

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

National Lutheran Schools Week

January 29th & February 1st, 2026

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



Image: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" (Psalm 98:4)

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 “Let’s Make a Joyful Noise!”

National Lutheran Schools Week provides more than 1,800 preschools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God’s work among us in schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus’ amazing love with children and their families. National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve. Our schools are amazing incubators for faithful witness of God’s love for us through Christ by teachers and students alike. *“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!” (Psalm 98:4)*

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 ✎

Grace Lutheran School Choir— “Alive” Hillsong Young & Free (10:30am only)

(Please note: After the students sing, they are dismissed to sit back with their parents after the song)

Opening Hymn 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee (vs. 1-3, Thursday night & 8am only)



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

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 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

¤ WORD ¤

Introit (Psalm 1:1-5; antiphon: v. 6 read responsively)

For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,*
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;
but his delight is in the law | of the LORD,*
and on his law he meditates | day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not | wither.*

In all that he does, he | prospers.

The wicked | are not so,*
but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment,*
nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous.

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.

For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

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.

Collect of the Day LSB 205

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Heavenly Father, mercifully bless the Christian education of Your children in our parish that they may grow up in Your fear to the praise of Your holy name. Bless our Christian Day School, Early Childhood Center, Martin Luther High

School, and all other settings in which our children are brought closer to You. Restraine the activities of the evil one who would seek to undermine these efforts to provide for the spiritual growth of Your children. Help us to regard these children and our educational ministries as gifts from You. Encourage the members of our congregation to support those who teach and those who learn. Give joy to all who serve as teachers, and give them the privilege of seeing the fruits of their labors; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading Exodus 14:21-31

The LORD Delivers Israel from Pharaoh in the Crossing of the Red Sea

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm (Psalm 98:4-6, spoken responsively)

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

⁵Sing praises to the LORD | with the lyre,*

with the lyre and the sound of | melody!
⁶With trumpets and the sound | of the horn*
make a joyful noise before the | King, the LORD!

Epistle Lesson *Colossians 3:16-17*

St. Paul Urges Us to Let the Word of Christ Dwell in Us Richly

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- 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.

Alleluia Verse for National Lutheran Schools Week—“Alleluia! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest! Alleluia!” (Luke 19:38)

Holy Gospel *Luke 19:37-40*

Jesus makes His triumphal entry into Jerusalem

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

³⁷As [Jesus] was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” ³⁹And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” ⁴⁰He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

- 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

Children's Message “Joyful Noise in Christ Alone” (Psalm 98) (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 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good (vs. 1-4)

Our need for His sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our
 His eye is nev - er sleep - ing. With - in the king - dom
 And came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and
 Their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a moth - er's

souls He fills And ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills:
 of His might All things are just and good and right:
 praise the Lord, Who is by one and all a - dored:
 ten - der hand, He leads His own, His cho - sen band:

To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!

Sermon "Joyful Noise in Christ Alone" (Psalm 98, Ex. 14:21-31)

Offering/Attendance

As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord's Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

You can now give online. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving by texting **graceoc** to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site at graceoakcreek.org. You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write 'online giving' on the outside and place it in the offering plate.



Stand

Prayer of the Church (*After each petition the Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation responds saying, "Hear our prayer."*)

Lord's Prayer LSB 209

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

Concluding Collect *LSB 212*

A Let us pray. Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our students and their families that, recalling the new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit

Closing Hymn 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (vs. 1-4)

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
 3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He

great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
 sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
 sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the

God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
 earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
 sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
 foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.

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); 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 Dennis Iseli; Carol Long (cancer) friend of Joy Lussier; 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; Martha Rowley (healing & strength) Grandma of Mary Rowley; Grace Miskimen (cancer) sister of Beth Jackson; Dale (pancreatic cancer) brother of Joy Lussier; Evan Kopperud (healing & strength); Tina Drapp (breast cancer); Pete (healing & strength) friend of Marlene & Greg Voss; Debbie Parker (healing & strength) Pauline Parker's daughter in law; Scott Brenton (on dialysis) Linda Maldonado's fiancé; Tom (healing & strength) brother of Rod Novak; Gary (leukemia) friend of Marlene Voss; Jan Barrett (healing & strength); Karen (surgery); Jen (recovery from torn hamstring) daughter of Lori Kachelmeier; Pam (melanoma, healing & strength) relative of Carol Thurber; Paul & Karen (healing & strength) Jim & Janine Pieper's relatives; Alex (Milwaukee firefighter, healing & strength) friend of Bailey Miles & Sue Krueger; Carol LaBanco (pancreatic cancer) friend of Pauline Parker's family; Marilyn Pugh (heart condition) friend of Carol Loveall; Shirley Stachowiak (cancer) niece of Dennis Iseli; Lori Jablonski (cancer); Joy Lussier (cancer); Christopher Barnard (healing & strength following surgery).

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

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!!! We rejoice with Sarah Goodle & Carl Branch, who were united in holy matrimony yesterday. Saturday January 31st. We pray that God will bless their marriage for many years to come!!! We pray: Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the joy and blessings that You have granted to Sarah & Carl, as they celebrate being united together as husband and wife. Assist them always by Your grace that with true faithfulness and steadfast love they may ever honor and keep their promises to one another, grow in love toward You and for each other and come at last to the eternal joys that You have promised through Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior. 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. 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 1/29 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 2/1 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 2/1 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Mike Huber	Mark Olen	Eric Kamprath
<u>Readers</u>	Edward Taggatz	Chris Evers	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	No Communion	No Communion
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Char Klipfel	Char Klipfel
<u>Acolyte</u>	Samara Svicek	Ava Hobart	
<u>Ushers</u>	Keith Goodle		Lowell Johnson
	Jim Robinson		Ron Savarino
<u>Livestream</u>		Glenn Dotson	

Please note:

We are in need of ushers for the 8:00am Sunday worship services in February and March.
Please contact Pastor Taggatz or call the church office at 414-762-8990 if you can help.
Thank you!

Grace Lutheran Student Council Sale!!! Our *Student Council from our Lutheran School* will be selling \$2 donuts & \$2 coffee after our 8am service & hot dogs for \$2 on this Sunday after 10:30 worship to raise funds to update the Sprinkler system in the building. They will also provide a Meal Deal for \$5 for a Hot Dog, chips, and water. Cash only. Thank you for your generosity and support of our Christian Day School & Ministries at Grace!!!

We are delighted to announce that the Concordia University Wisconsin Symphonic Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Louis Menchaca, will be visiting Grace Lutheran Church & School on Tuesday, March 3rd. They will present a concert in our school at 7:00 PM. Seating is limited, so reservations are required. Please call the church office at 414-762-3655 to reserve your ticket. A free-will offering will be taken to support the Concordia University Wisconsin Music Department. It promises to be a wonderful evening of excellent music and Christian fellowship—no snow shovels required, just good ears and grateful hearts. We hope to see you there! 

Thrivent Choice Dollars - Deadline March 31

Thrivent members have an opportunity to support Grace Lutheran Church and School through the Thrivent Choice® program. Eligible members can direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars® to Grace at no cost to them. The deadline to direct Choice Dollars for this year is March 31, so please don't wait. To see if you have Choice Dollars available or to continue directing them to Grace, call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and say, "Thrivent Choice."

For more information about the Thrivent Choice program, please visit:
<https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html>

If you have questions or would like assistance locally, you may contact Gena in Ryan VanDeLoo's Thrivent office at (414) 856-9900.

Thank you for helping support the ministry of Grace through Thrivent Choice Dollars!

The Board of Stewardship Presents the 2026 Chili Fundraiser!

Order now through February 8th Chili orders can be dropped off at church services or at the school office between 8 am - 3 pm. Orders can also be placed by calling the school office at 414-762-3655. Proceeds will be used to purchase technology for our school! *Orders can be picked up after January 11th.*

National Lutheran Schools Week – Special Worship Services Near the end of January and the beginning of February, during **National Lutheran Schools Week**, we will hold special worship services in our **School Building on Thursday, January 29th, and Sunday, February 1st**. These services will be **non-communion worship** services, allowing our entire congregation the opportunity to see firsthand what our school children and teachers are doing and to rejoice in the many blessings God has given to us through our school and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Your 2026 Grace Lutheran Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex of the Church. Please feel free to pick your envelopes up and we thank you for your continued support of our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center through the stewardship of your time, talents, and treasures! God bless you! **Please do not use until January 2026.**

2026 Altar Flowers

- ❖ *Sign-up for 2026 Altar Flowers! The sign-up sheet will be posted soon on the white board in the narthex.*
- ❖ *Place your flower order directly with Parkway Floral in South Milwaukee at (414) 762-0246.*
- ❖ *Flowers will be delivered to church, free of charge, before the Thursday evening service.*
- ❖ *You can also supply your own arrangement. Rachel Miliacca at the ECC can provide you with a vase liner.*
- ❖ *Your flowers will be refrigerated after the Thursday service so they will be fresh for Sunday's services.*
- ❖ *Take your flowers to enjoy at home after the 10:30am service on Sunday.*

Reminder:

If you want to put flowers on the altar, you must pay for it directly to the florist (Parkway Floral, South Milwaukee) if using a florist. Also, there are special offering envelopes in the narthex for Altar Flowers that you can use to make payment.

Choir at Grace!

Choir practice is on Thursday evenings following our 6:30pm 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! **Choir is taking a break in January and will resume on February 5th.**

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**

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, February 9th**, 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, February 9th – May 18th

Time: 6:30–8:00pm

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

Cost: \$20.00.

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

For more information, please call our Church Office at **414-762-8990**

Or email:

church@graceoakcreek.org

Jeanne Meyer – meyorch@sbcglobal.net

Lori Kachelmeier – 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

**Please join us on Wednesday mornings at Church at 9:30 a.m.
We are studying, “Joy: A Study of Philippians” By Deb Burma.**

Sunday Morning Bible Class

9:15-10:15am in the School Library

—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 prophesies, Matthew proclaims the universality of Jesus’ love. Let’s take a look at the Gospel of Matthew and learn and grow!

The Lutheran Hour "Rotten Tomatoes" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Boasting gone wrong—it’s *the rotten fruit of rightful praise*. It happens when we forget that everything we have is a gift, even the things we think we’ve earned and deserved. (1 Corinthians 1: 30-31) Listen online at: 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

“You may have a messy story. Your family may have a dysfunctional past. Your past (or present) may be filled with greed, sexual immorality, or other idols. But Jesus won’t let that stop Him from reaching out to you with the message of His unconditional love. You might be far from good, but you are not too far gone for God.” *Pastor Mike Novotny, Time of Grace - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* Are you struggling with a crisis pregnancy or guilt after an abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679. Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

IN THE WORD FOR NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

Catechism: Confession and the Office of the Keys: What is Confession? What sins should we confess? Which are these?

Verse of the week: Psalm 51:1-2 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm of the week: Psalm 15 (antiphon Psalm 16:1)

Hymn of the week: LSB 865 “Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain” (stanzas 1-4)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday—The Blessedness of Christ—Matthew 5:1-12

Monday— The Presentation of Our Lord: Luke 2:22-40

Tuesday— Judah Intercedes for Benjamin Before Joseph—Gen. 44:18—45:3

Wednesday— Joseph Forgives His Brothers—Genesis 45:4-28

Thursday— Jacob Journeys to Egypt to See Joseph—Genesis 46:1-27

Friday— Jacob Settles in the Land of Goshen—Genesis 46:28—47:12

Saturday—Joseph’s Vow; Jacob Blesses Joseph’s Sons—Gen. 47:27—48:21

Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday February 18th – Easter Sunday April 5th, 2026



“Set Free: The Gospel in Exodus”

Join us for this exciting series as we meditate upon the Gospel, as it's so richly proclaimed to us from the Book of Exodus, as we begin the season of Lent, the forty days we set aside to focus on our Lord's Passion as we lead up to Easter. The Lord calls us to *“Return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning,”* and Joel calls for a *“solemn assembly”* (Joel 2:12, 15). It is time to *“to receive the grace of God”* (2 Corinthians 6:1). And it is a time for active dialogue between each of us and our Father in heaven, as Jesus instructs in the Gospel.

The readings from Exodus, which shall guide our worship throughout the season of Lent, though, also provide us with Good News. We do not deserve it, but God hears and answers our cries. Be ready to pray; be ready to thank our gracious God.

Please note:

- **ASH WEDNESDAY** will be on Wednesday February 18th with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m.
- There will be no Thursday evening service that week.
- The Lenten Services following Ash Wednesday will be on Thursday nights at 6:30pm without communion.

Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter Series Overview (2026)

Ash Wednesday February 18, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (with Communion; no Thursday service this week)

The Good News of a God Who Hears and Answers Cries, Exodus 2:23–25

Lenten Midweek 2 February 26, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (no Communion)

The Good News of a God Who Reveals Himself to Us, Exodus 3:1–15

Lenten Midweek 3 March 5, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (no Communion)

The Good News of a God Who Sends a Deliverer, Exodus 4:1–20

Lenten Midweek 4 March 12, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (no Communion)

The Good News of a God Who Passes Over Us in Mercy, Exodus 12:1–14

Lenten Midweek 5 March 19, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (no Communion)

The Good News of a God Who Makes a Way for Us, Exodus 14:5–31

Lenten Midweek 6 March 26, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (no Communion)

The Good News of a God Who Sustains Us on Our Journey, Exodus 16:1–18, 35

Maundy Thursday April 2, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (with Communion)

New Passover, Luke 22:7–20

Good Friday (Noon Service) April 3, 2026 – 12:00 p.m. (no Communion)

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted by God, Isaiah 52:13–53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9; John 19

Good Friday (Tenebrae/Evening Service) April 3, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. (no Communion)

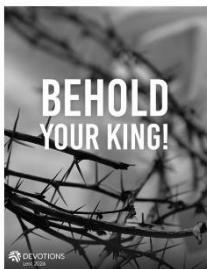
New Death, John 19:17–30

Easter Sunrise Service April 5, 2026 – 6:00 a.m. (no Communion)

Christ Is Risen! So What?, 1 Corinthians 15:19–26

Easter Festival Services April 5, 2026 – 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. (with Communion)

“Middle C” and the Rest of the Story, Colossians 3:1–4



2026 Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries *Behold Your King!*

In love, God sent His Son to redeem the world. In hatred, He was rejected. In *Behold Your King!*, we see the Savior stripped of His dignity, led away, and crucified on our behalf. No one could imagine this Man, this condemned and forsaken Man, was God in the flesh sent to liberate us from our sin by His death and resurrection. That the Son of God joined us in our frail state of humanity is testament to God's overwhelming love and concern for the world. And not only this, Jesus endured scorn and derision from His creation, His earthly subjects. And yet, as King, as Lord of all, He did the unthinkable: He laid down His life for the sins of the world. We are offering these devotions at our Church in both a physical booklet form and we will be emailing them out to our members. This devotional will include our Lenten Worship Schedule for Grace with contact information for our Church. To view the devotions online go to: <https://www.lhm.org/lent/> Consider using this devotion not only for your own personal and family devotions during the Lenten season, but also to share with your neighbor, family member, friend, or co-worker so that they too can share in the comforting Gospel of our Lord's passion and death for the forgiveness of our sins.

Stewardship Minute If money is our focus and security, we can become self-reliant, prideful, and selfish. We can be like the Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21), who loved making money and gave himself all the credit for his success. Deluding ourselves into thinking, as the Rich Fool did, that we need no one and nothing, we push God out of our lives. Recognizing little or no need for God, we ignore our spiritual selves, and we live a life of self-indulgence. The state of spiritual coldness can be verified by an examination of how we manage our finances. Our checking account and credit card statements will indicate where our treasures lie.

**AS STEWARDS, WE UNDERSTAND
THAT WE ARE NOT SELF-SUFFICIENT
BUT DEPENDENT UPON GOD'S GRACE
TO BE FAITHFUL IN OUR STEWARDSHIP.**

"For from His fullness of His grace we have all received, grace upon grace" (John 1:16).



Growing in Grace – January 22nd & 25th

<i>General Offering</i>	\$2182.00		
<i>Online Giving</i>	\$1357.87		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	\$80.00		
<i>Missions</i>	\$60.00		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	\$340.00		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	\$30.00	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	\$65.00	19/64	62
<i>Sunday School</i>	\$0.00		
Total	\$4114.87		

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	2/1	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 6-8:00pm	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class & Sunday School Divine Worship Stephen Minister Training
Monday	2/2	6:30pm	6-8 th Grade Confirmation Class
Tuesday	2/3	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	2/4	9:30am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	2/5	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	2/6	-----	-----
Saturday	2/7	9am-3pm	Stephen Minister Training
Sunday	2/8	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) thewordendures.blogspot.com
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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	414-762-8869
	ECC	414-856-9262

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Church & ECC

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School & Church Office

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