27	6:30 pm	Divine Worship
Friday	6/28	-----	-----
Saturday	6/29	-----	-----
Sunday	6/30	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

