

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## Lenten Midweek 3

March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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



Image: "Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob." (*Exodus 2:23-24*)

# 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—“Set Free: The Gospel in Exodus The Good News of a God Who Sends a Deliverer”***

Today we see the similarities and the contrasts between Moses and Jesus. Both are God's servants, but only Jesus is willing and able to save us. We will hear of Moses' unwillingness to serve and save many people, even with the signs God provided. But Jesus, our Lord, is willing to do all that is necessary for all of us to be embraced by God's love. Jesus Christ came, delivered us, and set us free.

### **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** “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” (LSB 437 vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

**PSALM** *Psalm 25:1-5*

**Pastor:** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**People:** O my God, in You I trust;

**Pastor:** let me not be put to shame;

**People:** let not my enemies exult over me.

**Pastor:** Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame;

**People:** they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

**Pastor:** Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

**People:** Lead me in Your truth and teach me,

**Pastor:** for You are the God of my salvation;

**People:** for You I wait all the day long.

*Sit*

### ✘ WORD ✘

**FIRST READING** *Exodus 4:1-20*

*(Moses Given Powerful Signs & Returns to Egypt)*

Then Moses answered, “But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’” The Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?” He said, “A staff.” And he said, “Throw it on the ground.” So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. But the Lord said to Moses, “Put out your hand and catch it by the tail”—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand—“that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.” Again, the Lord said to him, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. Then God said, “Put your hand back inside your cloak.” So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. “If they will not believe you,” God said, “or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take

some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

But Moses said to the Lord, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue.” Then the Lord said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.” But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses and he said, “Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.”

Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive.” And Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.” And the Lord said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead.” So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalms 25:6-11*

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**People: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

Pastor: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

**People: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.**

Pastor: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

**People: For Your name’s sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

**SECOND READING** *Hebrews 3:1-6*

*(Jesus Greater Than Moses)*

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God’s house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful

over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalm 25:12-15*

Pastor: Who is the man who fears the LORD?

**People: Him will He instruct in the way that he should choose.**

Pastor: His soul shall abide in well-being,

**People: and his offspring shall inherit the land.**

Pastor: The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him,

**People: and He makes known to them His covenant.**

Pastor: My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

**People: for He will pluck my feet out of the net.**

**THIRD READING** *John 8:31-38*

*(Jesus says, The Truth Will Set You Free)*

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalm 25:16-22*

Pastor: Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

**People: The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.**

Pastor: Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

**People: Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.**

Pastor: Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!

**People: Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in You.**

Pastor: May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You.  
**People: Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.**

*Stand*

**RESPONSORY** *Hebrews 3:1, 6; John 8:36*

Pastor: You who share in a heavenly calling.

**People: If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**

Pastor: Christ is faithful over God's house as a son.

**People: If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**

Pastor: Hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

**People: If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**

**PASSION READING** *Mark 14:46-65*

***(Jesus is Arrested, A Young Man Flees, & Jesus Appears Before the Council)***

And they laid hands on him and seized him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled.

And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

**CREED** *Apostles' Creed*

People: 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*

**SERMON HYMN** "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" (*LSB* 438 vs. 1-4)

**SERMON** "The Good News of a God Who Sends a Deliverer" (Exodus 4:1-20)

**OFFERTORY HYMN** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (Sts. 1, 4: *LSB* 426)

### **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*

## **PRAYERS**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for all people who are unsure of God's hearing their prayers.

**People:** Hear their cries, O Lord, grant them courage as You accompany, and answer them speedily.

**Pastor:** Let us ask God to strengthen the faith of those who only recently have known Him.

**People:** Reveal Yourself gently to them, Lord Jesus, through the caring of Your church.

**Pastor:** Let us pray for those who feel trapped by circumstances beyond their control.

**People:** Assure them that You know their dilemma and that the deliverer has come: Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us pray for all who fear God's punishment.

**People:** Show them mercy, O Lord, as You passed over Your Old Testament people. Grant them peace through Your presence.

**Pastor:** Let us pray for all who know no good ways to turn, are unsure of the truth, and await only their deaths.

**People:** Tell them again, Lord Jesus, that You alone are the way, and the truth, and the life.

**Pastor:** Finally, let us pray for all who are tired from opposition in the world around them and from their own conflicts within themselves.

**People:** Awaken in them a sense of Your accompanying them on their journey until that day when they and we join those who have gone before us at Your heavenly banquet hall.

**Pastor:** O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength.

**People:** By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**Pastor:** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,

**People:** give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness;

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

**People:**Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9-13*

Pastor: Heavenly Father, trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:

**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.

*Sit*

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People:**Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** "Christ, the Life of All the Living" (Sts. 1, 5, 7: *LSB* 420)

**Announcements**

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

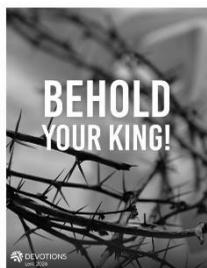
C: Thanks be to God!



## 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 3/5 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 3/8 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/8 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Keith Goodle	Adam Voss	Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Erica Vitek	Jen Lau
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Acolyte</u>		Ava Hobart	McKenzie Isenhart
<u>Ushers</u>	Lance Kopperud Marlene Voss	Steve Pawlak Benjamin Tindall	Eric Kamprath Lisa Kamprath Elizabeth Murphy
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	Glenn Dotson	



### **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.***

## Lenten Midweek Series for Grace Lutheran Church

Ash Wednesday February 18<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026



### *“Set Free: The Gospel in Exodus”*

**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*

## 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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Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
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