

# Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin  
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate  
Teach  
Share  
God's Grace*

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

July 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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



**Image:** "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." (*Matthew 11:29-30*)

# 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—"My Yoke Is Easy and My Burden Light"***

On this day when our thoughts and minds attend to the independence of our nation, we hear a study of contrasts between the mighty King who comes to us on a colt, the foal of a donkey, and the mystery that befuddles the wise revealed to the child. We also hear Paul wrestle with the paradox of his own nature as saint by virtue of the merits of Christ and sinner—all in the same body. Though it is our nature to try and solve such paradoxes and resolve such contrasts, the path of faith is to appreciate what each reveals to us and to trust in the Lord for all things. We might find it frustrating to chafe under the tension of what is and what should be, yet even the child can discern the gracious will of God in Christ and rejoice of His easy yoke. Thanks be to God.

### **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 4, pg. 203*

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 966 Before You, Lord, We Bow (vs. 1-4)

*Stand*

Confession and Absolution *LSB 203*

*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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 91:2, 9-10; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively*)

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High\*  
**will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.**

I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my | fortress,\*  
**my God, in | whom I trust.”**

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—\*  
**the Most High, who is my | refuge—**

no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,\*  
no plague come | near your tent.

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.

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High\*  
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

*Kyrie LSB 204*

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

*Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204*

C 1 To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 205*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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 *Zechariah 9:9-12*

**(Rejoice! Your King comes to you.)**

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup>I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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 7:14-25a*

**(I know that nothing good lives in me apart from Christ.)**

<sup>14</sup>We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup>So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup>For I

do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

### **Alleluia and Verse LSB 205**

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Alleluia Verse for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost—***“Alleluia. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Alleluia.” (Matthew 11:28)*

### **Holy Gospel Matthew 11:25-30**

**(*Jesus said, “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”*)**

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

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

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Apostles’ Creed LSB 207**

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*

**Sermon Hymn 699 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (vs. 1-3)**

**Sermon**

**Guest Pastor—Rev. Jonah Burakowski**

**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 208*

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 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 *LSB 209*

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer *LSB 209*

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 209***

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 209***

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

### **Agnus Dei *LSB 210***

C 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:

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

-605 Father Welcomes

-763 When Peace, like a River

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,

**Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.**

**Post-Communion Collect** *LSB 212*

- A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

**Benedicamus** *LSB 212*

- A Let us bless the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

**Benediction** *LSB 212*

- 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.**

*Sit*

**Closing Hymn 965 God Bless Our Native Land (vs. 1-2)**

**Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!**

**People: Thanks be to God!**





*The flowers on the altar are given by  
Ron and Mary Savarino  
In honor of their 58<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary!*



#### **WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

*For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. 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** (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); **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.

**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 7/2 6:30pm</u></b>	<b><u>Sunday 7/5 9:00am</u></b>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Craig Lau
<u>Readers</u>	Kathy Szefflinski	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine and Marlene	Janine and Marlene
<u>Linens</u>	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
<u>Acolyte</u>		
<u>Ushers</u>	Lance Kopperud	Andrea Szefflinski
	Marlene Voss	Tommy Szefflinski
<u>Livestream</u>	Jennifer Olen	No Livestream

**We extend our sincere thanks to Pastor Jonah Burakowski for filling in while Pastor Taggatz is away on vacation.** We are grateful for his willingness to serve God's people and assist with the ministry of Word and Sacrament during this time. We pray that our Lord would continue to bless Pastor Burakowski, his family, and his work at Martin Luther High School in Greendale as he serves as International Missions and Academic Advisor and Religion Teacher. May God grant him strength, wisdom, and joy as he faithfully shares the Gospel and nurtures young people in the Christian faith. Thank you, Pastor Burakowski, for your faithful service to Christ and His Church.

**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>** 9:00am Boerner Botanical Gardens Walk Around  
We will be meeting at school at 8:30am for anyone who would like to carpool.  
All ladies are invited to join us as we stroll thru the gardens enjoying the wonders of God's creation!
- **August 8<sup>th</sup>** 9:00am Oak Creek Farmer's Market (followed by breakfast)

In case of bad weather, check with Jen. 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)

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

## **New Members Class!**

### **Sunday, July 19th - from 1:30-5:30pm At Grace Lutheran School**

Our next New Members class will take place in our Grace Lutheran School building located at:  
8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.

Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, this class will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Attendance at the class may lead to membership in our church, but there are no obligations.

Please let us know if you might need child-care.

Watch an introductory video at: [www.lhm.org/GodConnects](http://www.lhm.org/GodConnects)



## **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 "Bloom Where You're Planted"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Blessing, in a Biblical sense, means God's favor in any circumstance, no exceptions, because there is no place or circumstance in which God does not belong. (Genesis 39:21) [Listen online at: lhm.org](http://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

"The Fourth of July is an ideal time to thank God if you have a good homeland ... or in the U.S., a free country. What a blessing! Just like Job or Jonah, this isn't the case for everyone. And we should continually pray for those whose homelands or countries are ravaged by war, politics, or disease. Praise God for giving us a country where we can worship Him and live our lives in relative freedom and peace." *Katrina Harrmann, Time of Grace - 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 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

### **Catechism:**

Catechism: Lord's Prayer—Conclusion

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

Matthew 11:28-30, "*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.*"

**Psalm of the week:** Psalm 145:1-14 (antiphon vs. 19)

**Hymn of the week:** LSB 609 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

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

### **Sunday**

Pentecost 6: Come to Me, All Who Labor—Matthew 11:25-30

### **Monday**

Jesus Preaches Repentance and Faith—Matthew 11:20-30

### **Tuesday**

Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath—Matthew 12:1-8

### **Wednesday**

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath—Matthew 12:9-21

### **Thursday**

A House Divided Cannot Stand—Matthew 12:22-32

### **Friday**

A Tree Is Known by Its Fruit—Matthew 12:33-50

### **Saturday**

The Parable of the Sower and the Seed—Matthew 13:1-9

### **Stewardship Minute**

As a country, we declared our independence from England on July 4, 1776. We fought the British in a war for the next few years until the British surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, on October 19, 1781, effectively ending the war. George Washington became the first president of the United States in 1789. By God's grace through Jesus, we are so very blessed to be citizens of a country with all of its freedoms, especially the freedom of worship. We can attend church services and Bible studies without the threat of punishment or death. Let us not take our freedoms for granted but thank God daily for our great country and its wonderful freedoms that we have enjoyed for 250 years.

**SINCE JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 1776, THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN THE LAND OF THE FREE.**

Father, thank You for the freedoms we enjoy in our country. But thank You more for the freedoms Jesus Christ won for us all. Amen.



## ***Growing in Grace –June 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>***

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1111.00</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$569.62</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$80.00</i>		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>34/42</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$1810.62</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	7/5	9:00am	Divine Worship
Monday	7/6	-----	-----
Tuesday	7/7	7:00am	Men’s Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	7/8	-----	<b>*NO SCHOOL BUILDING ACCESS–FLOORS WAXED*</b>
Thursday	7/9	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	7/10	-----	-----
Saturday	7/11	8:00am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	7/12	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

