

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## Lenten Midweek 4

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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



**Image:** "Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder Who in sin's delusions live  
And from God and heaven wander! Here is hope for all who grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive."  
(LSB 609:1)

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

## WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

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

Children are **always** welcome - we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our church narthex and entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again! If 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—"Good News from the Beginning: The Gospel in Genesis—The Good News of a Savior Who Gives Himself in Our Place"*

One of the newest jobs on offer today is being a *"tasker."* A tasker does jobs that people do not have the time or the inclination to do—like holding a place in line for a concert, sports event, or any kind of sale. Websites and apps invite potential customers to describe their task, choose their tasker from the list provided, and thus get their job done. They list locations where taskers can be hired across the United States and even internationally. Then, taskers can choose from a list of jobs where they might take the customer's place. Throughout the season of Lent, we tell and retell how Jesus, the very Son of God, took our place and became a sacrifice to pay the price of our sins. This greatest of tasks He did not for any material payment but because of His dying love for us!

### **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** “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” (LSB 702 vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

### INVOCATION

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

**People:** Amen.

### PSALM *Psalms 32*

**Pastor:** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**People:** Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**Pastor:** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**People:** For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**Pastor:** I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**People:** Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

**Pastor:** You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**People:** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

**Pastor:** Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

**People:** Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**Pastor:** Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**People:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### SALUTATION

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

## **COLLECT**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. God of love, You lifted up Your Son on the cross so that You could draw all people to Him. Fill us with thanksgiving for this incredible love that we dare to believe is ours. Help us to be faithful servants of Your new covenant, reaching out to all those whom You claim; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

*Sit*

## **HYMN INTRODUCTION**

**Pastor:** Although located in the “Redeemer” section of the hymnal, the contemporary hymn “The Lamb” is appropriate to the Lenten season as it highlights the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Recalling the story of Abraham’s sacrifice of a ram on the mountain in place of his son Isaac, the hymn’s refrain is an ascription of praise that echoes the heavenly praise of Christ the Lamb recorded in the book of Revelation: “Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9). The praise of the Lamb is a never-ending song for His faithful people. Although some hymns are written over a long period of time and are frequently revised, “The Lamb” was not. Author Gerald Coleman wrote the text during a three-hour summer school class at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in the mid-1980s. The author felt that the work should remain as he initially wrote it. The text has never been amended or changed. A gifted musician as well as an inspired writer, Coleman composed the tune for the text and named it Winter in honor of a Nebraska family who had shown him Christian hospitality.

**HYMN** “The Lamb” (LSB 547 vs. 1-4)

## **✠ WORD ✠**

### **FIRST READING** *Genesis 22:1-18*

*(Abraham sacrifices a ram instead of his son Isaac.)*

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering

and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **PRAYER RESPONSE**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Gracious Father in heaven, in countless ways we have sinned against You, but You have been merciful to us and have forgiven our transgressions. As Your Son covered Himself in our guilt that our sins may be covered in His redeeming blood, help us to find our peace in Him, who gave Himself for us, for in Him we are protected from trouble, and Your grace is our hiding place; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

### **SECOND READING** *Galatians 3:7-14* (*"The righteous shall live by faith."*)

Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." Now it

is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**VERSE** *Romans 10:17*

**People:** Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 3:16-17*

*(God’s love causes Him to send His Son to redeem the world.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**PASSION READING** *John 18:28-32*

*(Jesus goes before Pontius Pilate.)*

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CREED** *Apostles’ Creed*

**People:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**SERMON HYMN** “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth” (*LSB* 438 vs. 1-4)

**SERMON** “The Good News of a Savior Who Gives Himself in Our Place” (Genesis 22:1-18)

**OFFERTORY HYMN** “On My Heart Imprint Your Image” (*LSB* 422 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](http://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*

## RESPONSIVE LITANY

Pastor: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: Let our cry come to You.

Pastor: Gracious God, heavenly Father, as You did not withhold Your Son, Your only Son,

People: but gave Him up for us,

Pastor: grant us peace and assurance

People: in the knowledge of Your saving love.

Pastor: For this is love—not that we have loved You but that You have loved us

People: and have given Your Son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Pastor: Grant that this Good News spread throughout creation that more people in every place may know that You so loved the world that You gave Your only Son,

People: that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Pastor: Hear us, O Lord, as we silently bring You our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

Pastor: Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:

**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.

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life.

People: Amen.

*Sit*



**CLOSING HYMN** “Now Rest beneath Night’s Shadow” (*LSB* 880 vs. 1-4)

**Announcements**

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**



## Assisting with the Divine Service

We thank God for all those individuals who have been involved in supporting our worship services this week. If you are interested in assisting in any of the ways shown below, please speak with pastor or one of our elders.

	<u>Thursday 3/27 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 3/30 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/30 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Adam Voss	Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Glenn Dotson	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Acolyte</u>		Ava Hobart	McKenzie Isenhardt
<u>Ushers</u>	Keith Goodle Jim Robinson	Madilyn Hundt Garrison Hundt	Eric Kamprath Lisa Kamprath Elizabeth Murphy
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	Glenn Dotson	

### **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 27th, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 4: The Good News of a Savior Who Gives Himself in Our Place, Genesis 22:1–18*
2. **April 3rd, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Lenten Midweek 5: The Good News of a Savior Who Unites Heaven and Earth, Genesis 28:10–22*
3. **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*
4. **April 17th, 2025, 6:30pm (with communion)**  
*Maundy Thursday: “He’s Got Us Covered,” Psalm 32:1–5*
5. **April 18th, 2025, 12pm (no communion)**  
*Good Friday Noon Day Service: “A Time to Speak,” John 19:17–30*
6. **April 18th, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**  
*Good Friday Tenebrae Service: “He Died!” Genesis 5*
7. **April 20th, 2025, 6am (no communion)**  
*Easter Sunday Sunrise Service: “Three Days!” John 20:1–18*
8. **April 20th, 2025, 8:30am & 10am (with communion)**  
*Easter Sunday Festival Service: “Easter Guarantees...” Psalm 16*

## 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>
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Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
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