

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Lenten Midweek 6

March 26th, 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 Sustains Us on Our Journey”

The Lord heard the cries of the Israelites and provided deliverance from the Egyptians by crossing the Red Sea. But not very much later, they grumbled that the Lord was not providing for them. Like the Israelites, we, too, have been provided with divine deliverance. Our enemies are sin, death, and the power of the devil, all of which have been defeated in Christ. And yet we, too, grumble. Today we hear the good news of how God sustains us on our journey, feeding us with the bread of life and the promise of eternal life in heaven.

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 “O Bless the Lord, My Soul” (LSB 814 vs. 1-4)

Stand

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 103:17; Exodus 16:11, Philippians 4:12-13; John 6:32, 35*

Pastor: The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting.

People: In the morning you shall be filled with bread.

Pastor: I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound.

People: I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Pastor: My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.

People: I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger.

PSALM *Psalm 103:1-5*

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

People: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,

Pastor: who forgives all your iniquity,

People: who heals all your diseases,

Pastor: who redeems your life from the pit,

People: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Pastor: who satisfies you with good

People: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Sit

✘ WORD ✘

FIRST READING *Exodus 16:1-18, 35*

(God cares for His people with manna.)

They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat

pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.’” And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. And the Lord said to Moses, “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. This is what the Lord has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.’” And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.

The people of Israel ate the manna forty years, till they came to a habitable land. They ate the manna till they came to the border of the land of Canaan.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 103:6-14*

Pastor: The LORD works righteousness

People: and justice for all who are oppressed.

Pastor: He made known His ways to Moses,

People: His acts to the people of Israel.

Pastor: The LORD is merciful and gracious,

People: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: He will not always chide,

People: nor will He keep His anger forever.

Pastor: He does not deal with us according to our sins,

People: nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Pastor: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

People: so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;

Pastor: as far as the east is from the west,

People: so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

Pastor: As a father shows compassion to his children,

People: so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.

Pastor: For He knows our frame;

People: He remembers that we are dust.

SECOND READING *Philippians 4:10-13*

(Paul can do everything as God strengthens him.)

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 103:15-22*

Pastor: As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;

People: for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

Pastor: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him,

People: and His righteousness to children's children, to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

Pastor: The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,

People: and His kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His word, obeying the voice of His word! Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will! Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

THIRD READING *John 6:25-35*
(Jesus is the true bread of life.)

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Lector: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

RESPONSORY *Exodus 16:2; Philippians 4:13; John 6:35*

Pastor: The people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

People: I am the bread of life.

Pastor: I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

People: I am the bread of life.

Pastor: Whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.

People: I am the bread of life.

PASSION READING *Mark 15:25-41*
(The Crucifixion & The Death of Jesus)

And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!” So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.” And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.” And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

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 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer” (LSB 918 vs. 1-3)

SERMON “The Good News of a God Who Sustains Us on Our Journey” (Exodus 16:1-18, 35)

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. 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: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people

People: that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and 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 "Amazing Grace" (*LSB 744 vs. 1-4*)

Announcements

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

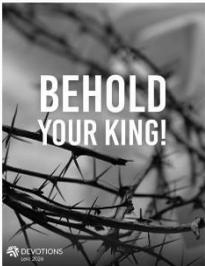
C: Thanks be to God!



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 3/26 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 3/29 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 3/29 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Keith Goodle	Greg Nowakowski	Rick Weeks
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Erica Vitek	Pastor Taggatz
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	Jeanne Meyer	Jeanne Meyer
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Acolyte</u>			
<u>Ushers</u>	Lance Kopperud Marlene Voss	Steven 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 18th – Easter Sunday April 5th, 2026



“Set Free: The Gospel in Exodus”

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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