

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

Stewardship Emphasis 2

October 8th & 11th, 2026

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"

Ephesians 2:8



Stewards Engaged in God's Work

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

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 “*Stewards Engaged in Serving*”

In the second week of our stewardship emphasis, *Stewards Engaged in God's Work (God Acting Through Us)*, we are focusing on *serving*. Throughout Scripture, God encourages serving others. With the love that God puts in our hearts, we become loving and serving people. Jesus lived a life of service. In Matthew 20:28 we read, “*The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.*” Jesus wants us to have that same serving attitude. Serving is an important part of the Christian life. By God's grace, we can imitate Jesus and overcome our self-serving and selfish natures and become people who desire to serve others. **Next week's theme is: *Stewards Engaged in Faithful Giving*.**

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 698 May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill (vs. 1-3)

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: Heavenly Father, we come to You as humble and grateful servants who give You praise and thanks for all the gifts that You give to us.

People: **Lord, help us acknowledge You as the source of all good things.**

Leader: We pray, Lord, that You will empower us to devote our lives to help and serve those in need and to extend Your Church.

People: Lord, use our hands, feet, and mouth as Your channels of love, grace, and mercy to those around us.

Leader: Enable us to be like the Good Samaritan who showed compassion to a neighbor by caring for his wounds and taking him to an inn for shelter

People: Help us to seek opportunities to share the love of Christ with our neighbors.

Leader: Help us, Lord, to serve You wholeheartedly.

People: Lord, we thank You for Your gifts that enable us to serve You by serving others.

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 Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 58:1-14*

(Isaiah the Prophet speaks about true & false fasting)

¹“Cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet; declare to my people their transgression, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet they seek me daily and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that did righteousness and did not forsake the judgment of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they delight to draw near to God. ³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?” Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’ If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, ¹⁰if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. ¹¹And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. ¹²And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in. ¹³“If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; ¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

- 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 *Galatians 5:1-15*

(St. Paul reminds us the Christ has set us free, do not submit again to a yoke of slavery)

¹For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

²Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. ⁴You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

⁷You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? ⁸This persuasion is not from him who calls you. ⁹A little leaven leavens the whole lump. ¹⁰I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view than mine, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. ¹¹But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. ¹²I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

- 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 2—*“Alleluia. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all. Alleluia.” 1 (Timothy 2:5-6a)*

Holy Gospel Mark 10:35-45

(Jesus reminds us that He came not to be served, but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to [Jesus] and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” ³⁹And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

- 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 Serving" (Mark 10:43b-45) *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 730 What Is the World to Me (vs. 1-4)

Sermon "Stewards Engaged in Serving" (Mark 10:43b-45)

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

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

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

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect *LSB 212*

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, for Your gift of forgiveness and deliverance from the fear of death won for us by the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and for strengthening our faith and hope by this Sacrament. Help us to live faithfully in that hope of eternal life in the ways of Your mercy and love; 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 737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing (vs. 1-4)

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



*The flowers on the altar are given this week by Sharon
Russell in honor of October birthdays in her family.*

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); **Lisa Hengst** (healing & strength, upcoming shoulder surgery); **Layla** (healing & strength) Granddaughter of Susan Krueger; **Don Adams** (hospitalize) relative of Pauline Parker;

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

We mourn with those grieving the death of loved ones: *We pray—* *Gracious Heavenly Father, We pray for those among us who are mourning the death of loved ones. Comfort **David Gottschalk**, teacher at Martin Luther High School, as he mourns the death of his father, **Roger** and **Mary Rowley**, as she mourns the death of her grandmother, **Martha**. Surround them with Your peace and comfort, and remind them of the sure hope we have through Jesus Christ, who died and rose again so that all who believe in Him may have eternal life. Give them strength in their sorrow and the assurance that their loved ones who died in the faith now rest in Your loving care. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our risen and living Savior. 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.

Elders
Readers
Communion Set-up
Linens
Acolyte
Ushers

Thursday 10/1 6:30pm

Greg Nowakowski
Edward Taggatz
Suzie Mirenda
Jennifer Olen
Johnny Penn
David Penn
Marlene Voss
Lance Kopperud

Sunday 10/4 8:00am

Adam Voss
Glenn Dotson
Kathy & Morgan
Jennifer Olen

Steven Pawlak

Glenn Dotson

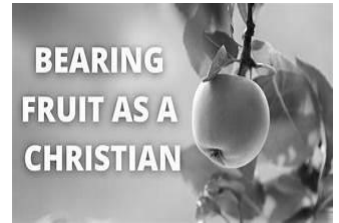
Sunday 10/4 10:30am

Rick Weeks
Lisa Kamprath
Kathy & Morgan
Jennifer Olen
Eleanor Taggatz
Levi Van Vlaenderen
Lowell Johnson
Ron Savarino

Livestream

Good works are the fruit of faith.

“By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples” (John 15:8).



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 a Trunk or Treat at Grace Lutheran School's parking lot! Children will enjoy Halloween candy, Christian tracts, games, and fellowship with other children and members of our congregation.

We are looking for volunteers to decorate their vehicles and provide candy for the children. If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Taggatz or the church office at 414-762-8990 or church@graceoakcreek.org.

Because this is a Christian event, please keep vehicle decorations and costumes free of **goblins, witches, and other occult themes**.

The **Oak Creek Fire & Police Department** will be joining us to talk with children about fire and public safety. **Better Together Café** will also be on hand with sweet treats and drinks.



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 800 number below 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

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 started 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 email 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 has started up again! Please join us on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 at church. 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.

Will Planning Workshop—*Absolutely Free*

Plan Your Legacy - Mark your calendars!

Grace Lutheran Church is pleased to host a Will Planning Workshop, *that’s absolutely free!!!*

It’s 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

"Covered"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

***Proper Attire Required: how God covers us with the robe of Christ’s perfect righteousness.
(Matthew 22:11-12)***

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

“Whether the sin of aborting one’s child or the sin of remaining silent and not speaking on behalf of our unborn children, whether the sin of neglecting an aging parent or even—God forbid—encouraging them to consider physician-assisted suicide as an option, whether the sin of apathy toward the gross evil and immorality in the world—turn to Jesus! There is forgiveness to be found for every sin, but it is only found in Jesus. Only in that holy blood, shed for us on the cross, do we find the antidote for the poison of sin.” Rev. Paul Clark, *Lutherans For Life of Michigan - 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 2

Catechism:

Creed—First Article

Verse of the week:

1 Timothy 1:15 “This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.”

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 23 (antiphon: v. 5a)

Hymn of the week:

LSB 745 “In God, My Faithful God”

Bible Readings for the Week:

Sunday

Parable of the Wedding Feast—Matthew 22:1-14

Monday

Moses Strikes the Rock—Numbers 20:1-13 (14-29)

Tuesday

The Bronze Serpent—Numbers 21:(1-3) 4-9

Wednesday

Balaam’s Donkey (Part 1)—Numbers 22:1 (2-4a) 4b-5, 12-38

Thursday

Balaam’s Donkey (Part 2)—(survey ch. 23 and 24) 24:10-13 (14-19) 25

Friday

The Sin of Peor—Numbers 25:1-18

Saturday

Cyrus Becomes God’s Instrument—Isaiah 45:1-7

Growing in Grace – October 1st & 4th, 2026

<i>General Offering</i>	<i>\$3105.00</i>		
<i>Online Giving</i>	<i>\$</i>		
<i>Debt Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Missions</i>	<i>\$165.00</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>100</i>	<i>74</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>		
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$</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	10/11	8:00am 9:15am 10:30am	Divine Worship Adult Bible Class Divine Worship
Monday	10/12	6:30pm 6:30pm	Confirmation Class Grief Share
Tuesday	10/13	7:00am	Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
Wednesday	10/14	9:30am 6:30pm	Ladies Bible Study Grace Church Council Meeting
Thursday	10/15	6:30pm	Divine Worship
Friday	10/16	-----	-----
Saturday	10/17	9:00am	LWML Zone 1 Fall Rally at Chapel of the Cross
Sunday	10/18	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

