

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The Day of Pentecost

May 21st & 24th, 2026

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



Image: "Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your love." (Verse for Pentecost Day)

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—“Where the Spirit Flows, Life Grows”

The arrival of the Holy Spirit is a day of celebration. This is a day to rejoice in promises kept and anticipate greater things to come. Today's festival is a bridge for the church. It connects the commemoration of the life of Christ (*through Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Easter*) to the season centered on our life in Christ, beginning with Pentecost. The festival's signature red color reminds us of the fiery arrival of the Spirit, the Spirit's ongoing work as the heartbeat of Christ's church, and the blood shed by believers past and present as they proclaim the crucified, risen, and ascended Christ.

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 1, pg. 151*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In (vs. 1-3)

Stand

Confession and Absolution *LSB 151*

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

Introit (*Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30; antiphon: Liturgical Text, read responsively*)

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the | faithful,*
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle- | luia.

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you | made them all;*
the earth is full of your | creatures.

These all | look to you,*
to give them their food in due | season.

When you give it to them, they gath- | er it up;*

when you open your hand, they are filled with | good things.
When you send forth your Spirit, they are cre- | ated,*
and you renew the face | of the ground.

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.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the | faithful,*
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alle- | luia.

Kyrie *LSB 152*

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the
unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to
the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 154*

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Numbers 11:24-30*

(Moses and the Israelites anticipate the day when the Lord pours out His Spirit on all His people.)

²⁴Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

²⁶Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!” ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*Acts 2:17b; Romans 10:10, read responsively*)

I will pour out my Spirit | on all flesh,*

and your sons and your daughters shall | prophesy.

With the heart one believes and is | justified,*

and with the mouth one confesses | and is saved.

Second Reading *Acts 2:1-21*

(Promises come to pass and the Holy Spirit ignites the church.)

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” ¹²And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
¹⁸even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.
¹⁹And I will show wonders in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;
²⁰the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.
²¹And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse LSB 156

- C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for Pentecost—“*Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.*” (Liturgical Text)

Holy Gospel John 7:37-39

(The festival-going Christ points to the life that flows from the Spirit.)

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

³⁷On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” ³⁹Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed LSB 159

- 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 everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Children’s Message “Connected by the Holy Spirit” (John 7:37-39) (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 497 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord (vs. 1-3)

Sermon “The Master’s Name on the Back” (John 7:37-39)

Offertory LSB 159

- C **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

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.”)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface LSB 160

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**

- P Lift up your hearts.
- C **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Father of nations, for You have had mercy on all flesh, sending Your Spirit to declare the salvation found only in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. By His atoning death and victorious resurrection, He has made satisfaction for our sins and now beckons all who thirst to drink deeply of the fruits of His cross. Prepare our hearts to receive His true body and blood at this Table, that we might be fed with the bread of life, and prepared to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth, quenching the nations with living water, namely the Gospel of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer *LSB 162*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 162*

- P 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 T 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 T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini *LSB 163*

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

- C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

We celebrate the Lord’s Supper

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

1. *Do I believe that I am a sinner, and am sorry for my sins? (Prov. 28:13; Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:8-9)*
2. *Do I believe that Jesus Christ by His death, offers me forgiveness for all my sins? (Romans 5:8; Col. 2:13; Heb. 9:28; 1 John 1:7)*
3. *Do I believe that I receive the body and blood of Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine (not merely symbolically present?) (Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16; 1 Cor. 11:24-25)*
4. *Do I desire to turn from my sinful ways and live a God pleasing life by the power of the Holy Spirit? (Isaiah 1:16; John 8:11; Rom. 6:12)*

If you are unable to answer yes to these questions, please talk to the pastor before communing, as participating without a proper understanding of Holy Communion can be spiritual harmful (1 Cor. 11:27-29). If you can answer yes to these questions, then come with a repentant heart and join us in the reception

of the Lord's Supper. Adults and children not yet instructed about Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION PRACTICE—We are offering altar/rail communion as our communion practice. While you are at the altar, please let us know if you would like to receive the Common Cup. Individual communion cups are also available to you. You also have the option to kneel or remain standing during altar/rail communion. Gluten Free communion wafers are also available upon request. If it is physically difficult for you to commune at the altar rail, please speak to the Pastor or an elder about receiving communion in your pew.

Distribution Hymns

-500 Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid

-498 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

Stand

Thank the Lord *LSB 164*

- C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect *LSB 166*

- A Let us pray. Spirit of wisdom and truth, we praise You for the gift of faith that receives the blessings that come to us through the Supper of our Savior, Jesus. Keep us steadfast in the way of everlasting life, granting us wisdom to go and grow in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Benediction *LSB 166*

- 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 T give you peace.
- C Amen.

Closing Hymn 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (vs. 1-3)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!





The flowers on the altar are given by

David & Erica Vitek,

In honor of their

25th Wedding Anniversary!!



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. **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; **Judy** (poor eyesight) friend of Joy Lussier; **Darlene & Jerry Urbaniak's Nephew** (Alzheimer's); **Jenny Rice** (cancer); **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; **Martha Rowley** (healing & strength) Grandma of Mary Rowley; **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; **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); **Christopher Barnard** (healing & strength following surgery); **Dan Taggatz** (Cardiac Rehab) Pastor Taggatz's Uncle; **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 Jacobson** (declining health) Father of Jill Kent; **Connie Roettgen** (healing from neck injury); **Rob Kahlman** (healing from complications after lung transplant) Scott Brenton's brother-in-law; **Ron and Judy** (cancer) friends of Mike & Pat Toman, and **Lynn Buzzell** (healing & strength); **Betty** (hospice) mother of Lori Kachelmeier; **Michael Knoll** (cancer) friend of Doc Medek; **Char Klipfel** (healing & strength); **Brian** (rotator cuff surgery) friend of Mary Rowley.

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

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:

9am-3pm	Carol Thurber	414-762-9615
3pm-9pm	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 5/20 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 5/24 9:00am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Keith Goodle	Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Edward Taggatz	Cris Evers
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Kathy & Morgan
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Char Klipfel
<u>Acolyte</u>		
<u>Ushers</u>	Douglas Klipfel	Craig Lau
	Charlotte Klipfel	Jen Lau
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	No Livestream

****Special Voters Meeting****

Sunday, May 31st

Grace Lutheran Church will hold a Special Voters Meeting on Sunday, May 31st, immediately following the 9:00am worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to issue a Divine Call for a Middle School teacher for our school ministry.

Because this is a Call meeting, a quorum of voting members will be needed.

We encourage all voting members of the congregation to please plan to attend this important meeting as we prayerfully seek the Lord's guidance for this important role in our ministry.

This special meeting will take place on the same Sunday that we celebrate our staff anniversaries.

We thank God for the faithful service of our teachers and staff and ask for His continued blessings upon Grace Lutheran Church and School.

Your 1st Quarter Giving Statements are now available in the Narthex

We thank you for your ongoing support of Grace Lutheran Church, School, and Early Childhood Center as we continue to serve as stewards of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Through your faithful partnership, the ministries entrusted to us are able to share His saving message and care for those in our community with Christ's love.

We are deeply grateful for your prayers and for the faithful use of your time, talents, and treasures in helping to grow the Kingdom of God among us. God bless you abundantly, Pastor Taggatz

Staff Anniversary Celebration - May 31st

Join us as we give thanks for the faithful service of our staff!

You are invited to a brunch celebration on
Sunday, May 31 at 10:30 a.m. in the Grace gym

We will be recognizing the following anniversaries:

Rachel Miliacca - 25 years

Steve Gettelman - 20 years

Rita Heinen - 15 years

Kristi DeVries - 10 years

Jen Mendez - 10 years

Nikki Tindall - 10 years

Dena Guziewicz - 10 years

Anthony Hengst - 5 years

Come and celebrate these dedicated servants who have been such a blessing
to our congregation, school, and ministry.

We thank God for their years of service and look forward to sharing this joyful time
together!

You can RSVP via this link: <https://forms.gle/phQM7kuufuqVHjhu7>

You can also sign up for the staff anniversary celebration in the narthex at Church!

Visit from Rev. Paul & Gena Nelson

Thursday, May 28th

LCMS Missionaries to Asia

We are blessed to share that Rev. Paul and Gena Nelson will be visiting Grace on Thursday, May 28, following our 6:30 p.m. worship service. Pastor Nelson previously visited us a few years ago before beginning his LCMS mission work in Indonesia. He now serves as a *Regional Director in Asia for LCMS missionaries, based in Medan, Indonesia*. In this role, he works closely with partner churches and organizations throughout Southeast Asia, providing theological training, pastoral mentoring, and pastoral care, while building relationships across many cultures and languages. We invite you to join us after worship that evening to hear more about the Lord's work through the Nelsons and the spread of the Gospel in Southeast Asia. It will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect and to support them in their mission.

You can learn more about their work here: <https://www.lcms.org/Nelson>

We hope you can join us for this encouraging evening!



Giving Tree in our Church Sanctuary begins on Memorial Day Weekend!!!

The *Giving Tree* from our Board of Stewardship will be up soon in our Church Sanctuary. Proceeds from the *Giving Tree* this year will go to support our *Church's Good Samaritan Fund*, which helps out those in need from our Church, School, and Early Childhood Center, and the Oak Creek Community.

Thank you for your generosity
and support for those who are in need!!!

Military Bible Sticks Campaign!

Thursday, May 24th through Sunday, July 5th

Our congregation has faithfully supported this mission for many years. We prayerfully ask you for this support again this year. The change this year is that Military Bible Sticks will be paired with a new mission from Faith Comes by Hearing. This new effort is called Vision 2033.

Vision 2033 involves partnering with other missions, such as Lutheran Bible Translators, to translate the Bible into mission languages. These Bible sticks would have native speakers reading the Word and would be given to the missions in countries all over the world. That way people would be able to hear the Good News in their own languages.

We are looking forward to being able to be a part of this new mission by Faith Comes by Hearing. Envelopes will be available for donating to Military Bible Sticks in the narthex on the white board.

A video will be shared with the congregation soon to share this mission's vision.

For more in-depth information please go to: <https://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/>

Here is an interview on the history of Military Bible Sticks:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-6mwlc1Bvo>

Thrivent Choice Dollars — Support God's Ministry at Grace Lutheran


Thrivent recently announced an exciting change to make ministry support easier and more impactful through Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Instead of distributing Choice Dollars gradually throughout the year, Thrivent has now placed the full annual amount of your 2026 Choice Dollars into your account right away.

This means you can direct all of your 2026 Choice Dollars now, putting them to work immediately for God's ministry at Grace Lutheran Church, School, & ECC in Oak Creek rather than waiting until the end of the year.

Please consider logging into your Thrivent account and directing your 2026 Thrivent Choice Dollars to support the mission and ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, School, & ECC Oak Creek.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity as we share the love of Christ with our congregation, school families, and community.



**Thrivent Choice Dollars
Support Change**

Thrivent just announced this change to make ministry support easier and more impactful with Thrivent Choice Dollars.

They've added the full annual Choice Dollars into your account now instead of gradually throughout the year as they did in the past.

This means you are able to direct all of your 2026 dollars now, putting them to work for ministry immediately rather than waiting until the end of the year.

Please consider logging in and directing your 2026 Thrivent Choice Dollars to God's ministry at LuWiSoMo now!



Join our Grace Oak Creek VBS!!!

VBS 2026 Update – Rainforest Falls

June 15th-19th, 9am-12pm

at our Lutheran School

VBS at Grace for 2026

This year's Vacation Bible School will use Group Publishing's "Rainforest Falls" program. Amy Pankow, our 4K Teacher at Grace & VBS Superintendent, is inviting volunteers to prayerfully consider taking ownership of one or more key areas to help VBS at Grace run smoothly.

Our VBS this year is for children ages 4K-4th Grade. Children 5th Grade through High School are asked to sign up and help volunteer for this year's VBS.

Areas where help is especially needed include:

- Decorating
- Recruitment (station leaders, helpers, and crew leaders—often older students)
- Enrollment (tracking registrations, attendance days, and dismissal information)
- Props and supplies
- Follow-up and outreach
- Training crew leaders and station leaders

If you're interested in serving, please email: apankow@graceoakcreek.org

To register you child, donate towards this year's VBS, and also sign up to volunteer

for Vacation Bible School at Grace please visit this website:

<https://vbspro.events/p/graceoakcreek>

The Lutheran Hour "Misery Loves Company"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's often said, "*Misery loves company.*" Christ comes to us in our misery with God's love and mercy. (Acts 2:38) Listen online at: lhm.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

"In grief, the world often feels empty. The absence of loved ones weighs heavily, leaving our days feeling hollow and incomplete without their presence. And yet, Scripture tells us that in these moments of deep sorrow, God draws near. He does not stand at a distance, waiting for us to be strong enough to move on with our life. He comes to us, holds us in our brokenness, and carries us when we cannot stand." *Rev. M.L. Smith, Director of International Missions of Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) - 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.

Are You Interested in Serving on a Church Board?

Elections are coming up for various boards at our Church at our June Voter's Meeting. Do you feel called to serve in leadership here at Grace Lutheran Church? Please consider contacting the Church Office and we will let you know what responsibilities each board position has. We will also connect you with the current board members who are serving so that you can ask them questions pertaining to their current board responsibilities. The term of service is three years, and your service would begin in July of 2025. Please call the Church Office for what board positions are currently available for the next term.

Fellowship Committee

ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

We will be having our annual Ice Cream Social after each service at church on:

Thursday, June 4th

and Sunday, June 7th

You will be able to make your own Sundaes - or just enjoy a dish of ice cream!

Please mark your calendars and bring your family for a sweet treat on us!

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

STARTS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

We will be switching to our Summer Schedule here at Grace starting Memorial Day weekend. This means that our Sunday morning worship time will be at 9:00am starting on Sunday, May 24th and this will go through Labor Day Weekend. There will not be Sunday School and Adult Bible Class during the summer. Thursday evening worship at 6:30pm will remain the same throughout the summer.

We look forward to seeing you in worship!!



IN THE WORD FOR THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Catechism:

Ten Commandments—

First Commandment through the Conclusion (Primary Texts)

Table of Duties—

To Widows: 1 Timothy 5:5-6; To Everyone: Romans 13:9;
1 Timothy 2:1

Verse of the week:

Philippians 1:21, *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*

Psalm of the week:

Psalm 25:1-15 (antiphon vs. 4)

Hymn of the week:

LSB 497 “Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord” (stanzas 1-3)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday

Pentecost: Rivers of Living Water—John 7:37-39

Monday

Love the Truth, Confess Christ—2 John 1:1-13

Tuesday

The Feast of Pentecost—Acts 2:1-13

Wednesday

Peter's Sermon on the Prophet Joel—Acts 2:14-21

Thursday

Peter Calls the Church to Repentance—Acts 2:22-36

Friday

The Life of the Church—Acts 2:37-47

Saturday

Holy Trinity: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

STEWARDSHIP IS THE FREE AND LOVING RESPONSE TO THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR LIVES.

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Stewardship Minute

Whether God gives us little or lots of money, we need to be faithful stewards by being responsible planners. Planning enables us to accomplish more with the money God entrusts to us. In Proverbs 16:3 we read: *“Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.”* Plan with confidence since God will always be with us to bless and watch over those plans that we have committed to Him. *“The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps”* (Proverbs 16:9). Planning for the future begins today. Procrastination is one of the greatest hindrances to financial planning. Galatians 6:7 reminds us that we reap what we sow. If we sow nothing (that is, don't plan), we reap nothing. In other words, little or no planning results in the likelihood that our financial goals will not be achieved. Best intentions without follow-through will get us nowhere.



Growing in Grace – May 14th & May 17th

<i>General Offering</i>	\$2630.00		
<i>Online Giving</i>	\$852.55		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	\$182.00		
<i>Missions</i>	\$81.00		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	\$2017.00		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	\$30.00	Total Attendance	Total Communed
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	\$0.00	30/67	79
<i>Sunday School</i>	\$0.00		
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	\$0.00		
Total	\$5792.55		

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	5/27	9:00am	Divine Worship
Monday	5/25	-----	-----
Tuesday	5/26	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	5/27	-----	-----
Thursday	5/28	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	5/29	-----	-----
Saturday	5/30	-----	-----
Sunday	5/31	9:00am 10:00am 10:30am	Divine Worship – Holy Trinity Sunday Special Voters Meeting for Middle School Teacher Call Staff Anniversary Brunch at School

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
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		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Heidi, Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC

3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

School & Church Office Mailing Address

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Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154



