

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

June 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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



Image: "We are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit." (*Romans 7:6*)

# 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—"Who Loses His Life for My Sake Finds It Eternally"***

Jesus has not come to calm the world but to lead us into battle. That battle is inside of us—*the call to take up the cross, to deny self, and to follow Jesus*. He has already won the victory over death and the devil, and now He works to sanctify us in this truth. While this might appear to be surrender, it is the only path to finding our lives and keeping them to everlasting life. We are bearers of this message to the world and accompanied with the promise that Christ is working in us and through us to make the Gospel known. Yet in the midst of this, we are encouraged that the smallest good work will not be overlooked by the Father, and those redeemed by Christ have a heavenly reward awaiting their faithful believing and living.

### **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 685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (vs. 1-4)

*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 89:15-18; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively*)

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;\*

**with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- | ations.**

Blessèd are the people who know the | festal shout,\*

**who walk, O LORD, in the light | of your face,**

who exult in your name | all the day\*

**and in your righteousness are ex- | alted.**

For you are the glory | of their strength;\*

by your favor our horn is ex- | altd.  
For our shield belongs | to the LORD,\*  
our king to the Holy One of | Israel.

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.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;\*  
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

### 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. Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; 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 *Jeremiah 28:5-9*

***(“It will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”)***

<sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual (*Romans 11:33, 36, read responsively*)

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!\*

**How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!**

For from him and through him and to him are | all things.\*

**To him be glory forever. | Amen.**

## Epistle Lesson *Romans 7:1-13*

***(If you have died to the Law in Christ, you have been raised to bear eternal fruit.)***

<sup>1</sup>Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup>Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.

<sup>3</sup>Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband

is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

<sup>4</sup>Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup>For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup>But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

<sup>7</sup>What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." <sup>8</sup>But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. <sup>9</sup>I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. <sup>10</sup>The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup>For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup>So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup>Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

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 the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost—***Alleluia. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Alleluia.* (Matthew 10:39)

**Holy Gospel Matthew 10:34-42**

**([Jesus said], "Whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.")**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>34</sup>[Jesus said:] "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy

of me. <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup>“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. <sup>41</sup>The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. <sup>42</sup>And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

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 “The Law Is Good” (Romans 7:1-13)** (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 601 All Who Believe and Are Baptized (vs. 1-2)**

**Sermon “Cross Wind-Holy Baptism” (John 3:1-17)**

**Sermon Text: John 3:1-17**—<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

### 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](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** (*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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father,

be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy 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 161***

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

-688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

-623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

*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. Blessed and holy Lord, in Your goodness You have redeemed us, washing us clean in the blood of the Lamb, and by Your mercy You have nourished us in body and soul upon the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in this Holy Communion. Grant to us grace that we may take up our cross and follow Him, heeding the path of righteousness

laid out for us in Your Law and being faithful through the merits and mercy of Christ alone; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, 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 683 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me (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. Michael Helzer (cancer); Michael Parker (healing & strength) Pauline Parker's son; Jim & Kari (healing and strength) friends of Joy Lussier; Greg Voss (healing & strength); Cindy 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 (hospice) 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; Karen (surgery); Pam (melanoma, healing & strength) relative of Carol Thurber; 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; John Falcon (cancer) Carol Loveall's Nephew; Chris (leukemia) friend of Joanne Jaeger; Jackie Lehman (healing & strength); 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; Chuck Mirenda (lung cancer) brother of Tony Mirenda; Marlene Voss (healing & strength); Joy Lussier (healing & strength); Jodi Pokrzewinski (knee surgery) friend of Jill Kent; Pete (heart surgery) friend of Janine & Jim Pieper.*

**For our Homebound Members at Grace:** Kathy Gaudian, Bernice Byklum, Doc Medek, and Rose Adams.

We Mourn with the family and friends of **Jane Dillon Perkl**, a friend of **Suzie and Tony Mirenda**, who was recently called home to heavenly rest. **We pray:** Heavenly Father, we commend to Your loving care the family and friends of Jane Dillon Perkl as they mourn her death. Comfort them with the promise of the resurrection and the sure hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ, who conquered death and the grave. Grant them peace in their sorrow, strength for the days ahead, and confidence in Your unfailing love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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-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.

	<b><u>Thursday 6/25 6:30pm</u></b>	<b><u>Sunday 6/28 9:00am</u></b>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Eric Kamprath
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Glenn Dotson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Staci Sherer	Marlene Voss
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Acolyte</u>		
<u>Ushers</u>	Keith Goodle	Lowell Johnson
	Jim Robinson	Ron Savarino
<u>Livestream</u>		Glenn Dotson

**Pastor's Vacation & Pastoral Care Coverage**

Pastor Taggatz will be on vacation from June 29 through July 12. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Doug Schroeder of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Greendale, who will be handling pastoral calls while Pastor Taggatz is away. Pastor Schroeder will also be officiating Jim Sauer's funeral at Heritage Funeral Home in Oak Creek on July 7 at 11:00 a.m.

**Rev. Douglas Schroeder**

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Greendale

Email: [dougs@ourshepherdlutheran.org](mailto:dougs@ourshepherdlutheran.org)

Church Office: 414-421-2060

Cell: 414-840-6016

Please keep Pastor Schroeder and his ministry in your prayers as he assists Grace during Pastor Taggatz's absence. We pray that Pastor Taggatz and his family enjoy a restful and refreshing vacation. God's blessings to all during these summer weeks!

**Pastor Schroeder will officiate the funeral service for our brother in Christ,**

**James “Jim” Sauer**

Family and friends are invited to gather in remembrance of Jim’s life, to share cherished memories, and to give thanks to God for the many blessings He bestowed on him.

**Heritage Funeral Home**

9200 S. 27th Street

Oak Creek, WI

**Visitation**

Monday, July 6, from 4:00–6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 7, from 9:30–10:30 a.m.

**Funeral Service**

Tuesday, July 7, at 11:00 a.m.

As we commend Jim to the Lord’s gracious care, we ask that you keep his family and loved ones in your prayers.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Grace Lutheran Church Mortgage Retirement Fund.

## **Rise & Sonshine Bible Study Ladies you are all invited to join us!!**

- **July 11<sup>th</sup>** 8:00am Boerner Botanical Gardens Walk Around (carpool will be available)
- **August 8<sup>th</sup>** 9:00am Oak Creek Farmer's Market (followed by breakfast)

In case of bad weather, we will meet at church. Texts and emails will go out to let everyone know change of plans.

Any questions please email or text Jennifer Olen: 414.305.3740 [olenjennifer@aol.com](mailto:olenjennifer@aol.com)

### **Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – Voter's Meeting After Worship 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 2026. Please call the Church Office for what board positions are currently available for the next term.

### ***2026 Summer Catechetical Series***

#### ***"Perspectives on the Cross"***

The Six Chief Parts of the Christian Faith are well known among our Lutheran members, and it is a good practice to rehearse and even interrogate them often for the benefit of those under our care. This series is an attempt to provide a fresh look at the Chief Parts, to show how they fit into the Christian's daily walk and may be practiced in our daily interactions. These teachings attempt to display this truth by viewing the Chief Parts through multifaceted aspects of the cross, using comparisons to our bones, eyes, and words, to wind, to a unique way with which we Christians are blessed, and to fire. The final sermon encourages us to bear our crosses in daily life and in doing so participate in the redemptive work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, seeing all of life and its activities through the lens of the cross of Calvary as well as the vacant cross and empty tomb.

1. June 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>—Cross Wind: Holy Baptism, John 3:1–17
2. July 16 & 19—Cross Way: Confession, 1 John 1:5–10
3. July 23 & 26<sup>th</sup>—Cross Fire: Holy Communion, 1 Corinthians 11:17–34
4. July 30<sup>th</sup> & August 2<sup>nd</sup>—Cross Bearers: Faith and Works, Ephesians 2:1–10; James 2:14–26



## **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.

***Please note: The deadline to give is Labor Day weekend.***

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

## **Military Bible Sticks Campaign!**

**Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>**

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.

**The Lutheran Hour "Journey Through Ambition"** Guest Speaker: Pastor Ryan Tinetti. You don't have to worry about making a name for yourself. In Christ, God has already given you His. (Matthew 25:21) [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

"God always makes life, and He always makes life worth it. The Good Giver of Life also accompanies each one as the Almighty Lord of 'my power is made perfect in weakness' (2 Corinthians 12:9). The crucifixion forgiveness of Jesus Christ proves that He constantly populates the adversities themselves with delights." Rev. Michael Salemink, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life - 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 THE 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

### **Catechism:**

Lord's Prayer—Seventh Petition

### **Verse of the week:**

Matthew 10:38-39, "*He who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.*"

### **Psalm of the week:**

Psalm 119:153-160 (antiphon vs. 154)

### **Hymn of the week:**

LSB 685 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

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

### **Sunday**

Pentecost 5: I Have Not Come to Bring Peace—Matt. 10:34-42

### **Monday**

St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles: Acts 15:1-21

### **Tuesday**

Two Blind Men Are Healed—Matthew 9:27-34

### **Wednesday**

The Sending Out of the Twelve—Matthew 9:35–10:15

### **Thursday**

The Promise of Persecution—Matthew 10:16-31

### **Friday**

Confessing Christ Before Men—Matthew 10:32–11:1

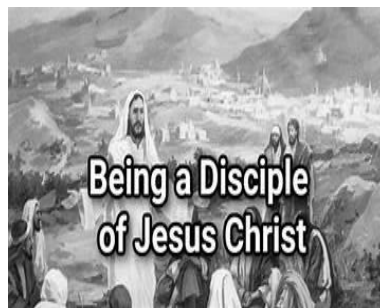
### **Saturday**

John the Baptist Sends Disciples to Jesus—Matthew 11:2-19

**Stewardship Minute** Life is a sacred trust, and so is the time in which we live it. It is God's intention that we, His people, fill our time with worthwhile activities in the service of God and others. Time is our life. If we waste time, we waste life. Time, like money, is important, but, unlike money, it cannot be stored up. We can use time only when it is there. Some of us are given long lives, some short, but all of us are given the same 1440-minute or 24-hour day. We need not be overly concerned as to how many of these days God will give us, but rather use each day wisely to please Him by being fruitful. All the time we have is a gift from God, and we are to be faithful stewards with His time. Spending time in prayer, in reading God's Word, and attending worship services are ways to use time wisely.

**Jesus calls us to be disciples, and He equips us for the sacrifices required to follow his call.**

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”  
(Matthew 28:19).



## *Growing in Grace – June 18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>*

General Offering	\$2547.00		
Online Giving (Last Week)	\$979.93		
Online Giving (Current Week)	\$816.56		
Debt Fund	\$0.00		
Missions	\$0.00		
Mortgage Fund	\$80.00		
Portals of Prayer	\$10.00	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
Lutheran Schools	\$0.00	35/51	68
Sunday School	\$0.00		
Vacation Bible School	\$0.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4433.49</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	6/28	9:00am <b>10:00am</b>	Divine Worship <b>Voters Meeting after Worship</b>
Monday	6/29	-----	-----
Tuesday	6/30	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	7/1	-----	-----
Thursday	7/2	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	7/3	-----	-----
Saturday	7/4	-----	-----
Sunday	7/5	9:00am	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 53154

