

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Stewardship Emphasis 1

October 1st & 4th, 2026

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



Stewards Engaged in God's Work

Image: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

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 “As We Gather: “Stewards Engaged in Sharing the Gospel”

This is the first week of our stewardship emphasis *Stewards Engaged in God's Work (God Acting Through Us)*. As Stewards Engaged in God's Work, we are believers who manage and use our God-given time, talents, and resources responsibly for God's purposes and glory. This week's theme is “Sharing the Gospel.” Jesus tells His disciples, “As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending You” (John 20:21). These words spoken approximately 2,000 years ago are just as true today. Just as Jesus sent His 12 disciples into the world to share the Gospel, He is sending us. When we share the Gospel, we are telling others “good news” or “glad tidings” which is what the Gospel means. The Apostle Paul tells us, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16). Through the Gospel, God rescues us and gives us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. May the sharing of the Gospel be an important priority in our lives. **Next week's theme is:** “Stewards Engaged in Serving.”

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 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (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 ✠

Stewardship Litany (*read responsively*)

Leader: Gracious God, You call and enable us to follow You.

People: When Peter and Andrew heard Jesus' words "Come follow Me," they dropped everything and followed. Lord, grant us that same courage and trust shown by Your disciples.

Leader: Gracious God, You call and empower us to share Your life-saving Gospel.

People: With all the authority in heaven, Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

Leader: Gracious God, You call us to lose this life so that we can have eternal life with You.

People: Lord, help us to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow You.

Leader: Gracious God. You have chosen and called us to be Your stewards, who receive your gifts thankfully, manage them faithfully, and share them generously,

People: Help us to use our time, talents, and resources in ways that serve others, extend Your kingdom, and give You honor and glory.

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. Eternal God, You counsel us not to be anxious about earthly things. Keep alive in us a proper yearning for those heavenly treasures awaiting all who trust in Your mercy, that we may daily rejoice in Your salvation and serve You with constant devotion; 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 *Psalm 96*

(Worship in the splendor of holiness)

¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ²Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. ⁵For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. ⁶Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! ⁹Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! ¹⁰Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." ¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; ¹²let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy ¹³before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual (*Psalm 91:11; 103:1, read responsively*)

He will command his angels con- | cerning you*

to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*

and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle Lesson *Romans 1:16-17*

(The righteous shall live by faith)

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 205*

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

Alleluia Verse for Stewardship Emphasis 1—“*Alleluia. Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Alleluia.*”

Holy Gospel *Matthew 28:16-20*

(The Great Commission)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

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

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “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.”

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— "Stewards Engaged in God's Work" (Rom. 1:16-17) *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 830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord (vs. 1-5)

Sermon "Stewards Engaged in Sharing the Gospel" (Rom. 1:16-17)

Offertory 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own (vs. 1-2)

1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 208*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;**

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 209*

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

Lord's Prayer *LSB 209*

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

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 209*

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *LSB 209*

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

Agnus Dei LSB 210

- C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

We celebrate the Lord's Supper

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

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

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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION PRACTICE—*We are offering altar/rail communion as our communion practice. While you are at the altar, please let us know if you would like to receive the Common Cup. Individual communion cups are also available to you. You also have the option to kneel or remain standing during altar/rail communion. Gluten Free communion wafers are also available upon request. If it is physically difficult for you to commune at the altar rail, please speak to the Pastor or an elder about receiving communion in your pew.*

Distribution Hymns

-710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

-732 All Depends on Our Possessing

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. Holy Father, we ask You by this blessed food and drink to deliver Your church from every evil and to teach it to love You perfectly and make it truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the carrier of the body of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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 805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (vs. 1)

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



The flowers on the altar are given this week by

Tony and Suzie Mirenda

In honor of their 51st Wedding Anniversary!



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord. **Michael Parker** (healing & strength) Pauline Parker's son; **Jim & Kari** (healing and strength) friends of Joy Lussier; **Greg Voss** (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; **Barb Huber** (recovery from hip surgery)

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 10/1 6:30pm</u>	<u>Sunday 10/4 8:00am</u>	<u>Sunday 10/4 10:30am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Lance Kopperud	Adam Voss	Greg Nowakowski
<u>Readers</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Cris Evers	Martin Taggatz
<u>Communion Set-up</u>	Suzie Mirenda	Kathy & Morgan	Kathy & Morgan
<u>Linens</u>	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen	Jennifer Olen
<u>Acolyte</u>			
<u>Ushers</u>	David Penn Jim Robinson	Abigail Norton Alyssa Norton	Levi Van Vlaenderen
<u>Livestream</u>		Jennifer Olen	

Stewards Engaged in God's Work

(God Acting Through Us)

**God's Word tells us that He came to
save us and to make us people zealous
for good works.**

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people...to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works" (Titus 2:11-14).



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.

Thank you for your donations to the Board of Stewardship's *Giving Tree* from this past Summer! We were able to raise \$770.00. towards this ministry. The proceeds that have been given to the *Giving Tree* will be going to our Church's *Good Samaritan Fund*, which helps those in need in our community, specifically in helping with groceries or gas. If you would still like to contribute to the *Good Samaritan Fund*, you can do so by calling the Church Office.

All Saints Day—Any members who would like to recognize those of the Christian faith who have fallen asleep in Jesus this last year from November 2025 to the present, please let our church office know by Monday, October 26th. We will be remembering the saints who have gone to heaven in a special All Saints Day worship service on November 1st, 2026.

Choir at Grace!

Choir resumes Thursday, October 22nd
Practice 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.



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**](mailto: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.

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

“Embrace Life”

Guest Speaker: Rev. Germán Novelli Oliveros

*“Jesus offers His abundant life to people plagued by pain and problems.”
(John 10:10-11)*

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

“Your life is valuable, and your life has purpose. It was not an accident; it was planned from the beginning. But that doesn’t mean it will be easy. You will experience hardship and suffering. As you age, your body will wear out. Your mind will dull. Your abilities will lessen. And yet, it is in your body with all of its brokenness that the Holy Spirit resides. It is this, your body, that God the Father formed by hand, and it is this, your body, that Jesus, God’s Son, redeemed. And your body, a unique and miraculous gift, will be raised from the dead and made new.”
Michelle Bauman, former 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 STEWARDSHIP 1

Catechism:

Creed—First Article

Verse of the week:

Psalm 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.”

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 80:7-19 (antiphon: v. 7)

Hymn of the week:

LSB 505 “Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay” (stanza 1–“Triune God”)

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday

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

Monday

Israel Refuses to Enter Canaan; Moses Intercedes—Numbers 14:1-24

Tuesday

The Rebels Are Sentenced to Death—Numbers 14:26-45

Wednesday

Rebellion Against Moses and Aaron—Numbers 16:1-19a

Thursday

The Lord Confirms That Moses Is His Prophet—Numbers 16:19b-40

Friday

The Budding of Aaron’s Rod—Numbers 16:41—17:13

Saturday

God Will Swallow Up Death Forever—Isaiah 25:6-9

Growing in Grace – Sept. 24th & 27th, 2026

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$1879.00</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$571.78</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>38/64</i>	<i>87</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2450.78</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	10/4	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship Sunday School & Adult Bible Class Divine Worship
Monday	10/5	6:30pm 6:30pm	Confirmation Class Grief Share
Tuesday	10/6	7:00am 6:30pm	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast Stephen Ministry Meeting
Wednesday	10/7	9:30am	Ladies Bible Study
Thursday	10/8	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	10/9	-----	-----
Saturday	10/10	8:00am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study
Sunday	10/11	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship 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



