

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 8th & 11th, 2024

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



Image: "Blessed Jesus, living Bread, By Your self our souls are fed: Give us all the eyes to see
All that You were sent to be. (*"Blessed Jesus, Living Bread," st. 1*)

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 “*Jesus Is Enough*”

We are quick to lament when we have had enough—enough trouble, trial, temptation, and turmoil. In the midst of our despair and sorrow, the Lord comes to us with the promise: “*I am enough.*” All our lives we wrestle with that statement. Sometimes it is easy to answer what troubles us with “*Jesus is enough.*” Other times we fight against the sufficiency of Christ in a world of affliction, pain, sorrow, and doubt. Like Elijah of old, the only answer we have against the powers of the world and the devil is Christ, the living bread come down from heaven to give us strength for this life and the life which is eternal.

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 534 Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor (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 34:8-10; antiphon: Psalm 145:16, read responsively)

You open | your hand;*

you satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

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

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

Oh, fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him | have no lack!
The young lions suffer want and | hunger;*
but those who seek the LORD lack | no good thing.

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.

You open | your hand;*
you satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

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. Gracious Father, Your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *1 Kings 19:1-8*

(God calls Elijah to arise and eat for his journey is great, and God strengthens him)

¹Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers." ⁵And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." ⁶And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. ⁷And the angel of the LORD came again a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you." ⁸And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *(Psalm 34:9, 19, alt., read responsively)*

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*

for those who fear him lack | nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*

but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle Lesson *Ephesians 4:17–5:2*

(“Be imitators of God, as beloved children.”)

¹⁷This I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. ¹⁹They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰But that is not the way you learned Christ!— ²¹assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²²to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³²Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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 12th Sunday after Pentecost—“Alleluia. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. Alleluia.” (John 6:51a, b)

Holy Gospel *John 6:35-51*

(Jesus says, “The bread that I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.”)

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

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

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

⁴¹So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” ⁴³Jesus answered them, “Do not grumble among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— ⁴⁶not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed *LSB 206*

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message "One Word, Two Meanings" (1 Kings 19:1-8) 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 566 By Grace I'm Saved (vs. 1-4)

Sermon "Denarius and the Evil Eye" (Matthew 20:1-16)

Sermon Text— Matthew 20:1-16—[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."

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 Hymn

-622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared (vs. 1-8)

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. From Your abundance, O Lord, You have supplied us all things in Christ. Grant to us grace that we may receive Your gift with joy and thanksgiving and, by this blessed communion, we may rest our burdened hearts upon Your goodness knowing that Christ is enough and trusting in Him always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 212

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

Benediction LSB 212

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

C Amen.

Closing Hymn 680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



*Altar Flowers are given by the Szefflisnski Family
In Honor of Tommy and Andrea's 16th Birthdays!*

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; 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); Evan (healing & strength); Scott (kidney failure); Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Rachel Goodle (prayers for God's strength); Daniel Abelt (cancer); and Alyssa (healing & strength); 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; 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; Paul (recovery from surgery) brother of Jim Pieper; Jake (cancer) Grandson of Rose Adams; Terri (healing and strength) friend of Joy Lussier; Oleta Partl (healing & strength); and John (recovery from surgery) Jim Pieper's brother; John Loveall (bone cancer) brother in law of Carol Loveall; Grandma Martha Rowley (move to assisted living & good health) relative of Mary & Tammy Rowley; Greg Nowakowski (shoulder surgery); Sue Dummer (surgery) wife of Pastor Dummer; Lynn Van Kanegan (recovery from heart surgery); Karen (healing & strength) sister of Beth Jackson; Pauline Parker (healing & strength); and Cris Evers (healing & strength); Georgeanne (Parkinsons disease) friend of Sharon Iseli; Laura (Lou Gehrig's Disease) friend of Jim & Janine Pieper; Carol Loveall (medical tests).

We mourn with the families of **Bob Morgan**, and **Brian**, a nephew of **Wally & Margie Spaeth** who were called home to heavenly rest. *"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 **Bob Morgan and Brian**, during their earthly lives, especially for calling them in the true faith until their departure. Comfort those who mourn **Bob & Brian's** 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.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! **We rejoice with Dick and Beth Jackson at the birth of their new granddaughter, Hannah Jane Butler, the daughter of Kevin & Heather (Jackson) Butler. We pray: Heavenly Father receive our heartfelt thanks for the gift of a new baby girl, Hannah Jane Butler, to Kevin & Heather Butler. Send Your holy angels to shield little Hannah from all dangers of body and soul. Preserve her according to your good pleasure until that day she is brought to the saving waters of Holy Baptism to revie the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

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.

	<u>Thursday 8/8 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8/11 9:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Keith Goodle	Rick Weeks
<u>Readers</u>	Tatiana Concepcion	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Staci Scherer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Doug Klipfel	Bob Buzzell
	Charlotte Klipfel	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen

TODAY: Sunday August 11th following our 9am Sunday Worship our Fellowship Committee will be having an Ice Cream Social in our Church Narthex. Please join us for another opportunity of good food and fellowship with one another!

UPDATE ON POSTAGE AT GRACE!!! We wanted to let you know that since the US Postal Service is once again raising prices on postage, we are considering narrowing down our list of individuals who receive our mailings from the Church office. If you currently have an email address filed with us, we will begin sending you communications electronically, such as the church newsletter, etc. However, if you would like to continue to receive the newsletter and other church communication by mail, please be sure to let our Church office know by contacting us at: **Phone:** 414-762-8990 or **Email:** church@graceoakcreek.org Thank you for letting us know your preferences for receiving communications from us at Grace! Please respond by Monday August 26th to let us know your preferences.

Your second quarter giving statements are available in the Church narthex to pick up. We continue to provide your quarterly giving statements in order to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the ministries at Grace. We couldn't do this kingdom work without your ongoing prayers and support! God bless you!!!

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!!! We have received the payment from Brotherhood Mutual, Grace's Insurance Company. Brookens Construction, the company we approved at our June Voters Meeting, should be able to begin construction on our hail damaged church and school roofs soon. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we seek to complete this project on our church and school roofs. Praise God we were able to receive money from our insurance company to cover some of the costs of replacing the church and school roofs!!!

Temporary Wraparound Care Worked Needed at the Day School: We are in need of a temporary wraparound care worker at Grace from 6:30-8:05am near the end of August through the month of October. If you are interested in helping out with this position, please contact our ECC Director Rachel Miliacca at: eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org or at 414-762-8755.

Lutheran Young Adults League—LYAL (ages 21-35) provides opportunities to meet new people, forge friendships & have fun. Kickball Game, Plus Spikeball and Volleyball. August 17th at 4pm. Elm Grove Lutheran Church 945 Terrace Dr. Elm Grove, WI 53122. Both players and spectators welcome! To sign up, please contact LYAL via Facebook, Instagram, or email lutheranyoungadultsleague@gmail.com.

Attention 6th - 8th Grade Parents

There will be a special Confirmation meeting on Monday, September 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the school with Pastor Tagatz.

Confirmation classes will begin Monday, September 16th at 6:30 p.m. for Public School students. The Confirmation Classes will be taking place in the school.

Ladies Bible Study

The Ladies Bible Study will be starting up again. Please join us on Wednesday mornings at Church beginning, September 4th, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. We are studying, *"God's Provision in a Wilderness World"* by Lindsay Hausch. About the book: For the Israelites wandering through the wilderness and us, God's manna is a gift wrapped in struggle. This example of God providing manna invites us to look at our present life—with its bittersweet beauty—and see how our Creator is blessing us with His gifts in our everyday struggles. The forty studies in this book will lead you through the Book of Exodus as the Israelites wander through the wilderness, pointing you to what God wants you to know and apply to your own life. This women's Bible study is broken up into eight weeks, with five sessions per week, for a total of forty studies. Our culture is a wilderness where our effort to satisfy our needs with things of this world leaves our hearts empty and aching for more. Every day, no matter where you wander, God invites you to take time in His Word and recenter your heart on Him. God's provision for you is personal. He meets you where you are. And He gives you what you need. Join us!!!

Sunday, September 8th—Christian Education Sunday and Church Picnic at Grace Lutheran School!!!

Please join us for our church picnic on Sunday, September 8th. We will have our Christian Education Sunday Worship Service at 10am in our Church Sanctuary. Then, the picnic will start at 11:30am at Grace Lutheran School. We hope you can join us for some good fun, food, and Christian fellowship!!!

Please register by Sunday, September 1st. You can register on the sign-up sheet in the church narthex, or by contacting the church office via email church@graceoakcreek.org, or calling 414-762-8990. Please note that food and beverages will be provided for this event. Feel free to bring lawn games such as: *ladder toss* and *bean bag toss* for you and your fellow parishioners to enjoy. As you sign up, please indicate the number of people attending and if you can help with set up, serving, and/or clean up. We are looking forward to seeing you there!!!

Sunday School Begins on Sunday September 15th

Sunday School at Grace begins on Sunday, September 15th. It is for children preschool through 8th Grade. This year we also will be providing Sunday School for our High School Students. We are also providing Adult Bible Class at Grace. Adult Bible Class will take place in the School Library and Sunday School will be taking place at Grace Lutheran School. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class is between 9:15-10:15am on Sunday mornings. Adult Bible Class will be every Sunday of the month and Sunday School and High School Bible Study will be on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. If you are interested in helping out with Sunday School, please contact our Sunday School Superintendent, Mary Rowley at: sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org.

If you missed the Information Meeting for attending the 2025 LCMS National Youth Gathering on 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 Tagatz 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

Rise and Sonshine Bible Study

Please note: The schedule has changed from August 10th to August 17th 8:00am at Grace School

“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. August 8th & 11th—Denarius and the Evil Eye, Matthew 20:1–16
2. 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. Call the church office at 414-762-8990 or email Pastor Taggatz at: pastor@graceoakcreek.org if you are interested in helping out with lay reading or ushering at Grace!!!

Save the Date for this year's ML Spartan Golf Open, held Monday, September 30th at Tuckaway Country Club in Franklin. Last year was a sellout, so don't wait to sign up! Please also consider being a sponsor of the event, and/or donating an item to raffle off. We would greatly appreciate it. So again, Save the Date and let's go to the SGO!!

For more information and to register, follow this link...

<https://lhsagm.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/SpartanGolfOuting2024/tabid/1488799/Default.aspx>

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 \$11,195.00 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 in the next few months.** 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!

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 \$27,036.63 for the church & school furnace fund, thank you for your support!**

IN THE WORD FOR THE 12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: The Lord's Prayer—the Fifth Petition

Verse of the week: Jeremiah 17:9-10, *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 50:7-23

Hymn of the week: LSB 559 "Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion"

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Pharisee and the Tax Collector—Luke 18:9-14

Monday—A Canaanite Woman Trusts Jesus' Word—Mark 7:24-30

Tuesday— Jesus Heals a Deaf Mute—Mark 7:31-37

Wednesday— The Feeding of the 4,000—Mark 8:1-10

Thursday— The Pharisees Seek a Sign—Mark 8:11-21

Friday— A Blind Man Is Healed at Bethsaida—Mark 8:22-26

Saturday—The Confession of Peter and His Rebuke—Mark 8:27—9:1

"Not only does Scripture provide God's intent and meaning, it also encourages us to be truthful (Proverbs 12:19), timely (Proverbs 17:28; Matthew 18:15), gentle (Titus 3:2), and more. Most importantly, it reminds us, in God we find the strength to speak truth in the face of evil (Psalm 118:6; Ephesians 6:13). Stand strong, choose words carefully, and remember the Lion's got your back." *James MacGregor, COL, USA (RET), Director at Large, LFL of Kansas Director-at-Large – 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 "God's Peacemakers for a Troubled World" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz. Archives August: Don't let anger, disagreement, and stress damage your relationships. Hear how God changes troublemakers into peacemakers. (Philippians 4:4-13) **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 In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus contrasts treasures in heaven with treasures on earth. He tells us to be cautious about seeking earthly treasures because they provide no lasting value, security, satisfaction, or happiness. *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal"* (Matthew 6:19). If earthly treasures become overly important, we will experience disillusionment and anxiety worrying about what we possess. Another danger in amassing earthly treasures is that our attention and loyalty is on material possessions. Focusing our thoughts on material things will undermine our relationship with Jesus and take away our joy and interest in His kingdom.

**WHEN WE GIVE, WE REFLECT
THE HEART OF GOD.**

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).



Growing in Grace – August 1st & 4th

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1875.00</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1553.24</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$120.00</i>	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance: 89</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$75.00</i>	<i>Total Communed: 70</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$3623.24</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	8/11	9:00 am	Divine Worship Ice Cream Social
Monday	8/12	-----	-----
Tuesday	8/13	7:00 am	Men’s Bible Study (OC Diner)
Wednesday	8/14	6:30 pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	8/15	6:30 pm	Divine Worship
Friday	8/16	-----	-----
Saturday	8/17	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	8/18	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.
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School & Church Office

Mailing Address

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