

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

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



**Image:** "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27)

# **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 “Do Nothing and Live!”***

In today's Gospel, the man who fell among thieves in the parable of the Good Samaritan did nothing, but he was helped, nonetheless. That's how our Lord, our own Good Samaritan, wants to treat us. The commands in the Old Testament Reading are how to pass on His love to all whom we meet. And the prayer in the Epistle asks no more than that God continue to do what He accomplished through our Lord Jesus. Without our doing anything, He has “transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son” (Colossians 1:13). Our worship today is time to remember to do nothing except live the life God has so graciously bestowed on 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...Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 203

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 915 Today Your Mercy Calls Us (vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**Confession and Absolution LSB 203**

*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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 136:23-26; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively)**

Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,\*  
**for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.**  
It is he who remembered us in our | low estate,\*  
**for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;**  
and rescued us | from our foes,\*

for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;  
he who gives food | to all flesh,\*  
**for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.**  
Give thanks to the God of | heaven,\*  
**for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.**

**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.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,\*  
**for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.**

### *Kyrie LSB 204*

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

### *Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204*

C 1 To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit

Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day** *LSB 205*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, in Your deep compassion You rescue us from whatever may hurt us. Teach us to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading** *Leviticus 18:1-5; 19:9-18*

***(God tells Moses to explain what it means to love one's neighbor as oneself.)***

<sup>1</sup> The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup> "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, I am the LORD your God. <sup>3</sup> You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. <sup>4</sup> You shall follow my rules and keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the LORD your God. <sup>5</sup> You shall therefore keep my statutes and my rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the LORD. . . .

<sup>9</sup> "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. <sup>10</sup> And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.

<sup>11</sup> "You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. <sup>12</sup> You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> "You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. <sup>14</sup> You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

<sup>15</sup> "You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. <sup>16</sup> You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

<sup>17</sup> "You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. <sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual** (*Romans 10:15b, 18b; Isaiah 52:7b, alt., read responsively*)

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the | good news,\*  
**who publish peace and bring good news of sal- | vation.**  
 Their voice has gone out to | all the earth,\*  
**and their words to the ends | of the world.**

**Epistle Lesson** *Colossians 1:1-14*

**(Paul rejoices with the Colossians and tells them of his prayers.)**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup>We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup>since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, <sup>6</sup>which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, <sup>7</sup>just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf <sup>8</sup>and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse** *LSB 205*

- C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Verse for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost—Luke 10:27**

- P Alleluia. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and  
with all your strength and with all your mind,  
C and your neighbor as yourself. Alleluia.

**Holy Gospel Luke 10:25-37**

***(The Good Samaritan shows us how to love our neighbor.)***

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

<sup>25</sup>Behold, a lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>26</sup>He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" <sup>27</sup>And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

<sup>29</sup>But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" <sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" <sup>37</sup>He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

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

**Apostles' Creed LSB 207**

- C **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 T everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

## **Sermon Hymn 845 Where Charity and Love Prevail (vs. 1-4)**

### **Sermon**

*Rev. Dr Nathan Meador, LC-MS South WI District President*

### **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*

**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 208**

- 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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 208***

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 209***

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

#### **Lord's Prayer *LSB 209***

**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 209***

- 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 209***

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C Amen.

### **Agnus Dei *LSB 210***

- C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit*

### **Distribution**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Distribution Hymns**

**-602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives**

**-622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared**

*Stand*

### **Nunc Dimittis LSB 211**

C    1 O Lord, now let Your servant  
       Depart in heav'nly peace,  
       For I have seen the glory  
       Of Your redeeming grace:  
       A light to lead the Gentiles  
       Unto Your holy hill,  
       The glory of Your people,  
       Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,  
    All glory to the Son,  
    All glory to the Spirit,  
    Forever Three in One;  
    For as in the beginning,  
    Is now, shall ever be,  
    God's triune name resounding  
    Through all eternity.

## Post-Communion Collect *LSB 212*

- A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## Benedicamus *LSB 212*

- A Let us bless the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction *LSB 212*

- 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.**

## Closing Hymn 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing (vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God!!!**



## 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); Jenny Rice (cancer); Scott (kidney failure) brother of Pat Toman; Jennifer (diagnosed with MS); Steve Benzie (stomach pain, hernia); Cheryl (cancer) friend of Sharon Iseli; Carol Long (cancer) friend of Joy Lussier; Sharon Iseli (healing); Mariya (cancer); Terri (healing and strength) friend of Joy Lussier; Cris Evers (healing & strength); 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); **Susan** (liver cancer) co-worker of Chris Cotter; **Pete** (healing & strength) friend of Marlene & Greg Voss; **Tony Mirenda** (healing & strength); **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); **Bill** (healing & strength) Jan Warmkessel's son; **The Bowers and Korth Families**; **Rose Adams** (healing & strength); **Tom** (healing & strength) brother of Rod Novak; **Lori Hegarty** (healing and strength); **Gary** (leukemia) friend of Marlene Voss; **Kelsi Luchterhand** (healing and strength from auto accident)

**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](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 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>Elders</u>	<u>Thursday 7/10 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 7/13 9:00am</u>
<u>Readers</u>	Keith Goodle	Richard Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Edward Taggatz	Cris Evers
<u>Linens</u>	Janine and Marlene	Janine and Marlene
<u>Acolyte</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Ushers</u>	Marlene Voss	Andrea Szefflinski
	Lance Kopperud	Tommy Szefflinski
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen

### **Pastor Taggatz on Vacation – June 30th–July 13th**

Pastor Taggatz and his family will be on vacation from Monday, June 30th through Saturday, July 13th.

If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact: *Pastor Doug Schroeder– Covering Pastoral Calls (June 29–July 13)*

**Phone:** 414-840-6016

**Email:** canus4ever@gmail.com | dougs@ourshepherdlutheran.org

*Thank you for keeping Pastor Taggatz and his family in your prayers as they enjoy this time of rest and renewal!*

**Special thanks to Pastor Jim Klug and Rev. Dr. Nathan Meador** for filling in for Pastor Taggatz, while Pastor Taggatz is on vacation with his family through Sunday July 13th. God's continued blessings to them and their families as they continue to minister to God's people!!!

***Rise & Sonshine Bible Study - Summer Schedule 8am-9:20am***

Saturday July 12th-Wehr Nature Center-Prayer Walk

Saturday August 9-TBA-Possible Volunteer Day

**ALL WOMEN are invited to join us for these outings! Check in with Jennifer if inclement weather will change plans. Any questions, please contact Jennifer Olen [olenjennifer@aol.com](mailto:olenjennifer@aol.com)**

***Are you interested in becoming a Stephen Minister?***

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

Trainees learn how to listen to, care for, and walk with those going through difficult times in life. After being matched with a person experiencing a life crisis, the Stephen Minister meets with that person on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. The caring relationship lasts as long as the need for care exists.

We are going to begin a new training session for Stephen Ministers in October of 2025. The training is scheduled to take place on Sunday evenings from 6-8:30pm starting October 5th. If you would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry, you can contact Jeanne Meyer

at: [meyorch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meyorch@sbcglobal.net) or 414-423-0010. Look for a special informational meeting between our Thursday night & Sunday morning worship services in September where you will have more information to learn about training to become a Stephen Minister at Grace! **To learn more about Stephen Ministry you can also go to this website: <https://tinyurl.com/bde23pnz>**

### **Summer Sermon Series on Hebrews 11: "*What Can Faith Do?*"**

We invite you to a powerful Summer Sermon Series focused on Hebrews 11, often called the "Faith Chapter" of the Bible. Together, we'll explore how faith shaped the lives of God's people — and what faith can do in our lives today! This series will be part of our regular **Thursday evening** and **Sunday morning** worship services. We would love to have you join us!

#### **Sermon Series Schedule:**

1. **By Faith Cain and Abel...**  
*Hebrews 11:4*  
**July 17th & 20th**
2. **By Faith Enoch...**  
*Hebrews 11:5–6*  
**July 24th & 27th**
3. **By Faith Noah...**  
*Hebrews 11:7*  
**July 31st & August 3rd**
4. **By Faith Abraham...**  
*Hebrews 11:8–10*  
**August 7th & 10<sup>th</sup>**

## **Giving Tree in our Church Sanctuary!!!**

The *Giving Tree* from our Board of Stewardship will be up in our Church Sanctuary on Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds from the *Giving Tree* this year will go to support our *Church's Good Samaritan Fund*, which helps out those in need from our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center, and the Oak Creek Community. Thank you for your generosity and support for those who are in need!!!

## **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!**

**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.**



## **LUTHERAN HOUR "Fearless and Endless Growing"**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

God's Word grows like a perfect garden, bearing fruit in every season. (Colossians 1:1-14)

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

### ***IN THE WORD FOR 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

**Catechism:** The Lord's Prayer—Fifth Petition and Explanation

**Verse of the week:** James 5:16, "*Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*"

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 138

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 608 "Lord, to You I Make Confession"

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday—"Be Merciful, as Your Father in Heaven"—Luke 6:36-42

Monday— The Faithful Servant—Luke 12:35-48

Tuesday— Christ Brings Division and Suffering—Luke 12:49-59

Wednesday— The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree—Luke 13:1-9

Thursday— A Woman Is Healed on the Sabbath—Luke 13:10-17

Friday— The Mustard Seed and the Leaven—Luke 13:18-35

Saturday—1 Kings 19:11-21

## Stewardship Minute

The writer of Hebrews tells us that we are to be free from the love of money (13:5). Unfortunately, many people find that as they accumulate money they want even more. In the words of Ben Franklin, “Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. There is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of its filling a vacuum, it makes one.” In our sinful state, the more money we have, the more we want. When God transforms our hearts, the more we have of God, the more we want. King David wrote, “*O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you...*” (Psalm 63:1).

“Take heart and have hope, God’s people! Even though it appears as though we have been abandoned, that our existence here seems innocuous, not making a difference to our communities, we are not those things. God is not done with us yet. He only asks that we remain faithful because He is ALWAYS faithful.” *Deaconess Janet Nicol, Word of Hope – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* Are you struggling with a crisis pregnancy or guilt after an abortion? 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.

### THE POWER TO LIVE BY FAITH COMES FROM GOD.

“For this I toil, struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me.” (Colossians 1:29)



## ***Growing in Grace – July 3<sup>rd</sup> & July 6<sup>th</sup>***

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$3700.00</i>
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$1687.00</i>
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$40.00</i>
<b><i>Total:</i></b>	<b><i>\$5442.00</i></b>

***Attendance Total: 30/38***  
***Communed: 60***

**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	7/13	9:00am	Divine Worship
Monday	7/14	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Tuesday	7/15	-----	-----
Wednesday	7/16	-----	-----
Thursday	7/17	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	7/18	-----	-----
Saturday	7/19	-----	-----
Sunday	7/20	9:00am	Divine Worship

*The Fellowship Committee will be having a Coffee Social after services on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to make a dessert, please call or email Pauline Parker at: 414-764-5574 [Paulinemom@aol.com](mailto:Paulinemom@aol.com)*

**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	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	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>
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### Church & ECC

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### School & Church Office

#### Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
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