

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Lenten Midweek 6

April 10th, 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 Brings Good from Evil"

One of the most popular and lasting musicals of the past decades has been *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Originally written in 1968 as a fifteen-minute-long pop cantata for a performance at the Colet Court School in London, *Joseph* has grown in length and popularity. It has been presented in theaters around the world, from London's West End to Broadway and beyond, launching the lasting careers of collaborators Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. What has endeared the musical to thousands of performers and audience members is its colorful characters, catchy music, and the themes of forgiveness and new beginnings that shine through the presentation. The story of Joseph is one in which the handiwork of God to bring good out of evil is clearly evident. The original story of Joseph from the book of Genesis is a clear preview of the Passion story, how Jesus brings good out of evil for our sakes, for us to learn from in this Lenten 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 “Be Still, My Soul” (LSB 752 vs. 1-4)

Stand

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

PSALM *Psalm 143*

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!

People: Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.

Pastor: For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.

People: Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.

Pastor: I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done; I ponder the work of Your hands.

People: I stretch out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a parched land.

Pastor: Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails! Hide not Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.

People: Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.

Pastor: Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to You for refuge!

People: Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

Pastor: For Your name’s sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

People: And in Your steadfast love You will cut off my enemies, and You will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am Your servant. 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. O Lord, You gave the Law so that even in our sin we might know Your will for our lives, and You gave us Your only Son to cleanse our lives of sin. For His sake, forgive us and renew us so that we may serve You faithfully; through the same 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: A classic form of Christian music is the sacred oratorio. It is an extended sequence of musical pieces that includes solos, choral anthems, and hymns sung by the congregation attending the musical presentation. Among the most widely presented oratorios is “The Crucifixion,” which is a favorite Lenten choral work both in the United States and Great Britain. The composer of the music for the oratorio, Sir John Stainer, is known for his masterful musical expression. The text, by William Sparrow Simpson, uses a series of strong literary images to direct our devotion to Jesus, whose place of sacrifice for the sins of the world becomes a “cross of sorrow” and the lasting symbol of the divine sacrifice that paid the price of the sins of all mankind. William Sparrow Simpson, writer of the hymn text, had a long life—from 1860 to 1952—and a masterful career as a writer of scholarly Christian literature. Reflecting the Victorian era in which it was written, his libretto text for “The Crucifixion” uses a high standard of English language as it speaks of that divine mission that brought the very Son of God to earth to suffer and die to bring about reconciliation between God and His fallen creatures. “O mysterious condescending” and “O abandonment sublime” are not phrases we might use every day, but their strength and beauty witness to the greatness of our Lord’s sacrifice and testify to His wondrous love.

HYMN “Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow” (LSB 428 vs. 1-4)

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING *Genesis 50:15-21*
(*Joseph is reconciled with his brothers.*)

When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your

servants.” But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, as we remember the past and meditate on Your works, we give thanks that when the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature have pursued us, in Your faithfulness and righteousness You have not hidden Your face from us but have rescued us from our enemies and preserved our lives though Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for He was not ashamed to call us His brothers and sisters but freely forgave and rescued us, and He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

SECOND READING *Romans 8:28-39* ***(God’s love for us is shown in Christ.)***

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE *Psalm 98:1a, 3*

People: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 26:47-56*
(The betrayal and arrest of Jesus)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

PASSION READING *John 19:1-18*
(Jesus is handed over to be crucified.)

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority

to release you and authority to crucify you?” Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them.

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 “My Song Is Love Unknown” (LSB 430 vs. 1-4, 7)

SERMON “The Good News of a Savior Who Brings Good from Evil” (Genesis 50:15-21)

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. 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: Lord Jesus Christ, as we draw near to the end of this Lenten season, we pray that the words we have heard would abide in our hearts as we abide in You.

People: You, O Lord, have the words of eternal life.

Pastor: Grant us peace this night

People: with hearts that are restful, because they have found their rest in You.

Pastor: Send us back tomorrow to our daily lives and duties, refreshed and restored,

People: with greater understanding in our minds, greater love within our hearts, and a firmer grip upon Your hand.

Pastor: Lord, we lift up to You our friends and loved ones who are not with us at this time.

People: Bless them, O Lord, and keep them safe.

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 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (LSB 425 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 4/10 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 4/13 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 4/13 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Brandon Dachel	Craig Lau
<u>Readers</u>	Kathryn Szefflinski	Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	Lynn Buzzell	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolyte</u>		Alyssa Norton	
<u>Ushers</u>	Marlene Voss	Bob Buzzell	Mike Huber
	Lance Kopperud	Lynn Buzzell	Martin Taggatz
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	Glenn Dotson	

Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church Ash Wednesday March 5th – Easter Sunday April 20th, 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 5th 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. **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
2. **April 17th, 2025, 6:30pm (with communion)**
Maundy Thursday: “He’s Got Us Covered,” Psalm 32:1–5
3. **April 18th, 2025, 12pm (no communion)**
Good Friday Noon Day Service: “A Time to Speak,” John 19:17–30
4. **April 18th, 2025, 6:30pm (no communion)**
Good Friday Tenebrae Service: “He Died!” Genesis 5
5. **April 20th, 2025, 6am (no communion)**
Easter Sunday Sunrise Service: “Three Days!” John 20:1–18
6. **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.

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