

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 3rd & July 7th, 2024

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



*Image: "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."
(2 Corinthians 12:9)*

Welcome to Grace! **We're Glad You've Joined Us!**

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins & worship activity bags (age 2-8) are available for your children to use during the service. Please see an usher if you need assistance finding them.

Children are **always** welcome - we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our church narthex and entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again!

If you would like to include a **prayer for someone** in our worship today, please add it to the **Prayer Request Sheet** found on the podium in the narthex.

We're glad you're with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Taggatz. If you are in search of a new church home, or are interested in learning more about Grace, we would be happy to visit with you. We hope you'll be back and give us an opportunity to know you!

As We Gather “Your Congregation Is Wonderful!”

What a joy it is to gather as God's people! In this collection of people we know as a congregation, we are called, gathered, and enlightened by the Holy Spirit. In this collection of people we call a church, we are reminded the one holy Christian Church will be and remain forever. This is “*the congregation of saints . . . in which the Gospel is purely taught and the Sacraments are correctly administered*” (Augsburg Confession, Article VII, paragraph 1). As we remain steadfast in our witness to our neighbors to also gather with us in the truth of God's Word centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ, we are reminded in the Gospel today there will always be those who despise the Word as even Jesus faced rejection in His own hometown. We continue to pray for softened hearts of others in this world, and we remain firm in the foundation of our faith served in both Word and Sacrament within this place.

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 ✠

Sermon Hymn 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On (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 132:13-16; antiphon: Psalm 34:8, read responsively*)

Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!*

Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him!

For the LORD has chosen | Zion;*

he has desired it for his | dwelling place:

“This is my resting place for- | ever;*
here I will dwell, for I have de- | sired it.
I will abundantly bless her pro- | visions;*
I will satisfy her | poor with bread.
Her priests I will clothe with sal- | vation,*
and her saints will | shout for joy.”

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.

Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!*
Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him!

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, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy. Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Ezekiel 2:1-5*

(Ezekiel's call)

¹ He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you." ²And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' ⁵And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*Romans 11:33, 36, read responsively*)

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*

To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle Lesson 2 *Corinthians 12:1-10*

(Paul's vision and his thorn)

¹I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ³And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

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 the 7th Sunday after Pentecost *“Alleluia. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them. Alleluia.”* (Mark 6:13)

Holy Gospel Mark 6:1-13

(Jesus rejected at Nazareth)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

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

¹[Jesus] went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” ⁵And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶And he marveled because of their unbelief.

And he went about among the villages teaching.

⁷And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— ⁹but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

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

Sermon Hymn 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light (vs. 1-4)

Sermon

-Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador, LC-MS South WI District Executive of Human Care, Stewardship, and Evangelism (Sunday Morning)

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. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. 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

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

-770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus (vs. 1-3)

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

Benedicamus LSB 212

- A Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction *LSB 212*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing (vs. 1-2)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



Altar Flowers given by Ron and Mary Savarino

In Honor of their 56th 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 **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.

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.

Wednesday 7/3 6:30pm Sunday 7/7 9:00am

<u>Elders</u>	Adam Voss	Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Chris Cotter	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Marlene Voss	Lynn Buzzell
	Janine Pieper	Janine Pieper
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Marlene Voss	Ron Savarino
	Lance Kopperud	Lowell Johnson
<u>Livestream</u>		Glenn Dotson

Special thanks to Pastor Jim Klug and Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador for filling in for Pastor Taggatz, while Pastor Taggatz is on vacation with his family through Monday July 8th. God's continued blessings to them and their families as they continue to minister to God's people!!!

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...

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. If you have questions about going to the National Youth Gathering in 2025 you can reach Lisa Kamprath at: lisa@kamprath.net**

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

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.

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 \$10,395.00 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>

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!!!

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 THE 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: The Second Article explanation

Verse of the week: Romans 13:9-10, “*For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.*”

Psalm of the week: Psalm 19

Hymn of the week: LSB 562 “All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Christ Fulfills the Law—Matthew 5:17-26

Monday— Paul Is Protected as a Roman Citizen—Acts 22:17-29

Tuesday— Paul Appears Before the Sanhedrin—Acts 22:30—23:10

Wednesday— The Plot Against Paul—Acts 23:11-35

Thursday— Paul Appears Before Felix the Governor—Acts 24:1-23

Friday— Paul Appeals to Caesar—Acts 24:24—25:12

Saturday—Paul Appears Before King Agrippa—Acts 26:1-11

“Know that you too have been called to serve on behalf of life at such a time as this. God continually equips you, and you will be in awe of what He is able to do in and through you. The best part is He had it planned in the beginning (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:16; Ephesians 2:10). May you be blessed as you continue to serve life in His image!” *Jordan Killinger is President of Rice 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 "My Pastor" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Like sheep that need a shepherd, followers of Christ need pastors who will come looking for them when they stray. (Acts 20:28) **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 First Corinthians 15 has been called the Resurrection chapter of the Bible. It rings with the promises of God concerning our victory through Christ over death and our eternal life in Heaven with Him. It ends with a command to stand firm in the Lord and to use our mortal lives in His service. *“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain”* (1 Corinthians 15:58). The Apostle Paul is exhorting the Corinthians to be faithful and to abound in the work of the Lord. This is our stewardship response to God Who has given us all we are and have.

BECAUSE THE FARMER WAS SO FOCUSED ON ACCUMULATING MORE WEALTH, JESUS CALLED HIM A “FOOL.” IS GOD OR MONEY GETTING MOST OF YOUR ATTENTION?

“Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15).



Growing in Grace – June 27th & June 30th

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$2130.00</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1084.23</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$1000.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance: 32</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$1000.00</i>	<i>Total Communed: 54</i>
<i>Military Bible Sticks</i>	<i>\$75.00</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$5289.23</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	7/7	9:00 am	Divine Worship
Monday	7/8	-----	-----
Tuesday	7/9	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	7/10	6:30 pm 7:15 pm	All Board's Meeting Council Meeting
Thursday	7/11	6:30 pm	Divine Worship
Friday	7/12	-----	-----
Saturday	7/13	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	7/14	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

