

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

LWML Sunday

September 24th & 27th, 2026

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



Image: “¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
(Matthew 28:19-20)

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 “LWML Sunday—Supporting Missions”

This year's LWML Sunday theme continues a four-year cycle focusing on the LWML Mission Statement — *As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.* This year we focus on: *Supporting Missions.* Christ Jesus our Lord asks us to be wise stewards of His good gifts. St. Paul, while proclaiming the Gospel, was also concerned for those who suffered. There were so many mission efforts taking place. As Christian believers today, we also are eager to follow the example of Christ and aid those in need. The Spirit of God places that eagerness to serve upon our hearts. We can't be everywhere to aid the missions, firsthand, that are set before us. The Lord does allow us to support those efforts that go forth in His name. May the Lord grant to us supportive hearts.

We invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer.** Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

Order of Service: *Divine Service Setting 1, pg. 151*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Opening Hymn 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (vs. 1-4)

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.**

Opening Sentences

- P Dearest Lord Jesus, you have told us that you came into this world not to be served but to serve.
C **In your service dear Lord we were granted forgiveness, peace and hope.**
- P You dear Lord are the One whom we now serve.
C **We serve you in thought, word and deed.**
- P Dear Lord, bless us in our service to you.
C **Lead and guide us dear Lord in all our acts of service.**
- P Dear Lord, you tell us whatever we have done unto the least of these your brothers and sisters
C **we have done unto you.**
- P Bless us dear Lord in our doing
C **that it would be done unto you and your kingdom.**
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

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

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

Kyrie LSB 152

- A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 154

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day LSB 156

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

- P Let us pray. Almighty and gracious God, You want all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Magnify the power of the Gospel in the hearts of Your faithful people that Your Church may spread the good news of salvation. Protect, encourage, and bless all missionaries who proclaim the saving cross that Christ, being lifted up, may draw all people to Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Sit

LWML Choir—“Lutheran Women, One and All” (10:30am only)

Old Testament Reading *Proverbs 11:10-30*

(Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live, but he who pursues evil will die)

¹⁰When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices, and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness. ¹¹By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is overthrown. ¹²Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent. ¹³Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered. ¹⁴Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. ¹⁵Whoever puts up security for a stranger will surely suffer harm, but he who hates striking hands in pledge is secure. ¹⁶A gracious woman gets honor, and violent men get riches. ¹⁷A man who is kind benefits himself, but a cruel man hurts himself. ¹⁸The wicked earns deceptive wages, but one who sows righteousness gets a sure reward. ¹⁹Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live, but he who pursues evil will die. ²⁰Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the LORD, but those of blameless ways are his delight. ²¹Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished, but the offspring of the righteous will be delivered. ²²Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman without discretion. ²³The desire of the righteous ends only in good; the expectation of the wicked in wrath. ²⁴One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. ²⁵Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered. ²⁶The people curse him who holds back grain, but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it. ²⁷Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor, but evil comes to him who searches for it. ²⁸Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf. ²⁹Whoever troubles his own household will inherit the wind, and the fool will be servant to the wise of heart. ³⁰The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and whoever captures souls is wise.

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

Psalm (*Psalm 100, read responsively*)

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!*

²Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with | singing!

³Know that the LORD, | he is God!*

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his | courts with praise!*

Give thanks to him; | bless his name!

⁵For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures for- | ever, *

and his faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

Epistle Lesson 1 Peter 4:1-12

(Stewards of God's Grace)

¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. ³The time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. ⁴With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; ⁵but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse LSB 156

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

Alleluia Verse for LWML Sunday—*“Alleluia. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Alleluia.” (Matthew 28:18b-20)*

Holy Gospel Matthew 5:10-20

(Jesus speaks of the Church being salt and light, and that He came to fulfill the law for us)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

Apostles’ Creed LSB 159

- C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message— "An Assignment from God" (Matt. 28:19-20) *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 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (vs. 1-3)

Sermon "Eagerly Supporting the Mission of Christ" (Gal. 2:7-10, Mark 10:45)

Sermon Texts:

Galatians 2:7-10 ⁷On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised ⁸(for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), ⁹and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

Mark 10:45 ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Offertory LSB 159

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

in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Offering/Attendance

As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord's Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

You can now give online. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving by texting **graceoc** to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site at graceoakcreek.org. You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write 'online giving' on the outside and place it in the offering plate.



Stand

Prayer of the Church (*After each petition the Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation responds saying, "Hear our prayer."*)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface *LSB 160*

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface *LSB 161*

- 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer *LSB 162*

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C **Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 162*

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the

same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

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

Agnus Dei LSB 163

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

Sit

Distribution

We celebrate the Lord's Supper

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

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

If you are unable to answer yes to these questions, please talk to the pastor before communing, as participating without a proper understanding of Holy Communion can be spiritual harmful (1 Cor. 11:27-29). If you can answer yes to these questions, then come with a repentant heart and join us in the reception of the Lord's Supper. Adults and children not yet instructed about Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Distribution Hymns

-549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

-696 O God, My Faithful God

Stand

Thank the Lord *LSB 164*

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

Post-Communion Collect *LSB 166*

- A** Let us pray. 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.

Benediction *LSB 166*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn "Serve the Lord with Gladness" (sung to the tune of *LSB 662*, vs. 1-3)

- 1 "Serve the Lord with gladness!" It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own
To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name.
- 2 "Serve the Lord with gladness!" He gave us command
To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land
So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest.
Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!
- 3 "Serve the Lord with gladness!" There's no greater joy
Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.
As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.

Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



The flowers on the altar are given this week by

Grace Ladies Guild

In honor of LWML Sunday!



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** (surgery & 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); **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, **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); **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** (healing & strength); **Pat Weber** (healing & strength); **Spencer Szuta** (healing & strength); **Debbie** (colorectal cancer) Donna Dotson's cousin; **Jeff Berely** (healing & strength) Son in Law of Pauline Parker; **Tony Mirenda** (heart issues); and **Mike** (hospitalized) Jeff Schaeffer's father.

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

We mourn with the family of Lori Kachelmeier, as they mourn the death of her mother Betty Keesler, who was recently called home to heavenly rest. We pray: *Gracious and loving Lord, we commend Lori's mother, Betty, into Your gracious and loving hands. We thank You for the life You gave her and for the blessings and memories You shared with her family and friends. Comfort the Kachelmeier family as they mourn Betty's death. Remind them of Your promises in Christ, especially the assurance that because Jesus died and rose again, those who trust in Him have the hope of everlasting life. Give them peace in the midst of their sorrow and strength for the days ahead. Keep them close to Your Word and surround them with the love and care of family, friends, and fellow Christians. Through Jesus Christ, our risen and living Savior, give them the sure hope of the resurrection and the joy of being reunited in Your eternal kingdom. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

All those on the Grace Prayer Line dealing with long term health and medical issues; Hear our prayer.

We encourage you to submit prayer requests for worship and/or our prayer line by emailing:
Paulinemom@aol.com

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 9/24 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 9/27 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 9/28 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Greg Nowakowski	Adam Voss	Richard Jackson
<u>Readers</u>	Pastor Taggatz	Erika Vitek	Beth Jackson
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Janine & Marlene	Janine & Marlene	Janine & Marlene
<u>Linens</u>	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski	Gail Nowakowski
<u>Acolyte</u>			
<u>Ushers</u>	Keith Goodle Jim Robinson	Craig Lau Jennifer Lau	Eric Kamprath Lisa Kamprath Elizabeth Murphy
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen	

There will be a Voters Meeting - Sunday, September 27th After the 10:30am Worship Service

Please plan on attending as your participation as a member of our congregation is very important for the ministries here at Grace Lutheran Church, School, and Early Childhood Center. Topics of the meeting will include: Pastor's update, Goals for the next year from our Church Boards, Treasurer's Report, and update on Church Membership here at Grace.



Muffins for Mites Mission Fundraiser

Following worship services this Thursday (9/24) and Sunday (9/27) morning, please stop by for our Muffins for Mites fundraiser! Muffins and other treats will be packaged for you to take home, with freewill donations benefiting Christian missions through the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML). Thank you for supporting the work of sharing the Gospel through LWML missions!

THANK YOU!!!

A special thank you to everyone who came to our Church Picnic Sunday Sept. 13th on Christian Education Sunday!!! Thank you to those who prepared the meal, served it, and who helped with the set-up and take down of the tables, chairs, and decorations. It truly was a great day of food, fun, and fellowship. Thank you again for your support of our Church, Christian Day School, and Early Childhood Center. We couldn't do this ministry without you!

Choir at Grace!

Choir resumes Thursday, October 22nd and will be every Thursday after worship service.
Everyone is welcome!
We hope to see you there!



7th ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT!!

Where: GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PARKING LOT

When: Friday, October 30th from 6:00-7:00pm.

Children from Grace Lutheran and the surrounding community are invited to come to a “Trunk or Treat” event at Grace Lutheran School’s parking lot on

The children can come to our school parking lot to receive some Halloween Candy, some Christian tracts, and they will be able to have fellowship with other children and with members of our congregation. We are in need of volunteers for this event, please contact Pastor Taggatz or the Grace Lutheran Church Office if you are interested in helping out with this event and providing candy for the children through the trunk of your car, truck or van: 414-762-8990 or church@graceoakcreek.org. During a Trunk or Treat event the trunk of one’s car is opened displaying candy, and often games are made available, and certain Halloween decorations.

Because this is a Christian event, please do not decorate or come in costume with goblins, witches, and other occult attire. Ideas for how to decorate the trunks of your cars for this event can be found on [Pinterest](#).

The Oak Creek Fire & Police Department will be at this year’s Trunk or Treat to talk about fire and public safety with the children and *Better Together Café* will also be there to offer sweet treats and drinks for all who come to this event. Grace Lutheran School is located at: 8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave Oak Creek WI 53154.

Grace Oak Creek 2026 Stewardship Emphasis ***Stewards Engaged in God’s Work (God Acting Through Us)***

Our stewardship emphasis, “*Stewards Engaged in God’s Work (God Acting Through Us)*” will be the first three weeks of October. In 2 Corinthians 9:8 we read, “*And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.*” Grace is understood to be God’s inexhaustible supply of goodness that He gives us. All of life is a result of God’s grace. By God’s grace in Jesus, He will provide what we need to accomplish the good works He wants us to do. Our good works bring value to others, advance God’s kingdom, and give glory to God. This three-week stewardship emphasis will focus primarily on sharing the Gospel, serving, and faithful giving. May God help us to be faithful stewards of all that He entrusts to us.

Everyday Stewards weekly themes are:

Week 1: Stewards Engaged in Sharing the Gospel (Oct. 4th)

Week 2: Stewards Engaged in Serving (Oct. 11th)

Week 3: Stewards Engaged in Faithful Giving (Oct. 18th) (Harvest Sunday for Time/Talent Commitment Forms)

During our stewardship emphasis you will receive a commitment form & a time & talents survey. Please fill those out and bring them to church on Harvest Sunday (Commitment Sunday) Oct. 18th or return it to the church office when convenient.

(Extra commitment forms are available on the back table of the church and will be included in your bulletin). I ask that, as you approach your commitment decisions and how God can use your time, talents, and treasures for service in God's Kingdom and in His Church, you seek God's guidance in prayer. Let the love of God guide you in your decision.



GIVING TO GRACE THROUGH THE THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM—

When you're ready to make an impact on the causes and nonprofits you care most about, we're here to help. Through our Thrivent Choice® program, you can make a personal donation or direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® to more than 40,000 churches and nonprofits. Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.

Special notice regarding the Thrivent Choice Program:

Thrivent members wishing to continue their automatic withdrawal to the charity of their choice will have to let Thrivent know either by e-mail or phone. All you have to do is call this 1-800 number in order to see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars to give.

To continue to direct your Choice Dollars to the charity of your choice call: 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice."

For More information on the Thrivent Choice Program please go to:

<https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html>

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class at Grace!

Calling all kids (and grown-ups too)! Sunday School at Grace has already begun and we'd love to have your family join us.

Who it's for: Preschool through 8th Grade — and new this year, we're excited to offer Sunday School for our High School students too! *Adult Bible Class is also offered in the School Library, every Sunday...*

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

When: 9:15-10:15 AM

- Sunday School & High School Bible Study meet the **1st and 3rd Sundays of the month**
- Adult Bible Class meets every Sunday, in the School Library

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/4hsxu4by>

Come dig into God's Word with us — curiosity, and a little chaos guaranteed. Want to help teach or volunteer? Contact our Sunday School Superintendent, Mary Rowley, at sundayschool@graceoakcreek.org. We can't wait to see you there!

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/>

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 – mevorch@sbcglobal.net

Lori Kachelmeier – jlachel2@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.

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

The Lutheran Hour

"Teachable"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"To be a disciple is to be a learner. Jesus loves you enough to make you teachable."

(Matthew 21:31)

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

"Grief is not a sign of weak faith; it is the natural response to love and loss. But for those in Christ, grief is always shaped by hope. We do not mourn as those who have no future, no promise, no Savior (1 Thessalonians 4:13). We mourn with the certainty that our loved ones in the faith are with the Lord and that we will see them again."
Rev. M.L. Smith, Director of International Missions of Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org Are you struggling with a crisis pregnancy or guilt after an abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679. Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

IN THE WORD FOR THE 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Catechism:

Ten Commandments—Review and The Close of the Commandments

Verse of the week:

Romans 6:23, *"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 25:1-10 (antiphon: v. 4)

Hymn of the week:

LSB 596 "All Christians Who Have Been Baptized" (stanzas 1-4)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday

By What Authority Do You Do These Things—Matthew 21:23-32

Monday

The People of Israel Complain Against the Lord—Numbers 11:1-17

Tuesday

St. Michael and All Angels—Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

Wednesday

The Lord Feeds His Grumbling People with Quail—Numbers 11:18-35

Thursday

Aaron and Miriam Speak Against Moses—Numbers 12:1-16

Friday

Spies Are Sent into Canaan—Numbers 13:1-3 (4-16) 17-33

Saturday

The Vineyard of the Lord Destroyed—Isaiah 5:1-7

Stewardship Minute *“For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it”* (Ecclesiastes 7:12). If we choose the shelter of money, we will find that life is filled with turmoil and anxiety. In Ecclesiastes 5:12b we read, *“But the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.”* Acquiring money for the purpose of providing security for ourselves is foolish, because that security is transient. Money cannot offer us peace, a future, or hope. We may find a temporary shelter in money, but only God’s wisdom can preserve our lives.

**THROUGH FAITH, WE UNDERSTAND
THAT OUR PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO
SERVE AND GLORIFY GOD.**

“I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well”
(Psalm 139:14).



Growing in Grace – Sept. 17th & 20th, 2026

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$5658.46</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$902.94</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$60.00</i>		
<i>Mortgage Fund</i>	<i>\$145.00</i>		
<i>Portals of Prayer</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>	<i>Total Communed</i>
<i>Lutheran Schools</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	<i>34/68</i>	<i>82</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>		
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$6836.40</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	9/27	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am 11:30am	Divine Worship – LWML Sunday Adult Bible Class Divine Worship <i>Voter's Meeting after 10:30am Worship</i>
Monday	9/28	6:30pm 6:30pm	NO CONFIRMATION CLASS (Pastor @ SWD Pastor's Conference) Grief Share
Tuesday	9/29	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	9/30	9:30am	No Ladies Bible Study (Pastor @ SWD Conference)
Thursday	10/1	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	10/2	-----	-----
Saturday	10/3	-----	-----
Sunday	10/4	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 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



