

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
[www.graceoakcreek.org](http://www.graceoakcreek.org)

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share*

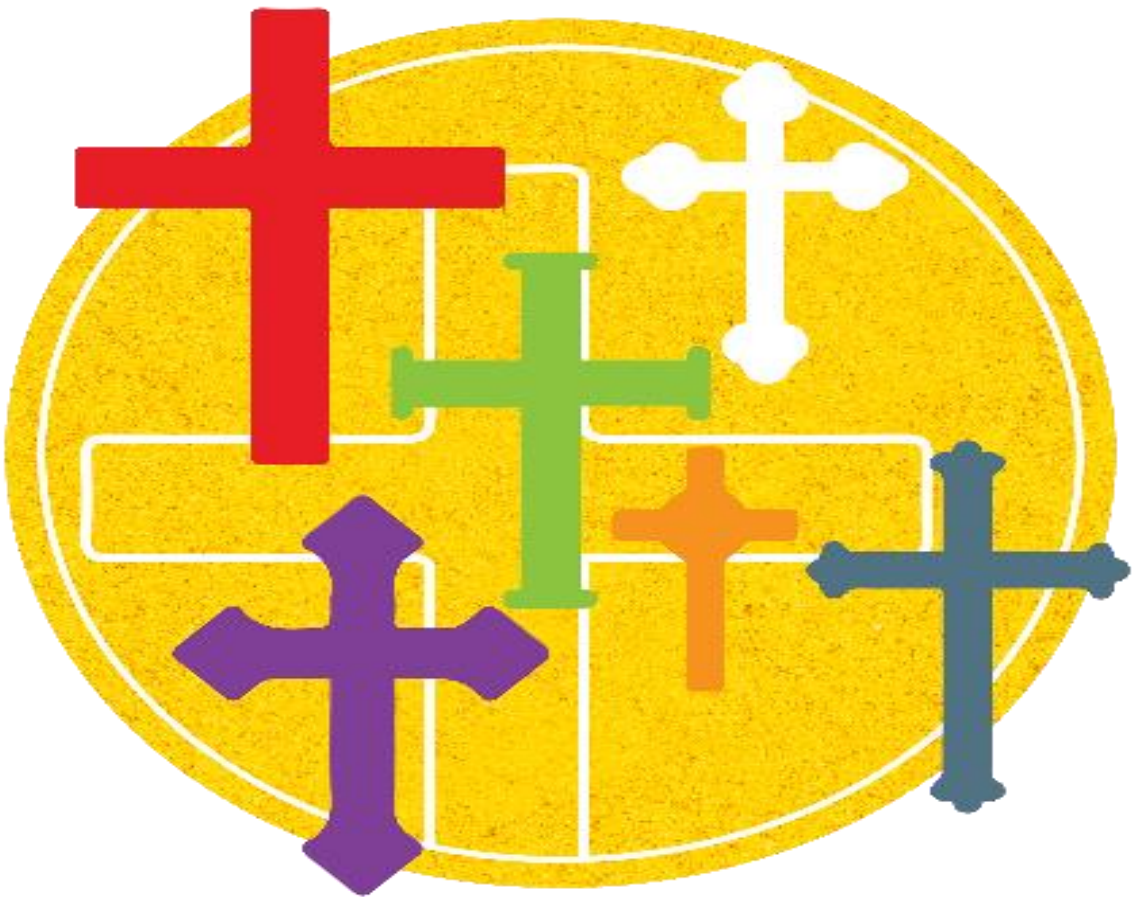


## The Transfiguration of our Lord

February 27<sup>th</sup> & March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

*"By His Grace you are saved through faith."*

**Ephesians 2:8**



**Image:** "O God, as witnesses of the Transfiguration, let us with confidence take up our crosses and follow Jesus alone. (*Prayer of the Day*)

# **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 "Because Crosses Will Be Taken Up"***

Daily, as believers, we endeavor to follow Jesus. Also daily, we are consumed by the crosses, burdens, disease, fear, and anxiety of this sinful world, and we feel as if we are drowning. But God's Word keeps us buoyant as we cling to our Baptism, where we are claimed as God's beloved children. Transfiguration is a moment of incomparable glory. Surely, we too, would want to sequester that divine moment in time. But wait! We cannot delay or halt the gruesome journey to the cross yet to take place. Jesus knows this. He claims the journey to the cross as His own. Momentary glory cannot and will not impede God's will. Jesus' cross will be taken up! It is a cross of death for the Son of God, and the cross of life for all who follow Jesus—and believe.

### **We invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer**

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer.** Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

## Order of Service...Divine Service Setting 1, pg. 151

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here (vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**Confession and Absolution LSB 151**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

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

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

### ✠ WORD ✠

**Introit (Psalm 84:1-2, 9, 11; antiphon: v. 4, sung responsively)**



Blessèd are those who dwell | in your house,\*  
ever sing- | ing your praise!

**How lovely is your | dwelling place,\***

**O | LORD of hosts!**

My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts | of the LORD;\*

my heart and flesh sing for joy to the | living God.  
**Behold our shield, | O God;\***  
**look on the face of your a- | nointed!**  
For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and | honor.\*  
No good thing does he withhold from those who walk up- | rightly.

**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.**

Blessèd are those who dwell | in your house,\*  
ever sing- | ing your praise!

### **Kyrie *LSB 152***

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

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

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

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

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

### **This Is the Feast *LSB 155***

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

*Sit*

#### Old Testament Reading *Deuteronomy 34:1-12*

*(The Promised Land is seen as an incomparable inheritance—sworn to the lineage of faithful prophets and their sons. By God’s design, however, Moses is denied entrance and is laid to rest.)*

<sup>1</sup>Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, <sup>2</sup>all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, <sup>3</sup>the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, ‘I will give it to your offspring.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.” <sup>5</sup>So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, <sup>6</sup>and he

buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. <sup>7</sup>Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. <sup>8</sup>And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

<sup>9</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. <sup>10</sup>And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, <sup>11</sup>none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, <sup>12</sup>and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual** (*Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8, read responsively*)

Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*

**Extol him, all | peoples!**

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*

**and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\*

**bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!**

**Epistle Lesson** *Hebrews 3:1-6*

*(As Moses was faithful, we witness and inherit all the revealed truths of Jesus, the very Son of God, who is the hope of our house, here in this place.)*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, <sup>2</sup>who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. <sup>3</sup>For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. <sup>4</sup>(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) <sup>5</sup>Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, <sup>6</sup>but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse** *LSB 156*

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

**Alleluia Verse for The Transfiguration of our Lord—***"Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips. Alleluia."* (Psalm 45:2a)

**Holy Gospel Luke 9:28-36**

***(Revered prophets and famed disciples witness the vision of Jesus' glory.)***

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

<sup>28</sup>Now about eight days after these sayings [Jesus] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, <sup>31</sup>who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup>Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup>And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup>As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup>And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup>And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

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

**Nicene Creed LSB 158**

- 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 “Greater Than Moses” (Hebrews 3:1-6)** *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 413 O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair (vs. 1-4)**

**Sermon “Jesus is Greater than Moses” (Hebrews 3:1-6)**

**Offertory LSB 159**

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

**Offering/Attendance**

As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord’s Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!



You can now give online. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving by texting **graceoc** to 206-859-9405, this QR Code or head to our web-site at [graceoakcreek.org](http://graceoakcreek.org). You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or monthly offering. Those using 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.



use  
this

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church** (*After each petition the Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation responds saying, "Hear our prayer."*)

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### **Preface** *LSB 160*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### **Sanctus** *LSB 161*

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

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving** *LSB 161*

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior.

With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C   **Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer** *LSB 162*

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

C   **Our Father who art in heaven,  
          hallowed be Thy name,  
          Thy kingdom come,  
          Thy will be done on earth  
              as it is in heaven;  
          give us this day our daily bread;  
          and forgive us our trespasses  
              as we forgive those  
              who trespass against us;  
          and lead us not into temptation,  
          but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom  
          and the power and the glory  
          forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Words of Our Lord** *LSB 162*

P   Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Pax Domini** *LSB 163*

P   The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C   **Amen.**

### **Agnus Dei** *LSB 163*

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

*Sit*

## **Distribution**

### **We celebrate the Lord's Supper**

Members of our sister LC-MS congregations are invited to join us for communion. Guests to our Lutheran Church are invited to first speak with Pastor before joining at our Lord's Table. We hope you will learn more about us as we gather to "*Celebrate, Teach, and Confess*" the Good News of God's Grace! In the Bible, the Apostle Paul wrote: *Let a person examine himself and so eat of the bread, and drink of the cup (1 Cor. 11:28)*. Before attending the Lord's Supper, ask yourself the following questions:

1. *Do I believe that I am a sinner, and am sorry for my sins? (Prov. 28:13; Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:8-9)*
2. *Do I believe that Jesus Christ by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins? (Romans 5:8; Col. 2:13; Heb. 9:28; 1 John 1:7)*
3. *Do I believe that I receive the body and blood of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine (not merely symbolically present?) (Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16; 1 Cor. 11:24-25)*
4. *Do I desire to turn from my sinful ways and live a God pleasing life by the power of the Holy Spirit? (Isaiah 1:16; John 8:11; Rom. 6:12)*

If you are unable to answer yes to these questions, please talk to the pastor before communing, as participating without a proper understanding of Holy Communion can be spiritual harmful (1 Cor. 11:27-29). If you can answer yes to these questions, then come with a repentant heart and join us in the reception of the Lord's Supper. Adults and children not yet instructed about Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION PRACTICE**—We are offering altar/rail communion as our communion practice. While you are at the altar, please let us know if you would like to receive the Common Cup. Individual communion cups are also available to you. You also have the option to kneel or remain standing during altar/rail communion. Gluten Free communion wafers are also available upon request. If it is physically difficult for you to commune at the altar rail, please speak to the Pastor or an elder about receiving communion in your pew.

## **Distribution Hymns**

**-537 Beautiful Savior**

**-583 God Has Spoken by His Prophets**

*Stand*

## **Thank the Lord LSB 164**

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

## Post-Communion Collect *LSB 166*

- A Let us pray. O God the Father, source of divine nourishment, through Your Holy Word, body, and blood, You increase our faith and courage to bear our crosses in the name of Jesus, glorified and crucified. At this Table, You unite us with the myriad of saints who have preceded us. Together, past, present, and future, we are believing heirs of Your eternal promises. We are witnesses of Christ's life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Prepare us for our eternal glory, where we will reside with You in Jerusalem, our eternal home.
- C **Amen.**

## Benediction *LSB 166*

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

## Farewell to Alleluia *Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, 7*

Pastor: This week with Ash Wednesday, we begin our observance of Lent. To highlight the penitential nature of the season, it is the Church's custom to suspend the use of the word "*Alleluia*," which means "*Praise the Lord*." A tradition has been in place since the fifth century not to use the joyful word "*Alleluia*" in worship from the conclusion of worship on the final Sunday before Lent, which is today, until the first service on Easter Sunday. The text of our closing hymn, "*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*," dates back to the eleventh century and links us to a millennium of God's people at worship. We now repeat words from the Book of Ecclesiastes, which remind us that there are appropriate times for all things, including a time to keep silence, which we will observe regarding use of the "*Alleluia*" throughout Lent.

Pastor: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;

**People:** a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

Pastor: a time to break down, and a time to build up;

**People:** a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

Pastor: a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

**People:** a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Pastor: As part of our observance of a holy Lent as it begins this week, we now say farewell to Alleluia until the time of our rejoicing anew at the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day.

**People:** Alleluia! Amen.

Closing Hymn 417 Alleluia, Song of Gladness (vs. 1-4)

Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord.* Tom Janes (healing & strength) Diane Pielsnik’s brother; **Myles King** (blood disorder); **Michael Helzer** (cancer); **Michael Parker** (healing & strength) Pauline Parker’s son; **Jim & Kari** (healing and strength) friends of Joy Lussier; **Greg Voss** (healing & strength); **Sindy Schmidt** (healing); **Gary Forsythe** (dementia) friend of Carol Loveall; **Brittany** (cancer) daughter of Denise Afelt; **Greg** (cancer) brother in law of Mike & Pat Toman; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **Darlene & Jerry Urbaniak’s Nephew** (Alzheimer’s); **Linda** (brain cancer) friend of Carol Thurber; **Jenny Rice** (cancer); **Dale** (cancer) friend of Rick & Cathy Weeks; **Scott** (kidney failure) brother of Pat Toman; **Jennifer** (diagnosed with MS); **Lori Jablonski** (cancer) and **Jessie Marshall** (healing & strength) friend of Cathy Weeks; **Steve Benzie** (stomach pain, hernia); **Sharon McCaigue** (cancer); and **Cheryl** (cancer) friend of Sharon Iseli; **Carol Long** (cancer) friend of Joy Lussier; and **Blaine Goldner** (kidney transplant surgery) friend of Carol Loveall; **Sharon Iseli** (healing); **Mariya** (cancer); **Brooke Bzdawka** (healing & strength) relative of Sharon Bzdawka; **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; **Don Adams** (cancer) relative of Pauline Parker; **Linda Stecker’s Son in Law** (battling brain cancer); **Charlotte Klipfel** (healing & strength); **Gayle Stephen** (pancreatic cancer) cousin of Suzie Mirenda; **Martha Rowley** (healing & strength) Grandma of Mary Rowley; **Grace Miskimen** (cancer) sister of Beth Jackson; **Dale** (pancreatic cancer) brother of Joy Lussier; **Mary** (broken hip) friend of Joy Lussier; **Evan Kopperud** (hospitalized); **Barb Praxel** (healing & strength); **Richard** (hospitalized with spinal infection) Coworker of Chris Cotter; **Joy Lussier** (healing & strength); **Tina Drapp** (breast cancer); **Helen Penn** (brain aneurysm) mother of John Penn; **Rose Adams** (healing & strength); **Annette** (healing & strength) Pauline Parker’s cousin; **Susan** (liver cancer) co-worker of Chris Cotter; **Pete** (hospitalized) friend of Marlene & Greg Voss; **Tony Mirenda** (healing & strength); **Skip** (hospitalized) relative of Pauline Parker; **Debbie Parker** (hospitalized) Pauline Parker’s daughter in law; **Gary & Keith Hayes** (healing & strength) relatives of Taggatz family; **Jan Barrett** (heart surgery & recovery).

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

We mourn with the family of Rita Dueno, aunt of Steven Pawlak, called to heavenly rest.

**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](mailto: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>Thursday 2/27 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 3/2 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/2 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Adam Voss	Craig Lau
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Cris Evers	Chris Cotter
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
	Morgan Parker		
<u>Linens</u>	Char Klipfel	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Acolyte</u>		Ava Hobart	McKenzie Isenhardt
<u>Ushers</u>	Mark Roettgen	Madison Hundt	Eric Kamprath
	Connie Roettgen	Garrison Hundt	Lisa Kamprath
			Elizabeth Murphy
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen	

Grace Lutheran Church Stewardship Board in Oak Creek is excited to host the *Philippians Conference with Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador*, from the South WI District, and we would love for you to join us for this special event. This conference will focus on **stewardship as a whole-life response to the Gospel**, equipping church leaders with biblical insights and practical applications to strengthen their ministry and mission. Dr. Meador brings a wealth of experience in Lutheran stewardship and leadership training, making this an excellent opportunity for spiritual growth and encouragement. Please let us know if you will be attending by signing the sign up sheet located in the narthex or contacting our church office at: 414-762-8990 or [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org). We look forward to growing together in faith and service. **Please let us know if you plan on attending by no later than Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup>. See the flyer in the narthex for further details and how to sign up. Here are the details:** 📅 **Date:** Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> **Location:** Grace Lutheran School 8537 S Pennsylvania Ave, Oak Creek, WI 53154 🕒 **Time:** 8:30am-2pm (Lunch Included)

**Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed – June 2025** We are looking for **volunteers** to help with **Vacation Bible School (VBS) in June 2025!** We hope to hold VBS at **Grace Lutheran during the second week in June (the 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>), from 9am-12pm each day**, and we're excited to have **Mrs. Amy Pankow** as our **VBS Director** for this event. Our plan is to offer a **week-long VBS** for children **Preschool through Elementary School**, and we need your help to make it a success! Volunteers are needed for:

- **Leading Bible Study** with the children, **Helping with arts and crafts**, **Leading the openings and closings**,
- **Organizing and running games**, **Serving as VBS crew leaders to guide children from station to station**

If you are interested in **helping out with this year's VBS**, please contact **Amy Pankow** at [apankow@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:apankow@graceoakcreek.org). Thank you for considering being part of this wonderful ministry for our children. We appreciate your support and prayers as we prepare for VBS 2025 at Grace!!!

**Hunger Task Force - Annual Fund Drive** The Evangelism Board along with the Hunger Task Force is holding their Annual Fund Drive starting February 23rd. The best way to support the Hunger Task Force is to make a monetary donation. The Hunger Task Force will then purchase the food to be distributed to those in need. There are envelopes on the table in the back of church to put your donations. The envelopes then can be placed in the offering plate. Checks should be made out to: *Grace Lutheran Church*. Please write Hunger Task Force in the memo section of your check. Thank you in advance for your generosity! Grace Evangelism Board. **You can also bring a jar of peanut butter to the Church, School, or ECC to help those in need.**

**OUR GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PANTHER NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX HERE AT CHURCH FOR ANY PARISHIONERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PICK IT UP TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR LUTHERAN SCHOOL.**

**Your 2025 Grace Lutheran Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex of the Church.** Please feel free to pick your envelopes up and we thank you for your continued support of our Church, School, and Early Childcare Center through the stewardship of your time, talents, and treasures! God bless you! **\*\*Please do not use until January 2025.\*\***

### **2025 Altar Flowers**

- ❖ Sign-up for 2025 Altar Flowers! The sign-up sheet is posted on the white board in the narthex. Place your flower order directly with Parkway Floral in South Milwaukee at (414) 762-0246. Flowers will be delivered to church, free of charge, before the Thursday evening service.
- ❖ You can also supply your own arrangement. Rachel at the ECC can provide you with a vase liner.
- ❖ Your flowers will be refrigerated after the Thursday service so they will be fresh for Sunday's services. Take your flowers to enjoy at home after the 10:30am service on Sunday

**Reminder:** If you want to put flowers on the altar, you must pay for it directly to the florist (Parkway Floral, South Milwaukee) if using a florist. Also, there are special offering envelopes in the narthex for Altar Flowers that you can use to make payment.



**Easter Lilies/Flowers** To help make our Easter celebration more memorable, Milaeger's is offering a beautiful assortment of plants to celebrate the glorious Easter holiday. 1.) Sign-up for your preferred flower/plant on sheets posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. 2.) Enclose cash or check in the envelopes provided and place in offering basket or hand to an elder. **All money and orders need to be placed by March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**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.

**Substitute Wraparound Care Worked Needed at the Day School:** We are in need of a substitute wraparound care worker at Grace from 6:30-8:05am or that can be available from 3:30-5:30pm, Monday through Friday. The pay for this position is \$15.00 an hour. If you are interested in helping out with this position in subbing on a routine basis, please contact our ECC Director Rachel Miliacca at: [eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org) or at 414-762-8755.

**Choir at Grace** Choir practice is on Thursday evenings in the church following worship. Please consider joining our church choir. Music has a unique way of connecting us with God, and being a part of the choir is a beautiful opportunity to share your voice and your faith. Whether you're an experienced singer or someone who simply loves to sing, we welcome you with open arms. Martin Luther once said, *"He who sings, prays twice."* Please contact Kathy Kolb, our Choir Director, for further details if you are interested in joining our church's choir.

**Ladies Bible Study** Please join us on Wednesday mornings at Church at 9:30 a.m. We are studying, *"Patience & Perfection: Finding Peace in God's Plan for You!"* by Daniel Paavola. Join us!!!

**Grace Fellowship Committee Upcoming Events**--- On March 29th we will be having a Game Night. You will be able to bring your favorite board game to play. If you don't have a board game or you would like to play a game, you will be able to join in the games that we will have available. More information to follow. We will also have an Ice Cream Social in the summer.

**Sunday Morning Bible Class from 9:15-10:15am in the School Library—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.

"God sent His Son to save us, not because we asked, but because He loves us. God wants you to call on Him, not because He needs the information, and not just because He wants to rescue you from distress. He wants to rescue you for a new life, for a life of trusting that He wants to hear from you, of living with His Word inside you, a life responding with God's love to others in their distress, even before they call." Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, *The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org) Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679. Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679.

**LUTHERAN HOUR "It's Best to Be with Jesus"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Ziegler. Life was not meant to be a do-it-yourself project. We need God's help, His strength, His gifts. The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: [lhm.org](http://lhm.org) scroll down the page and click on, "*listen now*." Or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings.

WTMJ 620 AM Milwaukee, WI Sun 6:30 am WGN 720 AM Chicago, IL Sun 6:30am

### **New Grief Share Group starting in February 2025 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? Near the end of February we are starting a special seminar 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 will meet on Monday evenings starting February 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00pm in the school library and it will end on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>. We will take off April 21<sup>st</sup> for Easter Monday. The cost for attending is \$20.00. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. 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 or to register: go to the website: [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) and enter our zip code "53154" to the left of "find a group" box and do a search. It will bring up our Monday 6:30 pm meetings. For further questions please call Lori Kachelmeier at: 414-828-0290.

### **IN THE WORD FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

**Catechism:** Sacrament of the Altar: What is the Sacrament of the altar? Where is this written? (sung) Who receives this sacrament worthily?

**Verse of the week:** 1 Corinthians 11:27, "*Whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.*"



**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 31

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 607 “From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee” (stanzas 1-3)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday—A Blind Man Receives His Sight—Luke 18:31-43

Monday— Nicodemus Comes to Jesus by Night—John 3:1-16

Tuesday— Jesus Catechizes Nicodemus—John 3:16-21

Wednesday— The Preparation of the Passover—Luke 22:1-13

Thursday— John the Baptist Exalts the Christ—John 3:22-36

Friday— The Woman at the Well—John 4:1-30, 39-42

Saturday— Genesis 3:1-21

**Stewardship Minute** God’s grace not only brings us forgiveness and salvation, but it also trains “*us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and Godly lives in the present age*” (Titus 2:12). Paul is telling us that God’s grace empowers us to break away from our old, fallen nature. We are enabled to renounce sin and embrace God. Empowered by grace, we become more like Jesus. We live a new life marked by the mysterious union through Baptism with Jesus described by Paul in these words: “*It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me*” (Galatians 2:20).

**EVERYTHING WE HAVE COMES  
FROM GOD AND IS GIVEN TO US  
TO ENABLE US TO SERVE HIM  
BY HELPING OTHERS.**

“Having gifts that differ according to  
the grace given to us, let us use  
them...” (Romans 12:6).



**Voters Meeting at Grace on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> following our 10:30am worship service.** At this Voters Meeting we will be presenting our proposed budget for the next year. We will also have Board updates, a report from Pastor Taggatz, the treasurer’s report, and we will have an update on new members at Grace. Please plan on attending the Voters meeting, as your support and involvement in our ministries here at Grace is deeply needed and appreciated. The election of officers will take place at the Voter’s meeting in June of this year.

**Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church  
Ash Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
“Good News from the Beginning: The Gospel in Genesis”**



Join us for this exciting series as we meditate upon the Gospel, as it’s so richly proclaimed to us from the Book of Genesis. Please note: **ASH WEDNESDAY** will be on Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m. There will be no Thursday evening service that week. The Lenten Services following Ash Wednesday will be on Thursday nights at 6:30pm without communion.

1. **March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 6:30pm (with communion, no Thursday Service this week)**  
*Ash Wednesday: The Good News of a Savior Who Covers Our Sin, Genesis 3:1–13, 21*
2. **March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 2: The Good News of a Savior Who Conquers Evil, Genesis 3:14–15*
3. **March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 3: The Good News of a Savior Who Gives Us a New Beginning, Genesis 6*
4. **March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 4: The Good News of a Savior Who Gives Himself in Our Place, Genesis 22:1–18*
5. **April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 5: The Good News of a Savior Who Unites Heaven and Earth, Genesis 28:10–22*

6. **April 10th, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 6: The Good News of a Savior Who Brings Good from Evil, Genesis 50:15–21*
7. **April 17th, 2025, 6:30pm (with communion)**  
*Maundy Thursday: "He's Got Us Covered," Psalm 32:1–5*
8. **April 18th, 2025, 12pm (no communion)**  
*Good Friday Noon Day Service: "A Time to Speak," John 19:17–30*
9. **April 18th, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Good Friday Tenebrae Service: "He Died!" Genesis 5*
10. **April 20th, 2025, 6am (no communion)**  
*Easter Sunday Sunrise Service: "Three Days!" John 20:1–18*
11. **April 20th, 2025, 8:30am & 10am (with communion)**  
*Easter Sunday Festival Service: "Easter Guarantees..." Psalm 16*

### **SAVE THE DATE!!! Grace Lutheran Oak Creek Youth Lock-In: March 14th & 15th**

In the spirit of fellowship and fun, I am thrilled to announce an exciting event for our youth! We are planning a **Youth Lock-In** at Grace Lutheran School on **Friday, March 14th**, starting at **6:30 pm**, and concluding on **Saturday, March 15th**, around **6:30 am**. This event is open to **5th grade through High School youth** and promises to be a night filled with laughter, learning, and connection. We are blessed to have Concordia University Wisconsin's Youth Ministry Team leading this event. They will bring high-energy games, authentic relationship-building activities, and meaningful devotions centered on God's Word. **What to Bring:** Snacks, a pillow, sleeping bag, and comfortable sleeping mat, a bible, a spirit of fun and fellowship

**Event Highlights:** Dinner (Friday evening), Snacks throughout the night, Devotions centered on God's Word, Active and engaging games, Breakfast in the morning (pending volunteer availability)

**Your Help is Needed!** To ensure a safe and enjoyable event, we are looking for **parent or adult chaperones** to assist during the lock-in. If you are able to help, please email me at [pastor@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org). Your participation is vital to the success of this event and greatly appreciated! **RSVP & Volunteer** Please let us know if your child will attend by replying promptly. Each child may bring **one friend**, but we ask that attendance be confirmed early as we need sufficient adult supervision to proceed with the event. Your support and timely response will help us create a memorable experience for our youth, filled with fellowship, fun, and growth in God's Word. Thank you for your enthusiasm and partnership in making this lock-in a success! We look forward to hearing from you soon.



### **The Grace Lutheran Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. DONATIONS NEEDED.**

This Easter Egg Hunt will be for Preschool through 4th Grade and it will be held at Grace Lutheran School. Our Grace Lutheran Youth Group members and their parents will be helping out with this event. We are asking for donations of already filled plastic Easter Eggs for this Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to drop off your donations you can do so at Church or our Grace Lutheran School/Church Office. We are inviting the families from our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center to attend this event. Please join us!!! We will need our

Junior and Senior High Youth to help us with putting our Easter Eggs for this event an hour before the event takes place.

### **New Members Class on Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-5:30pm at Grace Lutheran School**

Our next New Members class will take place in our Grace Lutheran School building located at 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Pastor is planning to have the New Members Class on Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-5:30pm. Please also let us know if you might need childcare for this event. 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 may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations. Let us know if you might need child-care. Watch an introductory video at: [www.lhm.org/GodConnects](http://www.lhm.org/GodConnects).

## Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries “*Servant of the Lord*”

In Jesus Christ, God Himself enters our human condition. In *Servant of the Lord*, we see Jesus as God’s Son and our Redeemer. He has made the Heavenly Father known to us. Proclaiming the kingdom of God, Jesus served us—lovingly, patiently, compassionately—as He died for our sins and rose three days later in Easter victory. We have in Jesus the supreme example of devoted service. His teachings defined the lives we are to live—both in praise and honor to God and in love and peace toward one another. All this Jesus did as God’s chosen Servant, sent from heaven to earth to be our King, Savior, and trusted Friend. We are offering these devotions at our Church in both a physical booklet form and we will be emailing them out to our members. This devotional will include our Lenten Worship Schedule for Grace with contact information for our Church. To view the devotions online go to: <https://www.lhm.org/lent/> Consider using this devotion not only for your own personal and family devotions during the Lenten season, but also to share with your neighbor, family member, friend, or co- worker so that they too can share in the comforting Gospel of our Lord’s passion and death for the forgiveness of our sins.

### Growing in Grace – February 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

<i>General Offering</i>	\$3738.00		
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	\$1364.00		
<i>Missions</i>	\$20.00	<b>Total Attendance</b>	38/80
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	\$20.00	<b>Total Communed</b>	85
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	\$10.00		
<b>Total</b>	\$5152.00		

**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	3/2	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class & Sunday School Divine Worship
Monday	3/3	6:30pm 6:30pm	Grief Share 6-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class
Tuesday	3/4	7:00am 3:30-10pm 6:30pm	Men’s Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner) Texas Roadhouse Dining Out Event Stephen Minisry Meeting
Wednesday	3/5	9:30am 6:30pm	Ladies Bible Study Ash Wednesday Worship w/ Holy Communion
Saturday	3/8	8:00am 10:00am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study Grace Ladies Guild
Sunday	3/9	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class 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) <a href="http://thewordendures.blogspot.com">thewordendures.blogspot.com</a>
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		<a href="mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org">pastor@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Church Office	Heidi, Church Secretary	<a href="mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org">church@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org">school@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Director		<a href="mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org">eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Office		<a href="mailto:ecc@graceoakcreek.org">ecc@graceoakcreek.org</a>

### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office

#### Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

