

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

## Easter Late Service

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

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



**Image:** "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him." (*Exodus 15:1b-2*)

# 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—"Middle C" and the Rest of the Story"*

Easter is for us a feast, and it is a festival. One of the traditional distinctions between the two words in church usage is that a feast is a time-limited commemorative event, usually completed within a day; a festival is a longer time of celebration, often spread over a number of days. Our hymns of the season use both terms with the ancient hymn text, "*Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*" poetically stating: "*Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render*" (LSB 487:3), while in Martin Luther's hymn "*Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands*" the sixth stanza begins: "*So let us keep the festival to which the Lord invites us*" (LSB 458:6). Supporting the extended Easter celebration are lectionary readings for the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after Easter (see LSB xv, xvi, xviii, and xxi). Today is just a beginning as we rejoice in the light of the resurrection and joyfully exclaim, "*Hail thee, festival day!*" (LSB 489:1).

### **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 ✠

### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Pastor: May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Pastor: The light of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

### OPENING HYMN “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (LSB 469 vs. 1-5)

*Stand*

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 118:24; 2 Timothy 1:10b; Romans 4:28, 10:9; 1 Corinthians 6:14*

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pastor: Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

People: Jesus our Lord was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Pastor: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

People: God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Alleluia! Alleluia!

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our creator and preserver, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are stained by sin from our very beginnings and we have sinned again and again in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have often turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for all our many sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us for Jesus' sake, and by the power of the Holy Spirit direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us victory over all that oppresses us and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Pastor: In His boundless mercy, God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him for restoration and renewal. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of

Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God keep you strong in the Holy Spirit and grant you a life on earth in which you live in baptismal grace and joyfully tell of His greatness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

## ✕ WORD ✕

**INTROIT** *Exodus 15:2a, 6, 13, 17-18; antiphon: v. 1b*

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed | gloriously;\*  
the horse and his rider He has thrown in- | to the sea.

**People:** The LORD is my strength | and my song,\*  
and He has become my sal- | vation.

Pastor: Your right hand, O LORD, glorious | in power,\*  
Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the | enemy.

**People:** You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You | have redeemed;\*  
You have guided them by Your strength to Your ho- | ly abode.

Pastor: You will bring them in and plant them on Your own | mountain,\*  
the place, O LORD, which You have made for | Your abode,

**People:** the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have es- | tablished.\*  
The LORD will reign forever and | ever.

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.

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed | gloriously;\*  
the horse and his rider He has thrown in- | to the sea.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to life before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

*Sit*

**GRACE CHOIR “Exalt the Lord”**

**FIRST READING *Acts 10:34-42***

***(Peter preaches and witnesses to the risen Lord.)***

So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM *Psalms 16***

**People:** Preserve me, O God, for in You I take refuge.

**Women:** I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from You.” As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.

**Men:** The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.

**People:** The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; You hold my lot.

**Women:** The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**Men:** I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

**People:** For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**GRACE CHOIR** “You Get the Glory”

**EPISTLE LESSON** *Colossians 3:1-4*

**(Paul writes that our lives are hidden with Christ in God.)**

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**GRADUAL** *adapt. Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

**People:** Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

*Stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 28:1-10*

**(He is not here!)**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

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

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

**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 Christ Is Risen Today” (LSB 457 vs. 1-4)

**SERMON** “Middle C” and the Rest of the Story” (Colossians 3:1-4)

**OFFERING/ATTENDANCE**

As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us

today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord's Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

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



*Stand*

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. That the church live out its calling and that the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ be joyfully celebrated in all places, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That the nations of the world find peace with justice in our time, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That the abiding blessing of God rest upon our families, our neighborhoods, our places of business, and our schools, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That those whose confession of the true faith leads to bodily peril or other sufferings know relief and deliverance from every danger, let us pray of the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That all whose labor adds meaning and beauty to the life of the church—the musicians, artists, craft workers, flower arrangers, and others—find joy and blessing in all that they do to the glory of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That all those whose lives know specific challenges, including those who are ill and those who mourn, [including . . .], know heavenly benediction and strength for each day, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That the memory of the faithful departed be held in reverence and honor by all of us as we await a time of resurrection and reunion at the close of the age, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: These things and all else that we should have asked on this day of holy rejoicing, grant to us Lord, for the sake of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

**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 proper that we should give thanks to You, our gracious heavenly Father, for in Your goodness You have given Your only-begotten Son for our salvation. By the guiding of Your Spirit direct our ways that we be filled with His presence. Kindle in us the fire of Your love and grant that we ever make the good confession of our faith. Grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **SANCTUS LSB Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 208**

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: With joyful praise, Lord God, we bless You this day for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to be the perfect sacrifice for sin so that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name. Grant that our lives know the peace that surpasses all understanding. Invited by Your grace may we come to Your Table with grateful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood that we live with confidence, rejoicing in our connection to You through Holy Baptism and confidently awaiting the eternal feast with You in Your eternal kingdom and with all the saints in glory.

**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 Divine Service Setting 4, pg. 210*

1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Sit*

## DISTRIBUTION

### We celebrate the Lord's Supper

Members of our sister LC-MS congregations are invited to join us for communion. Guests to our Lutheran Church are invited to first speak with Pastor before joining at our Lord's Table. We hope you will learn more about us as we gather to "*Celebrate, Teach, and Confess*" the Good News of God's Grace! In the Bible, the Apostle Paul wrote: *Let a person examine himself and so eat of the bread, and drink of the cup (1 Cor. 11:28)*. Before attending the Lord's Supper, ask yourself the following questions:

- *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)*
- *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)*
- *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)*
- *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

- “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” (LSB 461)
- “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” (LSB 466)

*Stand*

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

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

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord God, heavenly Father, ruler of all things, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come through this blessed Meal. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this wondrous Sacrament, we may die daily to sin through our Baptism and rise new and restored as we joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your glory for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICAMUS**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**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** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” (LSB 463 vs. 1-4)

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 & patience); 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); Debbie Parker (healing & strength) Pauline Parker's daughter in law; Scott Brenton (on dialysis) Linda Maldonado's fiancé; Gary (leukemia) friend of Marlene Voss; Jan Barrett (healing & strength); Karen (surgery); Pam (melanoma, healing & strength) relative of Carol Thurber; Paul & Karen (healing & strength) Jim & Janine Pieper's relatives; 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, recovery from surgery); Christopher Barnard (healing & strength following surgery); Dan Taggatz (heart surgery) Pastor Taggatz's Uncle; Student of Mary Rowley (diagnosed with blood cancer); Doc Medek (healing & strength); John Falcon (cancer) Carol Loveall's Nephew; Chris (leukemia) friend of Joanne Jaeger; Jackie Lehman (healing & strength); Jennie Schwister (broken hip) Rick Week's Sister; Morgan Christianson (surgery) Fiancé of Anthony Parker; Alan & Sandy Jacobson (declining health) Parents of Jill Kent.

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

**We mourn with the family of Pete Watson, the friend of Marlene & Greg Voss, who was recently called home to heavenly rest. We pray:** Heavenly Father, We commend to Your gracious care the family of Pete Watson, whom You have called to his heavenly rest. In their sorrow, surround them with Your comfort and peace. Remind them of Your sure promise in Christ Jesus, that death is not the end, but the doorway to eternal life. Grant them strength in the days ahead, and lift their hearts with the hope of the resurrection, where every tear will be wiped away. Keep them steadfast in Your Word and faith, trusting in the victory won through Jesus' death and resurrection. In His holy name we pray, Amen.

*All those on the Grace Prayer Line dealing with long term health and medical issues;* Hear our prayer. We encourage you to submit prayer requests for worship and/or our prayer line by emailing: [Paulinemom@aol.com](mailto:Paulinemom@aol.com).

**If you do not have access to a computer you may call, prayers for worship:**

Church Office 414-762-8990

Requests on prayer line:

9am-3 pm

3pm-9 pm

Carol Thurber

Pauline Parker

414-762-9615

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>Easter Sunday 4/5 6:00am</u>	<u>Easter Sunday 8:30am</u>	<u>Easter Sunday 10:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Craig Lau	Mike Huber
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Glen Dotson	Martin Taggatz
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	No Communion	Lynn Buzzell	Lynn Buzzell
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolyte</u>		Ava Hobart	Henry Peppler
<u>Ushers</u>		Bob Buzzell	Mike Huber
		Lynn Buzzell	Martin Taggatz
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	Glenn Dotson	

## Grace Youth Group Easter Breakfast!!!

Our Youth Group will be hosting their Potluck Easter Breakfast in the Church Narthex on Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:00am-8:30am & 9:30am-10am  
We are requesting members to RSVP and sign up for a dish to share.

PLEASE SEE SIGN-UP SHEETS IN THE NARTHEX!

A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the Grace Youth Group.

Thank you for your support!!!

## **Join the Grace Oak Creek VBS Committee!**

Plans are underway for **Vacation Bible School in June 2026**, and we're forming a committee to help with planning and preparation. Volunteers are needed for areas such as **decorations, supplies, recruitment, fundraising, and more.**

If you're interested in serving, please email:

**[apankow@graceoakcreek.org](mailto:apankow@graceoakcreek.org)**

## **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 18<sup>th</sup>

**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/57tkyvj8](https://tinyurl.com/57tkyvj8)

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

**Jeanne Meyer** – [meyorch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meyorch@sbcglobal.net)

**Lori Kachelmeier** – [jlkachel2@gmail.com](mailto:jlkachel2@gmail.com)

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

### **Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study**

**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** (***Please note:** there will be no Sunday morning Bible Class on Easter Sunday, we will resume again on Sunday April 12 for Bible Class*)

### **Matthew: “His Kingdom Forever.” (10 sessions)**

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

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

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

**The Lutheran Hour "You Don’t Know What You Have Till It’s Gone"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Death is the enemy of life, but in Jesus, God made death become life’s servant. 1 Corinthians 15:26

Listen online at: [lutheranhour.org/](http://lutheranhour.org/)or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings:

WTMJ	620 AM	Milwaukee, WI	Sun 6:30 am
WGN	720 AM	Chicago, IL	Sun 6:30am

“As Christians, we rejoice in the Savior who shines light on our lives when we only expected inky blackness. May God’s strong Word remind us that the fullness of life is meant to be lived in the light. In our weakness, may the Lord bring alongside us faithful brothers and sisters to proclaim that God is light and life to us, and let us walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7). In Jesus we have light, and to have light is to have life. May we rejoice in proclaiming the message of Jesus as the Apostle John did. Thanks be to God that He is light, and He shines in the darkness.” *Rev. Dennis Norby, Grace Free Lutheran Church, Valley City, North Dakota - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)* Are you struggling with a crisis pregnancy or guilt after an abortion? Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679. Word of Hope can help. [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org); 888-217-8679.

## ***IN THE WORD FOR EASTER SUNDAY***

**Catechism**: Creed—Third Article

**Verse of the week**: Colossians 3:1-3, “*If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*”

**Psalm of the week**: Psalm 16 (antiphon vs. 10)

**Hymn of the week**: LSB 459 “Christ Is Arisen”

### **Bible Readings for the Week:**

Sunday— The Resurrection of Our Lord: Matthew 28:1-10

Monday— Easter Monday: The Emmaus Disciples—Luke 24:13-35

Tuesday— Easter Tuesday: The Breaking of the Bread—Luke 24:36-49

Wednesday— Easter Wednesday: The Resurrection Catch—John 21:1-14

Thursday— Jesus Reinstates Peter—John 21:15-25

Friday— The Song of Moses—Exodus 15:1-18

Saturday—Easter 2: Acts 5:29-42

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

**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*

## Stewardship Minute

In sports, people become part of a team. As Christians, we are invited by God to be on His team. The Church is like a team devoted to serving Jesus Christ. The team consists of men, women, and children from different racial and economic backgrounds. The team is the family of God. As members of God’s team, we seek “to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Colossians 1:10). God’s love flows through us as we love all those around us by bringing them the good news of salvation, encouraging one another in the faith. As part of God’s team, we seek opportunities to recruit other people to join the team so they can enjoy the wonderful blessings that God gives to those on His team.

**“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF” (MARK 12:31) ENCOURAGES ACTIVE SERVICE TO OTHERS.**



“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers you did it to Me” (Matthew 25:40).

### *Growing in Grace – March 26<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>*

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$11,022.00</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$785.88</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$105.00</i>		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Thursday Lent: 34</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Sunday: 107</i>	<i>83</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$11,942.88</i></b>		

**Please note: In order to meet budget each week we need to receive \$6,586 in offerings. Thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries here at Grace. We could not do what we do without your prayers, volunteering of your time and talents, and financial support!!**

## *Opportunities at Grace this week!*

Sunday	4/5	6:00am 7-8:30am 8:30am 9:30-10am 10:00am	Easter Sunrise Service Youth Group Breakfast Easter Late Service Youth Group Breakfast Easter Late Service
Monday	4/6	-----	-----
Tuesday	4/7	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	4/8	9:30am 6:30pm 7:00pm	Ladies Bible Class All Board's Meeting Council Meeting
Thursday	4/9	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	4/9	-----	-----
Saturday	4/10	8:00am	Rise & Sonsine Bible Study
Sunday	4/11	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class & Sunday School Divine Worship

## SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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

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

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990 (O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) <a href="http://thewordendures.blogspot.com">thewordendures.blogspot.com</a>
Principal	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Mrs. Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262
Pastor		<a href="mailto:pastor@graceoakcreek.org">pastor@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Church Office	Heidi, Secretary	<a href="mailto:church@graceoakcreek.org">church@graceoakcreek.org</a>
Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@graceoakcreek.org">principal@graceoakcreek.org</a>
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:school@graceoakcreek.org">school@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Director		<a href="mailto:eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org">eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org</a>
ECC Office		<a href="mailto:ecc@graceoakcreek.org">ecc@graceoakcreek.org</a>

### Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

### School & Church Office Mailing Address

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 5315

