

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share*



Stewardship Emphasis 3

October 17th & 20th, 2024

"By His Grace you are saved through faith."

Ephesians 2:8



Image: "Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth." (Psalm 50:2)

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 “What Do You Mean, “Sacrifice”?!

“She has done a beautiful thing to Me,” said Jesus after the woman with an alabaster flask of ointment had anointed Him. Her offering was a costly and great sacrifice. In the same way, the two small coins given by the woman at the temple were her last coins and a sacrificial gift that showed her great devotion. The Lord views sacrificial offerings as things of beauty and promises His blessing on those who make such sacrifices. Our offerings of prayer and praise, as well as the financial offerings we bring, can be a beautiful sacrifice for the Lord week after week and year after year.

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 981 To Your Temple, Lord, I Come (vs. 1-4, Thursday & Sunday 8am only)

Grace Lutheran School Choir—"Build My Life" (10:30am Sunday only)

(Please note: After the students sing, they are dismissed to sit back with their parents after the song)

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 50:1-3, 6; antiphon: v. 14, read responsively*)

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanks- | giving,*
and perform your vows to the | **Most High.**
The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and sum- | mons the earth*
from the rising of the sun to its | **setting.**
Out of Zion, the perfection of | beauty,*
God | shines forth.
Our God comes; He does not keep | silence;*
before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty | **tempest.**
The heavens declare His | righteousness,*
for God Him- | self is judge!

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.**

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanks- | giving,*
and perform your vows to the | **Most High.**

Kyrie *LSB 204*

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

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

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

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,

Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
“Amen!” our glad reply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 205*

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, heavenly Father, You have called us to be Your children and heirs of Your gracious promises in Christ Jesus. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may forsake all covetous desires and the inordinate love of riches. Deliver us from the pursuit of passing things that we may seek the kingdom of Your Son and trust in His righteousness and so find blessedness and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Lamentations 3:22-26*

(The mercies of the Lord are new each day.)

²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” ²⁵The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

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

Gradual (*Psalm 56:12; 54:6; 61:8; 4:5, read responsively*)

¹²I must perform my vows to you, | O God;*
I will render thank offerings | to you.

⁶With a freewill offering I will sacri- | fice to you;*
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for | it is good.

⁸So will I ever sing praises | to your name,*
as I perform my vows day | after day.

⁵Offer right sacri- | fices,*
and put your trust | in the LORD.

Epistle Lesson 2 *Corinthians 8:1-5*

(The generous giving of the Macedonians)

¹We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

- 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 3rd Sunday in Stewardship Emphasis—*"Alleluia! The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies Me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God! Alleluia!" (Psalm 50:23)*

Holy Gospel *Mark 12:41-44*

(The offering of the poor widow)

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

⁴¹And [Jesus] sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

- 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 "I Did My Best!" (Mark 12:41-44) 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 543 What Wondrous Love Is This (vs. 1-4)

Sermon “What Do You Mean, “Sacrifice?!” (2 Corinthians 8:3-5)

Offertory 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own (vs. 1-2)

1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!

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, Lord of heaven and earth, who of Your tender love for all people gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon Himself and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. Assembled in His name and in the communion of all saints, we pray You to send down Your Holy Spirit on us, and through Him to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who sacrificed His very life for us and who invites us to His blessed Table. 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

- 688 “Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake (vs. 1-5)
- 642 O Living Bread from Heaven (vs. 1-4)

Stand

Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

- C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav’nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.
- 2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect LSB 212

- A Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You that You have welcomed us to Your Table and have fed us with the body and blood of Your Son, our Savior,

Jesus Christ. By Your grace lead us into paths of loving and sacrificial service in Your name that we may joyfully do the good works that You desire; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

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 895 Now Thank We All Our God (vs. 1-3)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

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



Altar flowers today are given by:

Rick and Cathy Weeks - In Honor of their 8th Wedding Anniversary

Sharon Russell - In honor of Family 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; 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); Evan Kopperud (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; Sue de Shano

(broken ankle) sister of Carol Loveall; **Jake** (cancer) Grandson of Rose Adams; **Terri** (healing and strength) friend of Joy Lussier; **John Loveall** (bone cancer) brother in law of Carol Loveall; **Cris Evers** (healing & strength); **Georgeanne** (Parkinsons disease) friend of Sharon Iseli; **Laura** (Lou Gehrig's Disease) friend of Jim & Janine Pieper; **Diane Krueger** (knee surgery); **Don Adams** (cancer) relative of Pauline Parker; **Diana** (surgery) friend of Wally & Margie Spaeth; **Larry Herte** (healing & strength); **Linda Stecker's Son in Law** (battling brain cancer); **Ron Savarino** (healing & strength); **Jacob Schneider** (leukemia) friend of Sharon Iseli; **Brennan** (motorcycle accident, healing & strength) friend of Greg & Gail Nowakowski; **Jerry Urbaniak** (healing & strength); **Diane Poris** (medical tests); **Martha Rowley** (surgery) relative of Mary Rowley; **Curt Parker** (healing & strength)

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

We mourn with the families of **Evelyn Van Doren & Doris Woodworth**, sister of **Phyllis Kraning**, who were recently called home to heavenly rest. **We pray:** *Almighty God, Father of mercies and God of all comfort, deal graciously with Doris & Evelyn's families as they mourn their deaths that, casting every care upon You, they may know the consolation of Your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. 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 in 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>Elders</u>	<u>Thursday 10/17 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 10/20 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10/20 10:30am</u>
<u>Readers</u>	Brandon Dachel	Adam Voss	Craig Lau
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Erica Vitek	Edward Taggatz
<u>Linens</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Lynn Buzzell	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Acolyte</u>	Sharon Iseli	Sharon Iseli	Sharon Iseli
<u>Ushers</u>	David Penn	Abigail Norton	Ethan Concepcion
	Marlene Voss	Nick Norton	Lowell Johnson
	Lance Kopperud	Benjamin Tindall	Ron Savarino
			Tatiana Concepcion
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen	

Choir at Grace

Choir practice will be starting soon on Thursday evenings. Our first practice will be October 17th following our Thursday evening worship service. Please contact Kathy Kolb for further details.

Your 3rd Quarter Giving Statements are available to be picked up in the narthex at Church. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support of the ministries at Grace through the giving of your time, talents, and treasures!!! God bless you!!!

“Prepare Our Hearts”

Grace Oak Creek 2024 Stewardship Emphasis.

The gifts of God are experienced by His people as countless blessings. The life of stewardship is formed in response to those mercies. The talents one is given and the gifts one receives are individual and special. Looking at the world brings a response of both amazement and thanksgiving from God’s well-loved people. Our God does all things well and invites us as His greatest creation to bring Him the fullest of our devotion and thanks, preparing our hearts to offer Him thanks and praise.

October 20th, 2024 (Harvest Sunday)—"What Do You Mean, “Sacrifice”?!" (2 Corinthians 8:3–5)

During our stewardship emphasis you will receive a commitment form & a time & talents survey. Please fill those out and bring them to church on Harvest Sunday (Commitment Sunday) Oct. 20th or return it to the church office when convenient. (*Extra commitment forms are available on the back table of the church and will be included next week in your bulletin*). I ask that, as you approach your commitment decisions and how God can use your time, talents, and treasures for service in God’s Kingdom and in His Church, you seek God’s guidance in prayer. Let the love of God guide you in your decision.

LWML SWD-Zone 1 Fall Rally

Saturday, October 19th- 9am @ Grace Oak Creek school

All are invited to join the women of Zone 1 of the LWML South Wisconsin District in their Fall Rally.

Continental breakfast served from 9-9:30am

Program begins at 9:30am.

Speaker: Carol Flanaray

Lutheran Counseling & Family Services

Gifts from the Heart items to be collected:

Socks for Socktober!

Socktober! LWML Sunday will kick off our annual SOCKTOBER drive for the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. New socks of all sizes are welcome! **Information about the Milwaukee Rescue Mission can be found here <https://milmission.org/>** Look for the pink tote in the narthex for your socks. Thank you!

Ladies Bible Study

The Ladies Bible Study will be starting up again. Please join us on Wednesday mornings at Church at 9:30 a.m. We are studying, *"God's Provision in a Wilderness World"* by Lindsay Hausch. Join us!!!

Adult Membership Class at Grace Oak Creek – "God Connects" We are forming a new adult membership class. It will be a one-day course on Sunday October 20th from 1:30-5:30pm at Grace Lutheran School located at 8537 South Pennsylvania Ave. Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, this class will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class leads to membership in our church, but there are no obligations. Please let us know if you need child care to attend this new members class. Watch an introductory video at: www.lhm.org/GodConnects. If you are interested in attending the class, please call the church office at: 414-762-8990 or email pastor at: pastor@graceoakcreek.org.

5th ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT TO BE HELD AT GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PARKING LOT: Children from Grace Lutheran and the surrounding community are invited to come to a "Trunk or Treat" event at Grace Lutheran School's parking lot on Friday October 25th from 6:00-7:00pm. The children can come to our school parking lot to receive some Halloween Candy, some Christian tracts, and they will be able to have fellowship with other children and with members of our congregation. We are in need of volunteers for this event, please contact Pastor Taggatz or the Grace Lutheran Church Office if you are interested in helping out with this event and providing candy for the children through the trunk of your car, truck or van: 414-762-8990

or church@graceoakcreek.org. During a Trunk or Treat event the trunk of one's car is opened displaying candy, and often games are made available, and certain Halloween decorations. Because this is a Christian event, please do not decorate or come in costume with goblins, witches, and other occult attire. Ideas for how to decorate the trunks of your cars for this event can be found on Pinterest. The Oak Creek Fire & Police Department will be at this year's Trunk or Treat to talk about fire and public safety with the children and *Better Together Café* will also be there to offer sweet treats and drinks for all who come to this event. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave Oak Creek WI 53154

All Saints Day—Any members who would like to recognize those of the Christian faith who have fallen asleep in Jesus this last year from November 2023 to the present, please let our church office know by Monday, October 28th. We will be remembering the saints who have gone to heaven in a special All Saints Day worship service on November 3rd, 2024.

Worship Services at Willow Crest Nursing Home Volunteers Needed--Grace Lutheran Church members have helped out with leading worship services at Willow Crest Nursing Home on Sunday mornings. We have started leading these worship services again and could use some volunteers to help out with this ministry. The worship services are roughly 30 minutes long and are held at 10:00am on Sundays at Willow Crest Nursing Home located at: 3821 Chicago Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172. You may end up leading a worship service at Willow Crest once a month, or every 5 to 6 weeks, depending on how many people are willing to volunteer in leading worship services at Willow Crest. We would also provide you with resources to help you lead worship services at Willow Crest. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jeanne Meyer at: meyorch@sbcglobal.net or 414-719-2257 or Lori Kachelmeier at jlkachel2@gmail.com or 414-828-0290. You would also be able to shadow a current Willow Crest Worship Leader if you are wanting to learn more information about this ministry.

Grief Share Group starting on October 7th at Grace Lutheran School—No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a loved one recently? On Monday October 7th we are starting a special seminar and support group that we sponsor for people dealing with the loss of a family member here at Grace Lutheran. We understand how deeply grief and loss hurt people and families, and we simply wanted you to know about our Grief Share group. It's a place where many people have found they can begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord's help and with the love and encouragement of His Church. Our Grief Share grief recovery seminar and support group meets on Monday evenings at Grace Lutheran School starting October 7th through January 13th, 2024 from 6:30-8:00pm in the School Library, with a break on Monday December 23rd. The cost for attending is \$20.00. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Oak Creek, WI. Lori Kachelmeier and Jeanne Meyer will be the leaders for this Grief Share Group. Grief Share features nationally recognized experts on grief recovery topics. Seminar sessions include *"Is This Normal?"* *"The Challenges of Grief,"* *"Grief and Your Relationships,"* *"Why?"* and *"Guilt and Anger."* For more information, call our Church office at 414-762-8990 or email us at: church@graceoakcreek.org. You can also contact Jeanne Meyer for more information at: meyorch@sbcglobal.net or 414-423-0010 or Lori Kachelmeier at jlkachel2@gmail.com or 414-828-0290.

Sunday Morning Bible Class from 9:15-10:15am in the School Library starting Sunday September 15th—Luke: *To All Nations*. Luke's carefully written Gospel, compiled from both oral and written accounts, points to God's gracious salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. The peace that Christ has brought to the world enables us to break out in a liturgy of praise. The salvation story did not end with Christ's ascension, however; Christ's Church is called to go to "*all nations*"—men, women, children, the poor, the sick, and the disenfranchised—proclaiming the victory found only in Jesus Christ. We hope you can join us for our Adult Bible Class on Sunday mornings at Grace as we learn how Luke's Gospel speaks to us about:

- God's plan for bringing salvation to both Jew and Gentile;
- believers' unceasing joy upon hearing the Good News;
- the work of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' life and in our own;
- the enduring value and importance of prayer.

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 \$11,658.00 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!

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 \$27,141.63 for the church & school furnace fund, thank you for your support!**

IN THE WORD FOR THE 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism: Creed—Second Article

Verse of the week: Isaiah 7:14 The Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Psalm of the week: Psalm 90

Hymn of the week: LSB 555 “Salvation Unto Us Has Come” (stanzas 1-5)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— Jesus Heals the Official’s Son—John 4:46-54

Monday— The House of Jeroboam and the Northern Kingdom—1 Kings 14:1-20

Tuesday— The House of Rehoboam & the Southern Kingdom—1 Kings 14:21-31

Wednesday— St James of Jerusalem—Acts 15:12-22a

Thursday— King Ahab and the Drought—1 Kings 16:29–17:7

Friday— The Prophet Elijah Goes to the Widow of Zarephath—1 Kings 17:8-24

Saturday—Micah 6:6-8

“God’s grace is costly (the Cross is the best symbol of all) and God is ‘for us, not against us’ because God is the God of creation and nature, history and eternal destiny (Romans 8). Here St. Paul reminds us that we are all adopted into Christ. Just as we are all transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12), so the Gospel has shaped our earthly adoptions and our families—now including three beautiful granddaughters! In our Triune God we are born to a new and living hope, a pro-life and pro-adoption one!” *Pastor Leon and Terri Rosenthal – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

LUTHERAN HOUR "Children of God--No Longer Losers" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez. God turns lost losers into forgiven sons and daughters. Through Christ, we too become children of God's kingdom, members of His household. (Hosea 12:2-6) 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

**GOD’S GIFTS ARE TO BE
USED ACCORDING TO HIS
WILL.**

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Peter 4:10).



Stewardship Minute— Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we acknowledge that our blessings are gifts from God, and we want to show our gratitude for these gifts by using them in ways that accomplish His purposes and extend His kingdom. Therefore, we are eager to share God’s grace by serving others: joining committees, activities and groups in church; witnessing and giving. Being transformed by the renewing of our minds, we become more selective with the ways we spend our time, talents, and money. As we grow in our understanding of Biblical stewardship, we become more intentional and focused on using our lives and resources in ways that help us live as God pleasing stewards.

Growing in Grace – October 10th & 13th

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1837.00</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$916.28</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance: 39/50</i>
<i>Mortgage Offering</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Communed: 29</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2903.28</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	10/20	8:00 am	Divine Worship
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		9:15 am	Sunday School
		10:30 am	Divine Worship
		1:30pm	New Member Class
Monday	10/21	5pm-8pm	Cousins Dining Out Night (Ryan Rd.)
		6:00pm	Grief Share
		6:30pm	6th-8 th Grade Confirmation Class
Tuesday	10/22	7:00am	Mens Bible Study (OC Diner)
Wednesday	10/23	9:30am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	10/24	6:30pm	Divine Worship
			Choir after Divine Worship
Friday	10/25	6:00pm	Trunk or Treat
Saturday	10/26	8:00am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
		11:00am	Evelyn Van Doren Funeral
Sunday	10/27	8:00 am	Divine Worship
		9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
		10:30 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

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Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

