

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 6th & August 9th, 2026

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

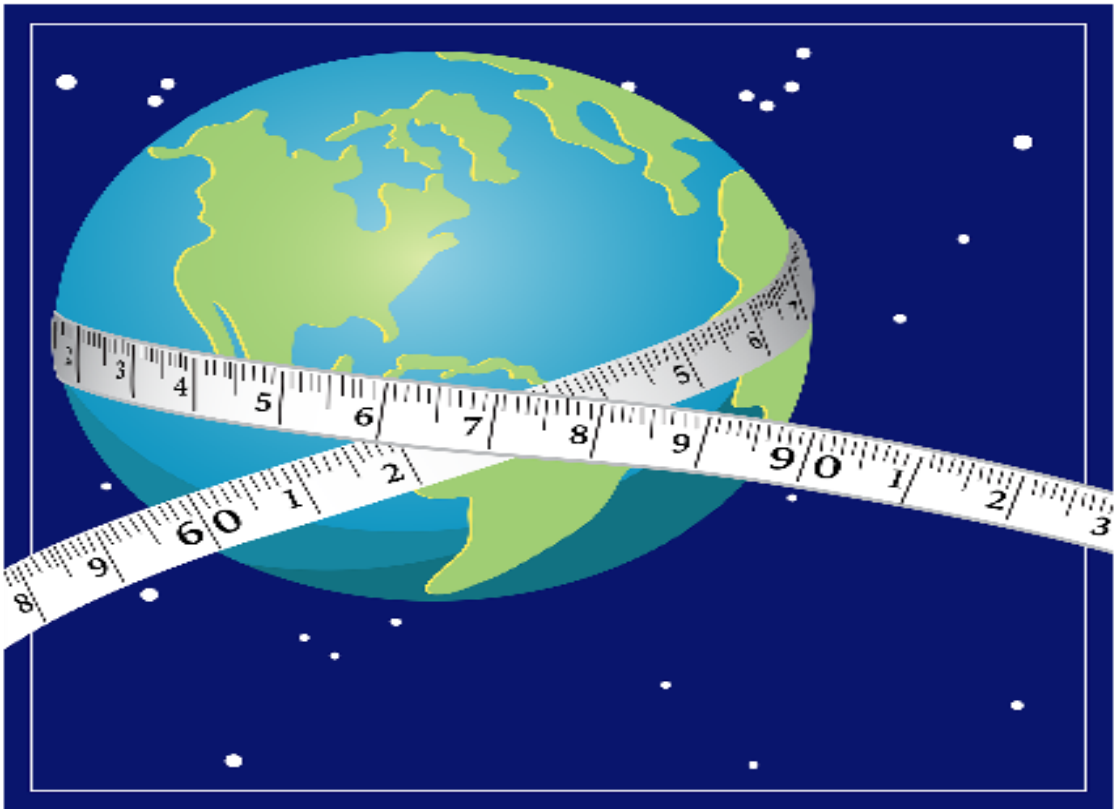


Image: "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?" (Job 38:4-5)

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—"A Good View"

The only way a sinful human being can dare to approach and worship an almighty God is if we also know that He is a God of mercy. God's mighty power is known from the vastness of His creation, the stars and seas, light and darkness, tempests and storms (Job 38). *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom"* (Psalm 111:10). Yet we are told, *"everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"* (Romans 10:13). *"Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you"* (Isaiah 30:18). This *"almighty and most merciful God"* (Prayer of the Day) showed both His might and mercy when He became aware of His disciples' peril on a storm-tossed sea. Walking on water wasn't the point. It was the Lord's coming to save us in our fear and distress (Matthew 14). As the catechism says of God's commandments, *"We should fear and love God."* We can trust the God who has harnessed His wrath with His love. Greater love has no one than the God who joined us in our misery, took our sin upon Himself, and died our death but now is risen to save us from every evil that threatens us or makes us afraid.

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 3, pg. 184*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 752 Be Still, My Soul (vs. 1-4)

Stand

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 34:4-8; antiphon: v. 1, read responsively)

I will bless the LORD at | all times;*

his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

I sought the LORD, and he | answered me*
 and delivered me from | all my fears.
 Those who look to him are | radiant,*
 and their faces shall never | be ashamed.
 This poor man cried, and the LORD | heard him*
 and saved him out of all his | troubles.
 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear him,*
 and de- | livers them.
 Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!*
 Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him!

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 bless the LORD at | all times;*
 his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

Kyrie *LSB 186*

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

P Glory be to God on high:
 C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
 We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
 For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 189*

P The Lord be with you.
 C And with thy spirit.

- P Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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 *Job 38:4-18*

(Who prescribed the limits of the sea and laid the foundations of the earth? God has...)

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’ ¹²“Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶“Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

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

Gradual (*Psalm 34:9, 19, alt., read responsively*)

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle Lesson *Romans 10:5-17*

(Who calls on the name of the Lord?)

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that

we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia LSB 190

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Alleluia Verse for the 11th Sunday after Pentecost—"*Alleluia. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."* Alleluia." (Matthew 14:27)

Holy Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

(Who can walk on water? Jesus, the One Who rules over heaven and earth...)

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

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And

those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed *LSB 191*

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children’s Message— “God’s Rule over Us” (Job 38:4-18) *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 717 Eternal Father, Strong to Save (vs. 1-4)

Sermon “God Rules” (Job 38:4-18)

Offertory LSB 192

- C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.**

Sit

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 194

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

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 took on our human flesh and came to us from heaven to rescue us from the overwhelming flood of our sins by the sacrifice of His own blood on the cross. 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 195*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer *LSB 196*

**P 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.**

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 197*

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 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

- C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

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

-588 Jesus Loves Me

-816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

Stand

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,

for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face
of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

- A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.
- A Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, our Father, we thank You for the redeeming
power of the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and for the unending
mercy with which You grant to us the remission of our sins and eternal life in Your
kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.
- P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

- A Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction *LSB 202*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (vs. 1-3)

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!





The flowers on the altar are given by The Szefflinski Family

In Celebration of the Birthdays of Lauren, Tommy and Andrea



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** (Dementia and Alzheimer's); **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; **Chris** (leukemia) friend of Joanne Jaeger; **Jackie Lehman** (healing & strength); **Alan Jacobson** (declining health) Father of Jill Kent; **Connie Roettgen** (healing from neck injury); **Ron and Judy** (cancer) friends of Mike & Pat Toman, **Betty** (hospice) mother of Lori Kachelmeier; **Michael Knoll** (cancer) friend of Doc Medek; **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** (cardiac rehab) friend of Janine & Jim Pieper; **Jan Rogers** (recovery from surgery) sister of Kathy Kolb; **Cheryl Jorgensen** (dementia) mother of Linda Moldonado; **Tim** (recovery from a stroke) brother in law Renee Bangart; **Joanie** (torn meniscus) sister in law of Carol Loveall; **Nathan Taggatz** (fighting wildfires in Colorado) brother of Pastor Taggatz; **Rod Novak** (recovery from a stroke); **Toni Howard** (hospitalized) relative of Pauline Parker.

For our Homebound Members at Grace: Kathy Gaudian, Bernice Byklum, Doc Medek, Rose Adams, Jan Barrett, Barb Praxel and Jan Warmkessel.

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 8/6 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8/9 9:00am</u>
Elders	Lance Kopperud	Richard Jackson
Readers	Connie Roettgen	Glenn Dotson
Communion Set-up	Staci Scherer	Jeanne Meyer
Linens	Donna Dotson	Donna Dotson
Acolyte		
Ushers	Doug Klipfel	Steven Pawlak
	Char Klipfel	Kathy Szefflinski
		Bob Buzzell
		Jennifer Olen
Livestream		

The Buzzell Family invites you
to please join us as we gather to remember,
laugh and celebrate the beautiful life of
Lynn Buzzell
On Sunday, August 16th, 2026
At the Oak Creek Community Center
from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.
Wisconsin Badger attire is encouraged.



The LWML Mites dates are August 6th & 9th
Look for the LARGE mite box to drop your
change and dollars into!

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

- **August 8th 8:00am Breakfast** at Golden Honey Pancake & Café - 7135 S 13th Street, Oak Creek
 - **Oak Creek Farmer's Market** afterwards for those interested

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

Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study

The Ladies Bible Study will be starting up again.
Please join us on Wednesday mornings at Church beginning, September 2nd, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. Join us!!!
We are studying, "Joy: A Study in Philippians" by Deb Burma.

Here is some information about the book:

Sure, we find joy in our triumphs, but not so much in the trials. Yet real joy, genuine joy, is always ours in the saving grace of Christ Jesus. This close look at Paul's Letter to the Philippians, the "letter of joy," unpacks messages of contentment, confidence, humility, and hope—all found in Christ infused with joy—in the mountaintop moments and in the mundane. Enclosed are eight weeks of study, divided into forty short sessions, to help you realize the gifts from God's hand more fully. Ample materials are provided to make the sessions flexible for personal or group use and to accommodate changing schedules and individual needs. Targeted study, discussion and reflection questions, and life-application challenges guide you in your exploration of joy.

Mark your calendars!

A *Christian Men's Retreat*, "*Iron Sharpens Iron*," will be held at Luther Memorial Chapel & University Student Center (Milwaukee), October 16-17, 2026. This retreat is open to all men and will provide an opportunity to enjoy fraternal conversation, fellowship and enrichment in God's Word. Cost is \$50. University students attend free of charge. Meals provided.

You are invited to register at the following link: <https://forms.gle/WvepofLyXqAJjuY17>

God is at work across the South Wisconsin District in church plants, congregations, organizations, and communities, and we want you to see it.

"Mission & Mercy Moments"

is a free monthly e-newsletter celebrating how we receive and share the Gospel together. Read stories of outreach, mercy, and partnership, and discover how you can pray and get involved.

Subscribe today at: myswd.net/MMM.

Congratulations are in order!!! Our Grace Early Childhood Center is so excited to share with our incredible families and Grace community voted us the TOP choice in Milwaukee for childcare AND preschool! This recognition means so much to us because it's built on the trust, relationships, and partnerships we've been blessed to share with each of our families. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your continued support and encouragement! We are incredibly blessed to serve our families each day. We can't wait to share more soon! *"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."* Proverbs 22:6

Special Voters Meeting - Sunday, August 23rd

The Church Council is inviting all voting members to a **Special Voters Meeting on Sunday, August 23**, following worship, to discuss the possibility of moving to a **single Sunday worship service year-round at 9:00 a.m.** No changes have been made, and **no changes will occur without the input and approval of the congregation through the Voters Assembly.**

One of the primary reasons for discussing this proposal is the increasing difficulty over the years in securing enough volunteers to faithfully serve at three weekly worship services, particularly elders, ushers, and other worship assistants. A single Sunday service would also gather more of our church family together around God's Word and Sacraments, allowing us to lift one voice in song, strengthen our fellowship, and provide more opportunities for members to see and encourage one another.

Under this proposal, **Thursday evening worship would remain unchanged at 6:30 p.m.** Sunday worship would be held at **9:00 a.m. year-round**, followed by a **Christian Education Hour at 10:15 a.m.** for all ages, including Sunday School, youth, and adult Bible study. We believe this proposal could help us be better stewards of the time, talents, and resources God has entrusted to us while continuing to provide meaningful opportunities for worship and Christian education. Most importantly, **we want to hear from you.**

Please plan to attend this important meeting, ask questions, share your thoughts, and help us discern together what is best for the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church.

Attention 6th - 8th Grade Parents

There will be a special Confirmation meeting on Monday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the school with Pastor Taggatz. At this meeting you will find out the schedule for your child's confirmation instruction, the curriculum your child will be learning from Martin Luther's Small Catechism, and the expectations for the class regarding acolyting for our 6th & 7th graders and ushering for our 8th graders, along with worship reports and memory work that they will be doing from God's Word and the Catechism.

Confirmation classes will begin Monday, September 21st at 6:30 p.m. for Public School students. The Confirmation Classes will be taking place in the school.

Sunday, September 13th

Christian Education Sunday and Church Picnic at Grace Lutheran School!!!

Please join us for our Annual Church Picnic on Sunday, September 13th. We will have our Christian Education Sunday Worship Service at 10am in our Church Sanctuary. Then, the picnic will start at 11:30am at Grace Lutheran School. We hope you can join us for some good fun, food, and Christian fellowship!!!

Please register by Sunday, September 6th. You can register on the sign-up sheet in the church narthex, or by contacting the church office via email church@graceoakcreek.org, or calling 414-762-8990. Please note that food and beverages will be provided for this event. Feel free to bring lawn games such as: *ladder toss and bean bag toss* for you and your fellow parishioners to enjoy. As you sign up, please indicate the number of people attending and if you can help with set up, serving, and/or clean up. We are looking forward to seeing you there!!!

Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

Sunday School at Grace begins on Sunday, September 20th. It is for children preschool through 8th Grade. This year we also will be providing Sunday School for our High School Students. We are also providing Adult Bible Class at Grace. Adult Bible Class will take place in the School Library and Sunday School will be taking place at Grace Lutheran School. **Because of the Congregation vote on August 23rd, 2026, regarding Sunday morning worship, the time for Sunday School is to be determined.**

Adult Bible Class will be every Sunday of the month and Sunday School and High School Bible Study will be on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. If you are interested in helping out with Sunday School, please contact our Sunday School Superintendent, Mary Rowley at: sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org.

2nd Quarter Giving Statements

Your 2nd Quarter Giving Statements are now available for pickup in the church narthex. Thank you for your faithful support of the ministries at Grace through the giving of your time, talents, and treasures. Your generosity enables us to proclaim the Gospel and serve others in Christ's name in our Church, School, and ECC!!! *"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."* – 2 Corinthians 9:7

Free Will Planning Workshop

Plan Your Legacy

Mark your calendars! Grace Lutheran Church is pleased to host a FREE Will Planning Workshop sponsored by the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF).

 Monday, November 9, 2026 6:00–7:30 p.m.  Grace Lutheran School
(See the handout in the narthex for further details)



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!!!

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 "*Extreme Neighborliness*"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Archives August—Jesus is the ultimate “*Good Samaritan*,” the unlikely Rescuer who binds our wounds, carries us to safety, and pays the price through His cross. (Luke 10:25-37)

Listen online at: ***lhm.org*** - or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings:

WTMJ 620 AM Milwaukee, WI Sunday 6:30 am

WGN 720 AM Chicago, IL Sunday 6:30am

“Just as powerful, we can relate to stories because, whether we know it or not, we are part of the greatest story ever told. The one that’s still unfolding. The one that will last forever. We’re part of God’s story—the one He’s writing—the story of salvation. And because we’re in God’s story, our story begins even before we were born.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life - 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.

IN THE WORD FOR THE 11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism:

Sacrament of Holy Baptism—What does such baptizing with water indicate? Where is this written?

Verse of the week:

Romans 10:9 “*If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*”

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 18:1-16 (antiphon vs. 46)

Hymn of the week:
LSB 616 “Baptismal Waters Cover Me”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday

Pentecost 11: Jesus Walks on the Water—Matthew 14:22-33

Monday

Two Blind Men Receive Their Sight—Matthew 20:29-34

Tuesday

Jesus Cleanses the Temple—Matthew 21:12-17

Wednesday

The Fruitless Fig Tree—Matthew 21:18-27

Thursday

The Parable of the Two Sons—Matthew 21:28-32

Friday

The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers—Matthew 21:33-46

Saturday

St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord: Luke 1:39-55

Stewardship Minute

Knowing that God is the Creator and Provider of all things motivates us to worship Him through our faithful stewardship. As faithful stewards, we acknowledge God as the source and owner of everything. We are merely managers or caretakers of His property that is on loan to us. In our faithful stewardship, we seek to use our lives and blessings according to His will. We understand that our main purpose is to serve and glorify Him. We seek God’s wisdom and strength to fulfill our stewardship tasks, and we are aware of our need to be responsible and accountable. The reward for our faithfulness will come from hearing God say, *“Well done, good and faithful servant!”* (Matthew 25:23).

**BELIEVERS FIND JOY IN GIVING BACK
WHAT GOD HAS FREELY GIVEN.**

Jesus said, “Freely you have received, freely give”
(Matthew 10:8 NIV).



Growing in Grace –July 30th & August 2nd

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$2860.00</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$1100.42</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$135.00</i>		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$400.00</i>		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>\$5.00</i>	<i>29/49</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$4500.42</i>		

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	8/9	9:00am	Divine Worship
Monday	8/10	-----	-----
Tuesday	8/11	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	8/12	6:30pm	Grace Council Meeting
Thursday	8/13	6:30pm	Divine Worship Coffee Social after Worship
Friday	8/14	-----	-----
Saturday	8/15	-----	-----
Sunday	8/16	9:00am 10:00am 1:00-5:00pm	Divine Worship Coffee Social after Worship <i>Celebration of Life for Lynn Buzzell</i> <i>Oak Creek Community Center</i>

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

8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

