

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

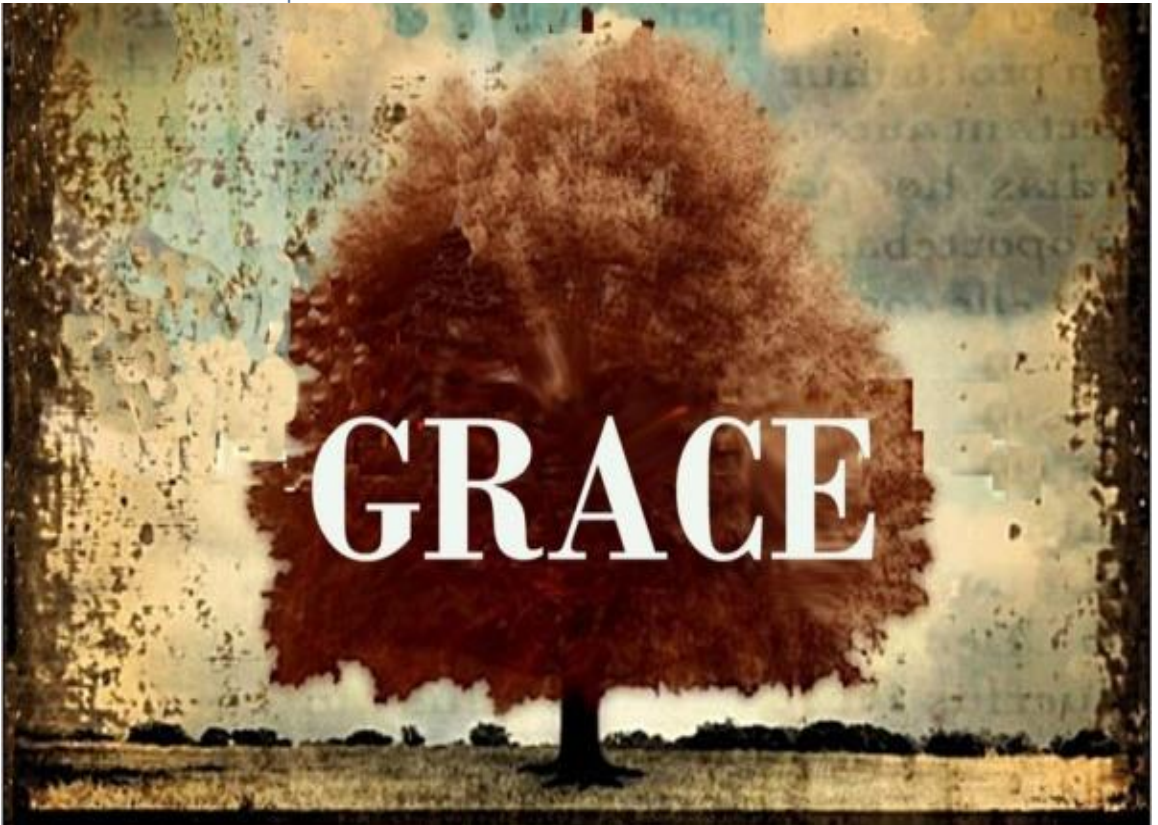
Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
[www.graceoakcreek.org](http://www.graceoakcreek.org)

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## Stewardship Emphasis 1

October 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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



**Image:** "And God is able to make all grace abound to you so that having all sufficiency in all things at all things, you may abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8).

# 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 “Stewards Walking by Grace”***

This is the first week of our stewardship emphasis, Everyday Stewards, and our theme for this week is “Stewards Walking by Grace.” Grace is a foundational pillar of our faith. All that we are and have is evidence of God's grace in our lives. Trusting in the grace of God is essential for us as God's people. We do not deserve God's love and mercy, but, by His grace, He gives us all things. Grace changes everything. By God's grace in Jesus, we are motivated and empowered to use our time, talents, and money for His purposes. The Apostle Paul wrote, “And God is able to make all grace abound to you so that having all sufficiency in all things at all things, you may abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8). The abundance of God's grace enables us to serve others, build up His church, and expand His kingdom. We become everyday stewards. Next week's theme is “Stewardship as a Way of Life.”

### **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 685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (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 ✠

**Stewardship Litany**

Leader: By grace, God has honored us with the opportunity to be stewards of His kingdom. Help us, Lord, to carry out the tasks You give us faithfully and responsibly.

People: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards and help us to live as Everyday Stewards.

Leader: As Your stewards, we pray that You will fill us with Your wisdom and strength, so that we use our time, talents, and treasures in ways that glorify You.

People: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards and help us to live as Everyday Stewards

Leader: Dear Jesus, in Your ministry here on earth, You became our model for stewardship.

People: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards and help us to live as Everyday Stewards.

All: Help us, Lord, to be faithful instruments through which You work. Through our hands and feet, You bring love and care to the needy; through our lips, You tell others of Your life-saving Gospel; and, through our financial resources, You support the work of Your Church.

*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. Eternal God, You counsel us not to be anxious about earthly things. Keep alive in us a proper yearning for those heavenly treasures awaiting all who trust in Your mercy, that we may daily rejoice in Your salvation and serve You with constant devotion; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading** *Psalm 8:1-9*

***How majestic is the name of the Lord***

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. <sup>2</sup>Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. <sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, <sup>4</sup>what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? <sup>5</sup>Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. <sup>6</sup>You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, <sup>7</sup>all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, <sup>8</sup>the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. <sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual** (*Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b, read responsively*)

Great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised,\*  
**and his greatness is un- | searchable.**  
On your wondrous works, I will | meditate,\*  
**and I will declare your | greatness.**

**Epistle Lesson** *1 Corinthians 16:1-8*

***St. Paul Speaks Concerning the Collection for the Saints***

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. <sup>2</sup>On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. <sup>3</sup>And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

<sup>5</sup>I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I intend to pass through Macedonia, <sup>6</sup>and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my journey, wherever I go. <sup>7</sup>For I do not want to see you now just in passing. I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. <sup>8</sup>But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse LSB 207**

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

**Alleluia Verse for Stewardship Emphasis** —“ *Alleluia. Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Alleluia.*” (Matthew 6:33)

**Holy Gospel Matthew 6:19-24**

***Lay Up Treasures in Heaven***

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup>“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup>but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

<sup>24</sup>“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

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 everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

**Children’s Message “Stewards Walking by Grace” (2 Cor. 9:8)** (The children of the congregation are invited to come up to the chancel area for a special message for them. Please note—parents of small children may also come up near the chancel area to accompany their children for the message)

**Sermon Hymn 740 I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb (vs. 1-3)**

**Sermon “Stewards Walking by Grace” (2 Cor. 9:8)**

**Sermon Text**—2 Corinthians 9:8—And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

**Offertory 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own (vs. 1-2)**

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate’er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our firstfruits give!

## 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

-710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

-732 All Depends on Our Possessing

*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. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is (vs. 1-4)

**Announcements**

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



*The flowers on the altar are given this week by:*

*Tony and Suzie Mirenda*

*In Honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary!*



## 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); **Sindy Schmidt** (healing); **Gary Forsythe** (dementia) friend of Carol Loveall; **Brittany** (cancer) daughter of Denise Afelt; **Greg** (cancer) brother in law of Mike & Pat Toman; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **Darlene & Jerry Urbaniak's Nephew** (Alzheimer's); **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** (healing & strength) relative of Pauline Parker; **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; **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; **Rose Adams** (healing & strength); **Tom** (healing & strength) brother of Rod Novak; **Gary** (leukemia) friend of Marlene Voss; **Jan Barrett** (bladder cancer); **Great niece of Donna Smith** (healing from burns); **Mark Taggatz** (knee surgery in early November.); **Karen** (surgery); **Jen** (recovery from torn hamstring) daughter of Lori Kachelmeier; **Cricket** (eye tumor) daughter of Pastor Jay Winters; **Rachel Goodle** (comfort & strength); **Barb Praxel** (healing & strength); **Kurt Schmeiser** (healing & strength).

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

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!!!** We celebrate with **Tony & Suzie Mirenda as they and their family** celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary! What a milestone for them and their family!!! **We pray:** Gracious Lord, we thank You for the blessing of marriage and for bringing **Tony** and **Suzie** together as husband and wife. Today we rejoice with them as they celebrate 50 years of life, love, and faithfulness together. Continue to bless their marriage with joy, patience, forgiveness, and love rooted in Christ. May their life together be a shining witness of Your grace and a blessing to their family and all who know them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**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>Thursday 10/2 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 10/5 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10/5 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Mark Olen	Rick Weeks
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szeftlinski	Glenn Dotson	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Lynn Buzzell	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolyte</u>	David Penn	Alyssa Norton	
<u>Ushers</u>	Lance Kopperud	Nick Norton	Lowell Johnson
	Marlene Voss	Abigail Norton	Ron Savarino
		Jennifer Olen	Levi Van Vlaenderen
<u>Livestream</u>			

### ***“Everyday Stewards”***

#### **Grace Oak Creek 2025 Stewardship Emphasis.**

Our stewardship emphasis, *Everyday Stewards* will be the first three weeks of October. An everyday steward is someone whose way of life is stewardship rather than just token acts of kindness here and there. By God’s grace, everyday stewards continually express their gratitude and faithfulness to the Lord. Through faith, they break the grip that money and possessions can have on them as they place their trust and security in the Lord. Everyday stewards love because God first loved (1 John 4:19). They serve because God first served them (Matthew 20:28). They give because God first gave to them (John 3:16). They give themselves as *“a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God”* (Romans 12:1). Everyday stewards strive to follow and use God’s guidance, strength, and wisdom. With God’s help, they live lives in accordance with the Gospel of God’s love and grace.

#### **Everyday Stewards weekly themes are:**

- *“Stewards Walking by Grace”* October 5<sup>th</sup>
- *“Stewardship as a Way of Life”* October 12<sup>th</sup>
- *“Stewards Living with Purpose”* October 19<sup>th</sup> (Harvest Sunday for Time/Talent Commitment Forms)

**During our stewardship emphasis you will receive a commitment form & a time & talents survey. Please fill those out and bring them to church on Harvest Sunday (Commitment Sunday) Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> or return it to the church office when convenient.** *(Extra commitment forms are available on the back table of the church and will be included in your bulletin).* I ask that, as you approach your commitment decisions and how God can use your time, talents, and treasures for service in God’s Kingdom and in His Church, you seek God’s guidance in prayer. Let the love of God guide you in your decision.

**EMPOWERED BY GRACE, WE  
BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS.**



“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in Me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

**Choir at Grace**—Choir practice will be starting soon on Thursday evenings! Our first practice will be **Thursday, October 23rd, following our Thursday evening worship service.** The psalmist reminds us to “*make a joyful noise to the Lord*” (Psalm 100:1), and Martin Luther once said, “*He who sings prays twice.*” What a wonderful way to lift our voices in praise together! If you would like more information, please contact **Kathy Kolb at 414-744-7781.** Please join us—we would love to have you!

***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>**

**Join the Grace Oak Creek VBS Committee!** Plans are underway for **Vacation Bible School in June 2026**, and we’re forming a committee to help with planning and preparation. Volunteers are needed for areas such as **decorations, supplies, recruitment, fundraising, and more.** If you’re interested in serving, please email [apankow@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:apankow@graceoakcreek.org)

# **Socktober!**

In the month of October, we are having our annual SOCKTOBER drive for the Milwaukee Rescue Mission.

New socks of all sizes are welcome!

**Information about the Milwaukee Rescue Mission can be found here**

**<https://milmission.org/>**

Look for the pink tote in the narthex for your socks.

Thank you!

## **Grief Share Seminar and Support Group at Grace**

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? On **Monday, September 15th**, Grace Lutheran will be starting a **Grief Share Seminar and Support Group** to help those walking through the difficult journey of grief. This group is designed to offer comfort, understanding, and encouragement through God's Word and the fellowship of His Church. Many who have attended Grief Share have found that it helps them begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord's help.

**When:** Mondays, September 15th – December 15th

**Time:** 6:30–8:00pm

**Where:** Grace Lutheran School Library, 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Oak Creek, WI

**Cost:** \$20.00

There will also be a **special session, “Surviving the Holidays,”** on **Monday, December 1st**—a time when grief can often feel even heavier. Our Grief Share group will be led by **Lori Kachelmeier** and **Jeanne Meyer**, who will walk alongside participants as they learn from nationally recognized experts on grief recovery. Topics include: *“Is This Normal?”* *“The Challenges of Grief,”* *“Grief and Your Relationships,”* *“Why?”* and *“Guilt and Anger.”* **Register online here:** [tinyurl.com/57tkyjy8](http://tinyurl.com/57tkyjy8)

For more information, please call our Church Office at **414-762-8990** or email [\*\*church@graceoakcreek.org\*\*](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org)

**Jeanne Meyer** – [\*\*meyorch@sbcglobal.net\*\*](mailto:meyorch@sbcglobal.net) **Lori Kachelmeier** – [\*\*jlkachel2@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:jlkachel2@gmail.com)

Please share this opportunity with anyone you know who may be struggling with the loss of a loved one. May our gracious Lord use this ministry to bring His comfort, peace, and hope to many.

## **Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study**

**The Ladies Bible Study will be starting up again. 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 Rev. Dr. Paavola, who is a professor of theology at Concordia University Wisconsin.



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

### **Starting Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>—Matthew: “*His Kingdom Forever.*” (10 sessions)**

Each study in the *God’s Word for Today* series provides an in-depth exploration of a book of the Bible. Each session includes:

- background information on the book of the Bible, its author, audience, occasion, and purpose;
- learning experiences that promote exciting and challenging discussions;
- notes for leaders that answer questions, suggest a learning process, and provide additional information;
- discussion starters that help participants apply God’s Word to their daily lives.

The apostle Matthew writes his gospel to proclaim to the world that its promised Savior has come. Pointing to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies, Matthew proclaims the universality of Jesus’ love. Let’s take a look at the Gospel of Matthew and learn and grow!

### **LUTHERAN HOUR “Every Age Has a Stage” Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola**

Every age has a stage, not just a stage of life, but also a stage on which to perform and to serve.

(Numbers 8:23-26) Listen online at: [lutheranhour.org](http://lutheranhour.org)/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 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

**Catechism:** Creed—First Article

**Verse of the week:** Psalm 33:6, “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.”

**Psalms of the week:** Psalm 30 (antiphon 5b)

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 534 “Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor” (stanzas 1-4)

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— Raising of the Widow of Nain’s Son—Luke 7:11-17

Monday— Paul Speaks in Athens—Acts 17:22-34

Tuesday— Creation—The First Four Days—Genesis 1:1-19

Wednesday— Creation—Days Five and Six—Genesis 1:20-31

Thursday— Creation—The Day of Rest—Genesis 2:1-7

Friday— Creation—Man and the Garden of Eden—Genesis 2:8-25

Saturday— Proverbs 25:6-14

**All Saints Day**—Any members who would like to recognize those of the Christian faith who have fallen asleep in Jesus this last year from November 2024 to the present, please let our church office know by Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. We will be remembering the saints who have gone to heaven in a special All Saints Day worship service on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.



**6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT TO BE HELD AT GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PARKING LOT:** Children from Grace Lutheran and the surrounding community are invited to come to a “Trunk or Treat” event at Grace Lutheran School’s parking lot on Friday October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00pm. The children can come to our school parking lot to receive some Halloween Candy, some Christian tracts, and they will be able to have fellowship with other children and with members of our congregation. We are in need of volunteers for this event, please contact Pastor

Taggatz or the Grace Lutheran Church Office if you are interested in helping out with this event and providing candy for the children through the trunk of your car, truck or van: 414-762-8990 or [church@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org). During a Trunk or Treat event the trunk of one’s car is opened displaying candy, and often games are made available, and certain Halloween decorations. Because this is a Christian event, please do not decorate or come in costume with goblins, witches, and other occult attire. Ideas for how to decorate the trunks of your cars for this event can be found on Pinterest. The Oak Creek Fire & Police Department will be at this year’s Trunk or Treat to talk about fire and public safety with the children and *Better Together Café* will also be there to offer sweet treats and drinks for all who come to this event. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Oak Creek, WI 53154

“We shouldn’t expect to know or understand the ways of God. We simply live in trust and ask God’s blessing on our lives of sanctification, lived in love and thanksgiving to Christ.” *Marie MacPherson, author – 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.

### ***Growing in Grace – September 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>***

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1833.85</i>	
<i>On-Line Giving</i>	<i>\$727.00</i>	
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>	
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>	
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>	
<i>Debt Reduction Fund</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>	
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	
<b><i>Total:</i></b>	<b><i>\$2617.85</i></b>	<b><i>Attendance Total: 42/89</i></b>
		<b><i>Communed: 100</i></b>

**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 week!*

Sunday	10/5	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 6-8:30pm	Divine Worship Sunday School & Adult Bible Class Divine Worship Stephen Minister Training
Monday	10/6	6:30pm 6:30pm	6-8 Grade Confirmation Class Grief Share
Tuesday	10/7	7:00am 6:30pm	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner) Stephen Ministry Meeting
Wednesday	10/8	9:30am 6:30pm	Ladies Bible Study Grace Church Council Meeting
Thursday	10/9	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	10/10	-----	-----
Saturday	10/11	-----	-----
Sunday	10/12	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 6-8:30pm	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class Divine Worship Stephen Minister Training

## 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>
Church Office	Heidi, Secretary	<a href="mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org">church@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org">school@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Director		<a href="mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org">eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Office		<a href="mailto:ecc@graceoakcreek.org">ecc@graceoakcreek.org</a>

### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 5315

