

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 3rd & 6th, 2026

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

 **THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
MISSOURI SYNOD



Image: "The Son of Man came to save the lost. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray." (*Matthew 18:11-13*)

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—“*Seeking the Lost*”

Although the attention of many is distracted on this Labor Day weekend, the focus of the Readings is clear. We have a Savior who has come to find the lost and restore them through forgiveness, and we have a purpose in speaking this Gospel to the whole world. This is not an easy calling. The lost often do not want to be found, and the wicked are content in their ways. We act not as self-appointed guardians of the truth but as instruments of God, through whom He speaks His Word of love to the lost and erring and by whom they are saved. The most difficult application is always to those who have fallen from the faith into error or sin. Our greatest temptation is to surrender them to their error or sin. Our greatest calling is to address them with the voice of God's Word through whom the Spirit works to restore the lost. Today we pray that we will not be distracted from this goal and purpose.

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 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker (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 92:1-4; antiphon: v. 5, read responsively)

How great are your works, | O LORD!*

Your thoughts are | very deep!

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*

to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*

and your faithful- | ness by night,
to the music of the lute | and the harp,*
to the melody | of the lyre.
For you, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;*
at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.

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.

How great are your works, | O LORD!*
Your thoughts are | very deep!

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. O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; 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 *Ezekiel 33:7-9*

(I have made you a watchman.)

⁷"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

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 13:1-10*

("Love is the fulfilling of the law.")

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For

rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia Verse for the 15th Sunday after Pentecost—*"Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia."* (Matthew 5:3)

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.**

Holy Gospel Matthew 18:1-20

(The Son of Man came to seek the lost and save them.)

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

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

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin,

tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

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

Children's Message— "Who's in Charge?" (Romans 13:1-10) *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 845 Where Charity and Love Prevail (vs. 1-5)

Sermon "God & Government" (Romans 13:1-10)

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 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, 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 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, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for before You laid the foundations of the world You elected us to be Your own sons and daughters. You set us free from our bondage to sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of Your Son. For Him and through Him were all things made, and in Him we have received redemption and the forgiveness of sins. Grant us grace that we may receive from His testament the foretaste of the eternal in this Communion of His flesh and blood. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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

-709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

-707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

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. Grant us grace, O Lord, that what we have here received with our lips we may keep with pure hearts, and, through the gift granted to us in this Communion, be granted courage to proclaim this Gospel to the lost and erring, restoring them to the fellowship of the baptized to live with us a life worthy of our calling as the people of God; 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.**

Closing Hymn 605 Father Welcomes (vs. 1-3)

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 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); **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; **Rod Novak** (recovery from a stroke); **Adam** (recovery from surgery) nephew of Jeanne Meyer; **Jim Pieper** (knee surgery); **Rose Adams** (hospitalized); **Pat Weber** (healing & strength); **Spencer Szuta** (healing & strength).

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 9/3 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 9/6 9:00am</u>
Elders	Lance Kopperud	Rick Weeks
Readers	Connie Roettgen	Cris Evers
Communion Set-up	Janine & Marlene	Janine & Marlene
Linens	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
Acolyte		
Ushers	Keith Goodle	Craig Lau
	Jum Robinson	Jen Lau
Livestream		Glenn Dotson

Welcome to our new members at Grace!

We are excited to welcome new families at Grace!!!

Guy, Nora & Katie Blazei
Cierra Brown & Alec Kent
Morgan Kent & Drew Yetka

Welcome to Grace, we are so glad that you have joined our church!!!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

During the month of September, we will be worshipping at:

- Sunday September 6th worship at 9am ending our normal Summer Schedule
- Sunday September 13th at 10:00am in the church, as we observe Christian Education
- Sunday, the Church Picnic will follow at 11:30am in our Lutheran School building
- Sunday, September 20th (and moving forward) at 8:00am and 10:30am, with Sunday School and Adult Bible Class being in the school from 9:15-10:15am. (Adult Bible Class is every week. Sunday School is 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month)
- Thursday evening worship will remain the same at 6:30pm.

**Sunday Morning Bible Class from 9:15-10:15am
in the School Library starting Sunday September 20th
God's Word for Today: 1, 2, 3 John**

Toward the close of the first century AD, the apostle John wrote three letters. In 1 John, the apostle uses simple language to communicate some of the most profound theology in the Scriptures. Using dualistic contrasts such as light and dark, love and hate, and Christ and antichrists, John puts forth his underlying view of the world: *the cosmic battle between God and the devil*.

In 2 John, the apostle encourages his readers to walk in truth and love, and warns against false teachers. In 3 John, the apostle commends Gaius for assisting traveling missionaries and criticizes Diotrephes for failing to welcome them.

In this study, you will learn about:

- the realities of Jesus' incarnation and messiahship;
- believers' obligation to love their neighbor;
- God's abundant mercy and forgiveness in Christ.

Please join us as we fellowship together in the study of God's Word!!!



LWML Sunday (September 27th) will kick off our annual SOCKTOBER drive for the Milwaukee Rescue Mission.

New socks of all sizes are welcome!

Information about the Milwaukee Rescue Mission can be found here: <https://milmission.org/>

Monday, September 14th - Grief Share Seminar and Support Group at Grace

No matter what the circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. Have you or someone you know experienced the death of a loved one recently?

On **Monday, September 14th**, Grace Lutheran will be starting a **Grief Share Seminar and Support Group** to help those walking through the difficult journey of grief. This group is designed to offer comfort, understanding, and encouragement through God's Word and the fellowship of His Church. Many who have attended Grief Share have found that it helps them begin putting their lives back together again with the Lord's help.

When: Mondays, September 14th – December 14th

Time: 6:30–8:00pm

Where: Grace Lutheran School Library, 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Oak Creek, WI

Cost: \$25.00

There will also be a **special session on November 23rd** called, **"Surviving the Holidays,"**—a time when grief can often feel even heavier.

Our Grief Share group will be led by **Lori Kachelmeier** and **Jeanne Meyer**, who will walk alongside participants as they learn from nationally recognized experts on grief recovery.

Topics include: “Is This Normal?” “The Challenges of Grief,” “Grief and Your Relationships,” “Why?” and “Guilt and Anger.”

Register online here: <https://find.griefshare.org/find>

For more information, please call our Church Office at **414-762-8990** or church@graceoakcreek.org

Jeanne Meyer – meyorch@sbcglobal.net

Lori Kachelmeier – jlkachel2@gmail.com

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

Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study

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.

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 on the first and third Sundays of the month from 9:15 -10:15am.

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.

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

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!!!

The Lutheran Hour

"Come and See"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Book of Nature can open your mind to the possibility that God is real. The Book of Scripture, the Bible, goes further, like a friend who's been there. (John 1:46)

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

"However imperfect, every day comes as opportunity and privilege. They usually require patience and persistence, of course, and not a little bit of shared sweat and tears. But they turn out the sweeter for it. 'When she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world' (John 16:21). 'Take heart; I have overcome the world' (John 16:33)!" *Rev. Michael Salemink, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life - 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 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism:

Ten Commandments—Fifth and Sixth Commandments

Verse of the week:

Mark 10:7b, 8, 9 *"A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 8 and the two shall become one flesh"; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."*

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 32:1-7 (antiphon: v. 1)

Hymn of the week:

LSB 740 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday

Who Is the Greatest in the Kingdom?—Matthew 18:1-20

Monday

Labor Day: Warning Against Idleness—2 Thessalonians 3:1-15

Tuesday

The Burnt Offering—Leviticus 1:1-17

Wednesday

The Sin Offering—Leviticus (4:1-2) 5:1-10 (11-13)

Thursday

The Restitution Offering—Leviticus 5:(14-16) 17—6:7

Friday

The Ministry of the Priests Begins—Leviticus 9:1-16, 22-24

Saturday

Joseph Forgives His Brothers—Genesis 50:15-21

Stewardship Minute Do you understand stewardship as the free and joyous activity of God's people and God's Church? Our faithful stewardship becomes free and joyous when we by faith know who God is and understand what He has done for us through His Son, Jesus. One of the ways we respond to God's lavish love for us is by managing faithfully and responsibly all that He entrusts to us for His purposes. Seeing ourselves as God's stewards compels us to live out our faith under grace.

**GIVING IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP
WHICH PLEASES OUR HEAVENLY
FATHER.**

"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).



Growing in Grace –August 27th & 30th, 2026

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1709.00</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$616.63</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>29/44</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2325.63</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	9/6	9:00am	Divine Worship
Monday	9/7	-----	-----
Tuesday	9/8	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast (OC Diner)
Wednesday	9/9	9:30am 6:30pm	Ladies Bible Study at Church Grace Council Meeting
Thursday	9/10	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	9/11	-----	-----
Saturday	9/12	-----	-----
Sunday	9/13	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) 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

