Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin www.graceoakcreek.org

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 27th, 2024

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

Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace





Image: "We thank You, our Creator, for all things bright and good: The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food. Accept the gifts we offer for all Your love imparts; Accept what You most welcome: our humble, thankful hearts! All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above; Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love. ("We Plow the Fields and Scatter," st. 3)

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 your child is using the bathroom during the worship service, we ask that you monitor them so that they are using it in a timely manner. We are glad that you're here!!!

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 "Give Thanks . . . Not Just For, But To . . . "

At the corner of Hayden Hill and Walkley Hill roads in Haddam, Connecticut, stands the colonial home of one of the early resident families of that little town on the Connecticut River: the Thankful Arnold House. Now the location for the town's Historical Society, it is the home where Thankful Clark Arnold and her husband, Joseph, raised their twelve children, beginning in 1798. The house stayed in the family for over 150 years until a family member gifted it to the local community. At one time, "Thankful" was a proper and common name for girls and women. It served as a testimony to the goodness of God throughout that individual's life. In his "Song of Thanks" recorded in First Chronicles, King David exclaimed "Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!" (16:8). No matter what personal name we may carry throughout our lives, we can individually express our great thankfulness to God for all the blessings that we receive day by day and season after season.

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...as outlined in your bulletin...

№ PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" (*LSB* 892 vs. 1-4) *Stand*

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ♥ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES (*Psalm 54:6*; 79:13; 136:1; 145:10 read responsively)

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,

People: and all Your saints shall bless You!

Pastor: I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.

People: We, Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (1 John 1:9, adapt.)

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God, **People: to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor: If we confess our sins, our God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to

cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Pastor:Let us then confess our sins to God, our gracious Father.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, creator of all things, we confess that we are indeed sin-filled people. We are by nature sinful, and sin is present in our lives each day, in thought, word, and deed. We know that have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You require of us. We have not always lived lives that reflect thankfulness to You, the giver of all that is good. We do repent and are truly sorry for our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Lord, who is the source of our salvation. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live faithfully and with great

gratitude here on earth until that time beyond time when we rejoice together in Your eternal presence.

Pastor: Our God has promised to hear us and to grant forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for His grace and mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \pm Son and of the Holy Spirit. May you be kept steadfast in the Holy Spirit, living each day in thankfulness to God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and with the whole church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we may with thankful hearts receive Your great mercies and express our gratitude, not only with our lips but also in our lives as we give ourselves to Your service and walk before You in holiness and righteousness all our days. Grant us faith that works in love, hope that never disappoints, kindness that never fails, confidence in You that never wavers, patience that does not grow weary, and courage always ready to confess Christ, that we may live in Your mercy and die in Your peace; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

SEQUENCE OF THANKS

Pastor: Often in conjunction with the celebration of a Day of Thanksgiving, people individually express that for which they are thankful. A thankful remembrance can well be a blessing. Most important, however, is that proper thanks be directed to the source of every blessing—to our gracious God. The sacred writer of the book of Lamentations reminds us, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end" (3:22). As those who confess the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—it is well that we direct our thanks to each person of the blessed Trinity, beginning with God the Father, our creator and preserver. After listing some of the dynamics of God's bounty in the "what does this mean" response to the First Article of the Creed, Martin Luther concludes, "For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him" (LSB, p. 322).

Grace Choir "Give Thanks to the Lord"

₩ WORD ₩

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 8:1-10 (A call to remember the goodness of the Lord)

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Grace Choir "I will Give Praise"

EPISTLE LESSON Philippians 4:6-20 (Doing everything with thanksgiving to God)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL (Psalm 145:15-16; 118:1, read responsively)

Pastor: The eyes of all look to You, O Lord,

People: and You give them their food in due season.

Pastor: You open Your hand

People: and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

HOLY GOSPELLuke 17:11-19 (One leper of ten healed shows gratitude to Jesus.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN "We Praise You, O God" (LSB 785 vs. 1-3)

SERMON "Give Thanks-Not Just For, but To" (Luke 17:11-19)

OFFERTORY HYMN "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart" (LSB 806 vs. 1)

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

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs, giving thanks to the Lord, for He is good. Gracious God, gratefully we remember Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for the church, here and around the world, giving thanks for the joyful message of the Gospel as it is faithfully proclaimed from generation to generation.

Almighty God, we thank You for the church, where Your Holy Spirit gathers us as Your people to receive Your gifts and celebrate Your goodness. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who give witness to Your unchanging love. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for the world in which we live, giving thanks for the amazing place in which we live and asking that we may readily share the bounty we receive from the hand of the Lord. Caring God, we thank You for the world in which we live as together we pray for the community of nations around the globe. Continue to give us all things needful and grant that we may be good stewards of the earth. Grant that our homes be places of love and care and our neighborhoods be centers of welcome and compassion. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for those people who are blessings to us in our homes, in our communities, and beyond, remembering our local emergency workers, our national defenders, and the many workers in the agricultural fields across our nation and beyond.

Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Bless the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, who selflessly serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. We remember those whose labor brings a rich variety of food to our tables in this and in every season. We thank You.

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for those with special needs for compassion at this time, that they may know the care of the Lord and our care as well. Let us also bring thankfully to mind those who have completed their earthly journey and now rejoice in the Lord's eternal kingdom.

Lord of time and of eternity, we remember in our petitions those with special concerns and needs including the ill, the hospitalized, and the homebound, [including . . .], those who sorrow, the unemployed and underemployed. Grant that we find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need our concern and our care. On this Day of Thanksgiving, we also recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. May we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to be Your agents of blessing during our earthly lives as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together and give You eternal thanks and praise. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

▼ SACRAMENT ▼

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saving:

SANCTUS (Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 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!

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

People: 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 (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Pastor: 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 & 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 & blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

AGNUS DEI (Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 210)

- 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

- -"Praise and Thanksgiving" (LSB 789 vs. 1-3)
- -"Sing to the Lord of Harvest" (LSB 893 vs. 1-3)

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS (Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 211)

O 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 THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us bless God together.

People: My soul, give thanks to the Lord; all my being, bless His holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, and never forget all His blessings. It is He who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion, and who fills your life with good things. Give thanks to the Lord, all His works, in every place where He rules. My soul, give thanks to the Lord! Give praise to the Father Almighty, to His Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord, and to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts both now and forever. Amen.

SEQUENCE OF THANKS

Pastor: As God's thankful people, we praise God the Son for His work of redemption and for His blessed example of giving thanks. In the familiar "Words of Our Lord" at the time of Holy Communion, we are reminded that when Jesus was at the Table with the disciples in the Upper Room on the night He was betrayed, He gave thanks. Jesus gave thanks as part of His worship life, and He lived His daily life with gratefulness, interacting graciously with friends and followers alike. Also we give thanks to the Holy Spirit, who dwells in our hearts and who richly and daily blesses God's people with priceless gifts that strengthen our fellowship on earth and give us a foretaste of heaven.

HYMN "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings" (Sts. 3-4: LSB 782)

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and permit us to gather the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers* 6:24-26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

People: Amen.

Sit

CLOSING HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" (LSB 895 vs. 1-3)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



Holiday Worship Schedule for 2024



"The Nativity: Songs of God and Men"

On Thursday nights @ 6:30pm at Grace during the month of December we will once again be having our Advent Midweek Worship Services. The Advent season starts the time that is referred to as the festival half of the Church Year. Between now and the final week of the Easter season, we will follow the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, from now, when

we await His coming as a baby in Bethlehem, to the time when He physically leaves the earth at His ascension and then His disciples begin the new era of life in the church as it takes form in Jerusalem and beyond. It is a time for praise! A Danish hymn from around 1600 calls out to us as the church: "O Bride of Christ, Rejoice!" It closes each stanza with an address to our Advent Lord: "Hosanna, praise, and glory! Our King, we bow before Thee" (*LSB* 335). May the beginning of this new Church Year resound with our joyful praise that continues through Christmas and well beyond! Please note, due to our special holiday worship there will be no Thursday night worship services on Thursday December 26th and January 2nd.

Wednesday November 27th 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service with Communion "Give

Thanks: Not Just For, but To" Luke 17:11-19

Thursday Dec. 5th 6:30pm-Advent Midweek 1 "The Song of Zechariah" Luke 1:67–80

Sunday December 8th -- Special Trim the Tree Service 2nd Sunday in Advent

Thursday Dec. 12th 6:30pm –Advent Midweek 2 "The Song of Elizabeth" Luke 1:39–45

Thursday Dec. 19th 6:30pm - Advent Midweek 3 "The Song of Mary" Luke 1:46–56

Tuesday Dec. 24th 4pm, 5:30pm-Christmas Eve "The Song of the Angels" Luke 2:1–20

Wednesday Dec. 25th 9:30am-Christmas Day "Idols and Lies, Word and Flesh" John 1:1-18

No Thursday evening worship on Thursday December 26th & Thursday January 2nd

<u>Wednesday January 1st New Year's Day Worship 6:30pm</u> "Endings and Beginnings" Isaiah 51:4–6

Sunday January 5th The Epiphany of our Lord 8am & 10:30am Services "Soaked and

Bloody: Our Lord and You" John 2:1-11

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
Choir Director

Mrs. Lisa Hengst
Mrs. Kathy Kolb

Congregation President Mr. Tony Mirenda 414-807-7445

Fax: Church/School 414-762-8869 ECC 414-856-9262

Pastor pastor@graceoakcreek.org

Church Office Heidi, 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

