

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

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

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## New Years Day

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

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



**Image:** "Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above; Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee." (LSB 900:6)

# 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 "Digging in Dirt, Finding the Name of God"***

Today we celebrate the name of Jesus. It is not an opportunity to take note of five letters; instead, we thank God for what He has done: He has revealed in the Bible Himself and His gracious blessing and forgiveness. Digging down into history, we see that the ancient creed is a way of saying the name of the Lord and all God has done for us. In church, Baptism has replaced circumcision, and we rejoice that God makes us alive despite our transgressions. Jesus was named not to give Him an identity but to be sure that we know that because of His birth, life, death, and resurrection, He is our Savior. The name of Jesus means so much—let's celebrate.

### **We invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer**

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer.** Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

# **Order of Service...as outlined in your bulletin**

## **✠ PREPARATION ✠**

**OPENING HYMN** “Once in Royal David’s City” (*LSB* 376 vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

### **INVOCATION**

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

**People:** Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCES** (*Psalm 8:1, 4-5; Galatians 3:26, 28b*)

**Pastor:** O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

**People:** You have set Your glory above the heavens.

**Pastor:** what is man that You are mindful of him,

**People:** and the son of man that You care for him?

**Pastor:** Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

**People:** and crowned him with glory and honor.

**Pastor:** In Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

**People:** You are all one in Christ.

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father, despite our being one in Christ, we have all sinned by what we have thought, said, and done. In place of loving You, we have made excuses for ourselves. In place of loving our neighbors as ourselves, we have defended our actions. We deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

**People:** For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us, and lead us to the glory of Your holy name.

**Pastor:** Our heavenly Father gave His only-begotten Son to be a true human, our elder Brother, to live, to die, and then to rise despite our sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## **✠ WORD ✠**

**HYMN** “God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It” (Sts. 1, 5: *LSB* 594)

## KYRIE

Pastor: God, our Father in heaven,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Holy Spirit,

**People: have mercy and grant us peace. Amen.**

## SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Instead of remaining separate from Your good creation, heavenly Father,  
You sent Your Son to be our Savior.

**People: As Joseph obeyed the angel and named the baby Jesus, so give us ears to hear Your  
Holy Spirit each day and to rejoice and follow Your guidance as loving children;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*Sit*

**HYMN** “Jesus Loves Me” (*LSB 588 vs 1-2*)

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Numbers 6:22-27*  
(*The Benediction is commanded.*)

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. “So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *Hebrews 8:10; 10:17*

Pastor: This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord:

**People: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts.**

Pastor: I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

**People:** I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.

**EPISTLE LESSON** *Galatians 3:23-29*

*(Because of our faith, we are heirs with Jesus.)*

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**VERSE** *Matthew 1:21*

Pastor: Alleluia.

**People:** She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

Pastor: Alleluia.

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 2:21*

*(The baby is named Jesus.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

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

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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** “Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love” (*LSB* 900 vs. 1-5)

**SERMON** “Digging in Dirt, Finding the Name of God” (Numbers 6:22-27)

**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 website 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**

**Pastor:** Jesus came to earth as one of us. He knows our failings and frailties. Let us go to Him in prayer, confident He will listen and understand.

**HYMN** "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring" (St. 1: *LSB* 353)

**Pastor:** We pray, Lord Jesus, for all who struggle with life because of health, oppressive governments, poor decisions, or any circumstances under which it is difficult to live, [*especially . . .*]. Bring them relief, strength, peace, and health according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**hear our prayer.

**HYMN** "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring" (St. 2: *LSB* 353)

**Pastor:** We have prayed often and earnestly. Hear our prayer and help us be part of Your answers. Guide governments, armed forces, first responders, health agencies, and caring neighbors. When an answer does not come quickly, guard us from despair. Lift our faith in You until Your will for these our brothers and sisters is done on earth as it is in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**hear our prayer.

**HYMN** "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring" (St. 3: *LSB* 353)

**Pastor:** We pray for all who call You Lord. Protect and prosper the church around the world. Give believers confidence and concern as they minister to those who do not call on Your name. Open hearts and ears to understand the Gospel and to rejoice with us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**hear our prayer.

**HYMN** "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring" (St. 4: *LSB* 353)

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all these things according to Your good and gracious will.  
People: Amen.

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### **PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### **PROPER PREFACE**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in His name—Jesus—we are reminded of Your eternal blessings and constant grace. 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 195**

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.



**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD** (*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*)

Pastor: 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST** (*1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*)

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**People:** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and Passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach 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.

**PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** Amen.

**AGNUS DEI** *LSB 198*

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.  
Amen.**

*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**

"Let Us All with Gladsome Voice" (LSB 390)

"Children of the Heavenly Father" (LSB 725)

*Stand*

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** “O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee” (LSB 632 vs. 1-2)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**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.

*Sit*

**CLOSING HYMN** “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” (LSB 922 vs. 1-4)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

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



**Holiday Worship Schedule for 2025**



**Holiday Worship Service Schedule**

**Thursday, January 1 – 6:30pm**

New Year’s Day Worship with Communion – “Digging in Dirt,  
Finding the Name of God” – Numbers 6:22–27

**Sunday, January 4 – 8:00am & 10:30am**

*The Epiphany of Our Lord – “The Singing Camels of Sheba” – Isaiah  
6*

## SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

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

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