

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Easter Sunrise

April 20th, 2025

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



Image: "[Christ Jesus] abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." (2 Timothy 1:10b)

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 "Three Days!"

Three days can seem like an eternity. It must have felt that way to the disciples after Jesus had been crucified. All hope seemed to have vanished. Just a few days before, Jesus made His triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Yet in five days, He was crucified. Imagine what they went through as Jesus lay in the tomb. What makes you different from them? Christ is risen! Today, we celebrate the promise Jesus made: *on the third day He would—and did—rise again to life*. Whatever you face in your life, you do it with the risen Lord by your side! Rejoice!

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 the bulletin

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won” (*LSB* 490 vs. 1-4)

Stand

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Revelation 1:8*

Pastor: He is risen indeed, even as He said to the apostle John on Patmos,

People: “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Pastor: Knowing that Jesus is the Head of the church, do you confess that you are a sinner?

People: Yes, I confess that I am a sinner with no hope of heaven on my own.

Pastor: What then is your hope?

People: My hope is that Christ suffered for my sins on the cross and died, and was raised back to life, and He now offers the forgiveness to me, not because of what I have done, but by faith in believing what He did forgives my every sin.

Pastor: Jesus called people to a holy life, telling them, “Go and sin no more.” Do you promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, that you will amend your sinful life?

People: Yes, I promise by the aid of the Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life, turning away from sin as I am strengthened by the Holy Spirit to lead a life that glorifies God.

Pastor: Then hear the great news on the anniversary of that great third day: as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen! He is risen indeed!

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Exodus 15:2a, 6, 13, 17-18; antiphon: v. 1b*

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

People: The LORD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Pastor: Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

People: You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You have redeemed; You have guided them by Your strength to Your holy abode.

Pastor: You will bring them in and plant them on Your own mountain, the place, O LORD, which You have made for Your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established.

People: The LORD will reign forever and ever.

**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.**

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously;

People: the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord as we remember what our God did on the third day.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise as we celebrate the third day, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” (Sts. 1-2: *LSB* 461)

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You turned sadness and gloom into everlasting joy through Your resurrection on the third day. Thank You for changing hopelessness to the greatest hope of all—sadness to gladness, heartbreak to knowing. Because of Your resurrection, our resurrection and life eternal is not something we just wish for but have obtained by believing in what You have done; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Job 19:23-27*

(Job predicts he will be raised to life and there will be a resurrection.)

“Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Pastor: Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.

People: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

EPISTLE LESSON *1 Corinthians 15:51-57*

(We do not have to fear death because Jesus' resurrection gives us the victory by faith in Christ.)

Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the

imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE 2 Timothy 1:10b

Pastor: Alleluia. Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

People: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL John 20:1-18

(John gives us a firsthand account of the resurrection of Jesus.)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her,

“Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: 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

SERMON HYMN “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” (LSB 467 vs. 1-4)

SERMON “Three Days!” (John 20:1-18)

OFFERTORY HYMN “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” (St. 4: LSB 465)

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: On this great celebration of the third day, when Jesus was raised from death to everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord.

People: We know that if we ask anything in Your name and according to Your will, You will not only hear our prayer but You promise to answer it.

Pastor: Our risen Savior, before we ask anything of You, we lay before Your feet all our worship, adoration, praise, and thanksgiving.

People: You not only sacrificed Your life for our sins on the cross, but You defeated death itself on the third day. For this, we bow before You, offering our thanks, praise, and service to You.

Pastor: We pause to remember the events of the third day:

People: The women at the tomb, Peter and John, the Emmaus road, the Upper Room.

Pastor: In each case, You brought joy to those circumstances.

People: Wherever we find ourselves today, Lord, remind us of what You did in the resurrection and fill our hearts with Your joy. Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We remember before Your throne those whose joys are being stolen by the circumstances of life. We remember those sick and in need of Your care, [*especially . . .*].

People: We lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ before Your throne, trusting in our great heavenly physician to use doctors, nurses, medicines, and miracles, according to Your will, to bring healing and health to them. Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For those who struggle every day, Lord Jesus, show compassion on them;

People: Look with compassion on those struggling paycheck to paycheck; for the homeless, the ones living in poverty; and so many we have not named but are known to You, almighty God. Care for them as only You can. Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those who govern, both in our land and in others.

People: We pray for world leaders and all in authority, that they would be guided by Your Spirit. Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those who are imprisoned, and we remember those imprisoned for nothing more than their faith in Jesus.

People: As You showed grace to the thief on the cross, show Your grace to those imprisoned who do not know You. We ask protection for the ones persecuted for their faith. Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our living Lord, who remembers us in His kingdom and teaches us to pray:

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.

CLOSING SENTENCES *Psalms 118:23-24*

Pastor: This is the LORD's doing;

People: it is marvelous in our eyes.

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Sit

CLOSING HYMN “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” (LSB 463 vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



***The flowers on the altar are given by the members of Grace
Lutheran Church in celebration of Easter.***

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. 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); Cindy 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); Scott (kidney failure) brother of Pat Toman; Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Lori Jablonski (vision loss); Steve Benzie (stomach pain, hernia); Cheryl (cancer) friend of Sharon Iseli; Carol Long (cancer) friend of Joy Lussier; 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); 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** (healing & strength); **Tina Drapp** (breast cancer); **Annette** (healing & strength) Pauline Parker’s cousin; **Susan** (liver cancer) co-worker of Chris Cotter; **Pete** (healing & strength) friend of Marlene & Greg Voss; **Tony Mirenda** (healing & strength); **Skip** (hospitalized) relative of Pauline Parker; **Debbie Parker** (healing & strength) Pauline Parker’s daughter in law; **Anthony Bartlein** (heart transplant) father of Dena Guziewicz (our School Secretary); **Scott Brenton** (on dialysis) Linda Maldonado’s fiancé; **Rick Weeks** (cancer treatment); **John Penn** (recovery from shoulder surgery).

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

All those on the Grace Prayer Line dealing with long term health and medical issues; Hear our prayer. We encourage you to submit prayer requests for worship and/or our prayer line by emailing: Paulinemom@aol.com. **If you do not have access to a computer you may call, prayers for worship:**

Church Office:		414-762-8990
Requests on prayer line:	10am-3 pm	Carol Thurber
	3pm-9 pm	Pauline Parker
		414-762-9615
		414-764-5574

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>Sunday 4/20 6:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 4/20 8:30am</u>	<u>Sunday 4/20 10:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Mark Olen	Craig Lau
<u>Readers</u>		Cris Evers	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	Jeanne Meyer	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolyte</u>			
<u>Ushers</u>		Bob & Lynn Buzzell	Mike Huber
			Marty Taggatz
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	Glenn Dotson	

Easter Breakfast - Sunday, April 20th: Our Youth Group is hosting an Easter Breakfast in the Church Narthex on Easter Sunday following our Easter Sunrise Service and before our 8:30 and 10am Easter Sunday Worship Services. Breakfast is served from 7am-8:20am and 9:30-9:50am. **Please sign up in the church narthex or send an email to our church email address to let us know how many in your family are coming to: church@graceoakcreek.org.** A free will offering will be taken to benefit the Grace Youth Group for their trip to the LCMS National Youth Gathering. Thank you for your support!!!

Public Hearing for Grace Lutheran Church - Monday, May 5th We invite all members and supporters of Grace Lutheran Church and School to attend an important **Public Hearing on Monday, May 5th at 6:30pm** at the **Oak Creek Civic Center** (Lake Vista Room), located at **8040 S 6th St, Oak Creek, WI 53154**. This hearing concerns the **zoning approval for the new garage** on our school property. Your

presence and support at the meeting will be greatly appreciated and will help us move forward with our plans to build this much-needed facility. **Please make plans to attend and show your support!**

Welcome to our new families who have recently joined Grace this past month: Lori & Maya Hegarty, Michael Vlach, Carl Branch, Scott Brenton, Linda Maldonado, Bailey & Liam Miles, and Hope Grams. We are so glad that you have joined Grace!!!

Your **First Quarter Giving Statements** are available to pick up in the church narthex. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support for the ministries of Grace!!!



Grace Youth Group Stock Sale!!! What better investment can you make than giving our youth an opportunity to praise Jesus? In July, many of the high schoolers in our congregation will travel to New Orleans, LA, for the triennial LCMS National Youth Gathering. There, they will have the opportunity to worship with about 25,000 other Lutherans from around the world. **How you can help:** 1.) *Buy stock in our youth during the month of April - Any amount is appreciated. (Special envelopes are available in the Narthex at church).* 2. *Pray for us while we travel and participate in the gathering.* 3. *Follow our adventures on Facebook and Instagram.* 4. *Join us after we get back for a stockholder's luncheon so we can share our experiences with you.* We are grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and generosity as they prepare for this life-changing event. Thank you for being a blessing to our youth!

Grace PTLS is hosting their annual Panther Palooza on Friday May 16th. This event is fun for the whole family and members of Grace Lutheran Church & ECC are welcome to join our School families for this event!!! We will have multiple bounce houses, a bubble station for the littles, games, prizes, food, even a DJ and glitter stencils! We are also hosting a silent auction during the event with some amazing things to bid on. This event will take place in the evening of May 16th.

Annual Grace Lutheran School Dance – "Red Carpet VIP" Hosted by Grace PTLS on Friday, May 2nd, 2025- 5:30 - 8:30 PM @ Oak Creek Community Center 8580 South Howell Ave, Oak Creek, WI 53154 Join us for a glamorous night of fun, food, and dancing! This event is open to the households of Grace Lutheran Church, School, and ECC—so dress your best and dance the night away! **Tickets:** \$10 – "Red Carpet VIP" Admission & \$5 – Children 5 & Under (Ticket price includes entry, pizza, and punch!) **Extras Available for Purchase:** Corsages & Boutonnieres – \$5 each & Bake & Craft Sale Station. Don't miss this special evening of fellowship and fun! For more details or to purchase tickets, contact Grace PTLS.

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 9th-13th), 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. 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!!!

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.

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.

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!!!

Sunday Morning Bible Class from 9:15-10:15am in the School Library—Luke: *To All Nations*. (PLEASE NOTE: ON EASTER SUNDAY WE WILL BE TAKING A BREAK FROM BIBLE CLASS AND WE WILL BE RESUMING ON SUNDAY APRIL 27TH)

"Perhaps as our culture seems to be increasingly more challenging, it may help to think of hope as the complete opposite of despair. Hope is not optional for the believer. Our hope is secure because, as we all say again, 'Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!'" *John Stonestreet – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • lutheransforlife.org Are you struggling with a crisis pregnancy or guilt after an abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679. Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

LUTHERAN HOUR "A Risen Christ and a Clean Room" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The risen Christ has folded Death up and put it in its place. Now Christ invites you to trust in Him and find place and purpose in His new creation. (John 20:5-7) The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: lhm.org scroll down the page and click on, *"listen now."* Or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings.
WTMJ 620 AM Milwaukee, WI Sun 6:30 am
WGN 720 AM Chicago, IL Sun 6:30am

New Grief Share Group 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? We have started 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 meets on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm

in the school library and it will end on Monday May 19th. We will take off April 21st 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 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 EASTER SUNDAY

Catechism: Creed: Second Article

Verse of the week: 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, *“But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.”*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 139

Hymn of the week: LSB 457 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” (stanzas 1-4)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday— The Resurrection of Our Lord—John 20:1-18

Monday— The Emmaus Disciples—Luke 24:13-35

Tuesday— The Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:36-49

Wednesday— The Resurrection Catch—John 21:1-14

Thursday— Jesus Reinstates Peter—John 21:15-25

Friday— St Mark, Evangelist—Mark 16:14-20

Saturday— Ezekiel 37:1-14

He is
Risen

Stewardship Minute “Go and Tell Christ Is Risen!”

In 1 Corinthians 15, the Resurrection Chapter, the Apostle Paul writes, *“What I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins...that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures ...”* (1 Corinthians 15: 3). Through Christ’s Resurrection, God assures us that we are forgiven and that we, too, will rise again. Surely this is the message of first importance that we as stewards of our Risen Lord and Savior will desire to pass on. Go and tell that Christ is risen!

Prayer: *Dear Lord, without Your gracious aid I would be forever in the depths, forever bound to sin, forever lost. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and life You have given me through Your Son, Christ, my Redeemer. Help me boldly go out and tell others that Christ is risen! In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.*

Blessings on your stewardship journey!

Voters Meeting at Grace on Sunday, April 27th 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.

Growing in Grace – April 10th & 13th

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$4,230.00</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$932.00</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>	<i>Attendance Lent Mid.- 33</i>
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Attendance Sunday- 122</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>	<i>Communed Sunday-73</i>
Total:	\$5,197.00	

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	4/20	6:00am 7:00am 8:30am 10:00am	Easter Sunrise Service Easter Breakfast Easter Festival Service Easter Festival Service
Monday	4/21	-----	-----
Tuesday	4/22	7:00am	Men’s Bible Study and Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	4/23	9:30am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	4/24	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	4/25	-----	-----
Saturday	4/26	8:00am	Rise & SonShine Bible Study
Sunday	4/27	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 11:30am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class & Sunday School Divine Worship Voter’s Meeting

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We have gathered today to celebrate the most precious gifts and treasures our Lord gives us: His forgiveness, life and salvation. It would be our honor to have you join us again next week as we “Celebrate, Teach, and Share” the Good News of God’s Grace among all people.

Grace is committed to supporting families through our Early Childhood Center, Day School, and High School. We are blessed to be a member of the Lutheran High School Association of Milwaukee.

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) thewordendures.blogspot.com
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262

Pastor		
Church Office	Heidi, Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
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School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
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