For by grace you have been saved through faith.
Ephesians 2:8

100 Years of God’s Grace
(1919 – 2019)

100th Anniversary Celebration Service
October 13, 2019
9:00 AM

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Racine, Wisconsin
Welcome to Grace!
October 13, 2019

What We Believe:

† As Lutheran Christians we stand with the church of the ages and confess the faith of the Holy Bible, which is God’s Word.
† We believe that our Triune God created man and woman holy; however, since we sinned and still sin we cannot free ourselves from sin and death. Therefore God sent His Son Jesus Christ, who is our only way to salvation. By His death and resurrection and through no work or decision of our own, we have forgiveness, life, and salvation.
† We joyfully receive these gifts in His Word, and in the holy sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.
† In all our teaching and preaching we seek to be faithful to God's holy Law which shows our sin, and to proclaim His precious Gospel, which is the good news of our salvation in Christ!
† We subscribe also to Luther’s Small Catechism and the other documents in the Book of Concord of 1580 because they faithfully confess these biblical truths.

Guests and Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood, in, with and under the bread and wine. When received in faith, it brings forgiveness, new life and salvation.

Holy Communion is also a statement of our unity in Christ (community). Those who receive the Lord’s Supper at Grace Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith.

For this reason, only members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are ordinarily communed at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine of Close Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the service.

Nursery: If your child becomes restless during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Nursery downstairs.

Friendship Pad: Please sign the friendship pad as it is passed during the offering.

Fellowship Time: Immediately following the 9:00 AM Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Large Print Hymnals: Are available from the ushers!

Electronic Devices: PLEASE silence all devices during worship. Thanks!

May the Lord bless your worship today!
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 13, 2019 – Divine Service, Setting Three

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, CHIMES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND SHARING OF THE PEACE

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

♫ Processional Hymn – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty  
(Please stand, turn, and face the processional cross as it passes.)

Invocation

Confession of Sins and Absolution

SERVICE OF THE WORD

♫ Introit  
Psalm 34:2–4, 17; antiphon: Psalm 48:1a

P Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised*  
in the city | of our God!
C My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;*  
let the humble hear | and be glad.
P Oh, magnify the | LORD with me,*  
and let us exalt his name to- | gether!
C I sought the LORD, and he | answered me*  
and delivered me from | all my fears.
P When the righteous cry for help, the | LORD hears*  
and delivers them out of all their | troubles.

♫ Gloria Patri

♫ Kyrie

♫ Gloria in Excelsis

♫ Salutation and Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always  
to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your  
holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with  
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.
Old Testament Reading – Ruth 1:1–19a

1 In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. 2 The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. 3 But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, 5 and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

6 Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. 7 So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. 8 But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each of you to her mother’s house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. 9 The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. 10 And they said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” 11 But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? 12 Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, 13 would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me.” 14 Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

15 And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” 16 But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. 17 Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.” 18 And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

19 So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

Grace Choir Anthem – Let Everything That Has Breath Praise the Lord

Epistle – 2 Timothy 2:1–13

1 You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 3 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ
Jesus. 4 No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. 5 An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 6 It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. 7 Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, 9 for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 11 The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he also will deny us;
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.

♫ Alleluia

LSB 190


11 On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” 14 When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” 19 And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

Nicene Creed LSB 191 or inside back cover of hymnal

Catechism Time – The Creed Luther’s Small Catechism, LSB 323

The Third Article
Sanctification
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.

What does this mean?
I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. This is most certainly true.
Sermon

Offering – Guests/members please sign and pass the Friendship Pad at the end of the pew, check appropriate columns, and print clearly including children’s names.

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface
Sanctus
Lord’s Prayer
The Words of Our Lord
Pax Domini
Agnus Dei

Distribution – If you are visiting with us, please read “Guests and Holy Communion,” printed inside the cover of the Friendship Pad. If you would like to receive Holy Communion in your pew, please notify the pastor or an usher. If possible, please sit near the center aisle, and it will be brought to you at the conclusion of the distribution. Wine greatly diluted with water is available in purple-tinted cups in the center of each Communion tray for those with alcohol sensitivities.

Distribution Hymns:
Glorious Things of You Are Spoken
The Church’s One Foundation
At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing
Now Thank We All Our God
Nunc Dimittis
Thanksgiving
Salutation and Benedicamus
Benediction

Recessional Hymn – Built on the Rock
(Please turn and face the processional cross as it passes.)

* TO GOD BE THE GLORY *
History of Grace Lutheran Church  
(1919 – 2019)

In 1918, Pastor F. C. Esemann of Trinity, Racine, organized the “Lutheran Mission Society,” composed of members of St. John's and Trinity congregations. With the aid of this society, two lots were purchased in the “West Racine” district, at the corner of Washington and West Lawn Avenues. A small chapel was built, and services were held on Sunday afternoons with Pastors Esemann and J. F. Boerger of St. John’s taking charge.

In 1919, eight families from Trinity, having moved to West Racine, received their release in order to start a new congregation. Later that year, a call was extended to Pastor Herman W. Bartz. He was installed on December 8, 1919, having just completed his tour of duty with the Armed Forces. Earlier in 1919, Mrs. Louise Kahl had established a Sunday School, and for many years she offered her time and talents to the instruction of children.

And the church grew. By 1926, increased membership made it necessary to add a 30-foot extension to the rear of the original building, increasing capacity to 200 people. Grace was given $50.00 per month from 1919 through 1927 from the mission board to keep the doors open.

Growing pains surfaced again, and a Building Committee was organized. They began raising the funds and making plans for a new church building. Groundbreaking for the present church occurred on May 25, 1941, with the dedication services following only 10 months later on March 22, 1942.
In March 1946, Pastor Elmer Eggold was installed as an assistant pastor, serving until 1949. In 1953, Pastor Gerold R. Martin joined Grace in a part-time role while serving as principal of Racine Lutheran High School. By 1957, the rapid growth of church membership and Sunday School made it necessary to call Pastor Martin to be the second full-time pastor. He accepted and was installed on September 29, 1957.

Under the leadership of Pastors Bartz and Martin, both the church and the Sunday School membership continued to grow rapidly. More room was needed for the Sunday School. In 1959, another Building Committee put on a fundraising campaign, which raised over $200,000 in cash and pledges over a two-week period. Architect A. J. Seitz drew up plans for the new educational unit, and on September 11, 1960, groundbreaking ceremonies were held. One year later, on September 10, 1961, the new unit was dedicated. The mortgage to the educational unit was burned in 1969.

In August 1963, Pastor Thomas Streiter, a teacher at Lutheran High, agreed to help with the many pastoral duties at Grace. This was in addition to his teaching duties at Lutheran High. Pastor Edwin Metz, a faculty member at Lutheran High School helped to fill our pulpit in the absence of one of our pastors.

In May 1965, Pastor Bartz became Pastor Emeritus after forty-six years of ministry at Grace. He passed to his eternal rest in 1974. In 1965, Pastor William Robinson accepted our call as Associate Pastor, a position he held until January 1969.

We then branched out. In 1966, mission church property on Highway H was acquired and in 1967, a Mission Church Steering Committee was formed. Ground was broken in June 1968 with the first service being held over a year later on September 7, 1969, at the new Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church.

Pastor Donald Heiderich was installed at Grace in September 1969; he resigned in June 1971.

In 1970, Grace joined Concordia School Association with Holy Cross (Racine) and Faith (Sturtevant). The Association governed Concordia Lutheran Elementary School (K-8) and gave every family at Grace the opportunity to give its children a Christian elementary education. Grace is also an association member of Racine Lutheran High School.

In December 1971, Pastor Melvin E. Thur was installed and was instrumental in forming an active Evangelism Program within Grace congregation.

In November 1974, Grace contracted Schlicker Organ Co. of Buffalo, New York, to build a pipe organ to our specifications. Professor Hugo Gehrke of Concordia College, Milwaukee, designed the two manual and pedal pipe organ. It contains 27 ranks, totaling 1,446 pipes and was dedicated on Trinity Sunday, June 5, 1977.

Braille Work Center No. 94 was dedicated at Grace in February 1976. With Barbara Gerber as coordinator, it was the first Braille Work Center established in Wisconsin. Since the first
training session in December 1975, thousands of books have been printed, bound, and sent to places around the world.

In July 1977, Steve Pickel was installed as Director of Christian Education, a position he held until spring of 1981.

In August 1982, Pastor Martin retired, and Grace celebrated his 50th year in the ministry. He and his wife Dorothy moved to a retirement village in Arkansas. He passed to his eternal rest in 1999.

On July 3, 1983, Pastor Randal A. Poppe was installed as associate pastor. Pastor Poppe started a Bible Study Group that met at a restaurant every week for food for body and soul. He also frequently hosted trips to Germany.

Pastor Melvin E. Thur accepted a call to Iowa in June 1984. A call from Grace was accepted by Pastor Ronald A. Nichols, and he was installed October 28, 1984. He was instrumental in forming an active Bible Study life at Grace.

In anticipation of our 75th Anniversary, an extensive remodeling program was undertaken in 1988-89. When asbestos was discovered in the ceilings of the Educational Unit, a more elaborate renovation was planned. Following removal of the asbestos, new ceilings and bi-fold doors were installed, as were new energy efficient florescent lighting fixtures and carpeting throughout the entire structure. The interior was painted, and new furniture placed in the offices, new Sunday School office, Martin Room, Bartz Fellowship Hall, Youth Room, Nursery, and Sunday School classrooms. A foyer and cloakroom were added to the Washington Avenue entrance, and the former library was turned into an office equipment and supply room. This project was dedicated to God’s Glory with thankful hearts on April 30, 1989.

In 1994, Grace celebrated its 75th Anniversary of the founding of our congregation.

Pastor Ronald A. Nichols took a call to a North Carolina church in 1997 and later retired to Texas. He passed on to his eternal rest on June 11, 2012.

After a two-year vacancy, on July 11, 1999, Pastor Thomas Chryst was installed. He brought new energies to our youth program and Bible Study classes.

The year 2000 brought continued progress, including paying off the large mortgage, the installation of a parking lot, and the installation of air conditioning in the worship area. Grace was able to purchase another house on Monroe Avenue. It is now being rented, with plans to enlarge the parking lot at a later date.

In September of 2001, a new lighted outdoor sign was purchased. Grace Lutheran Church is able to share God’s Word, day and night, to the many people who pass by on busy Washington & West Lawn Avenues.
After careful study, Grace began in 2003 to celebrate the Lord’s Supper every Sunday at every Divine Service.

With the publication of the new LCMS hymnal, Grace purchased and adopted the Lutheran Service Book in 2007.

As part of our 90th anniversary celebration in 2009, we undertook a renovation project on the main floor of the education wing.

In January 2010, Grace ended its association with Concordia Lutheran School and developed other ways to support local Lutheran Elementary Education.

In July 2012, Pastor Chryst accepted a call as LCMS missionary to Singapore and concluded his service at Grace in August. He and his family remained in the area and members of Grace until April 2015, when he received and accepted a call to Messiah Lutheran Church in Keller, Texas.


In 2014, Grace purchased and installed a new sound system, which has been a blessing to all to be able to hear God’s Word more clearly, without technical interruption.

In August 2014, Grace installed its first vicar ever in its history. Vicar Jens B. Jenson was a student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is from Kendrick, Idaho, and his wife, Jessica, is from Remsen, Iowa. Former Vicar Jenson was ordained and installed at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Armour, South Dakota, on July 24, 2016.

In August 2015, Grace installed its second Vicar. Vicar Jacob J. Eichers was a student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is from Grafton, Wisconsin, and his wife, Kara, is from Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. He was ordained and installed at Faith Lutheran Church in La Crosse, Wisconsin, on August 5, 2018.

In September 2017, Pastor Poppe retired and became Pastor Emeritus after thirty-four years of ministry at Grace.

On September 10, 2017, Pastor Brian T. Crane was installed as Administrative Pastor.

On February 25, 2018, the Voters’ Assembly approved the construction of an elevator addition to provide accessibility to all three floors of our church building for those with physical limitations. Construction on this project began April 30, 2018. The elevator addition was dedicated on February 3, 2019.

+ TO GOD BE THE GLORY +.
CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF October 13th THROUGH October 20th

TODAY  9:00 AM  DIVINE SERVICE III WITH HOLY COMMUNION
  100th Anniversary Celebration Service
12:00 PM  Luncheon at Infusino’s Banquet Hall

TUESDAY  6:30 PM  Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY  11:00 AM  Growing Strong with Grace
  6:30 PM  Confirmation Class
  6:30 PM  Grace Choir Practice

FRIDAY  11:00 AM  Ladies’ Group at Olive Garden
  Office Closed

SATURDAY  6:00 PM  Lutheran Night at the Milwaukee Admirals

SUNDAY  9:00 AM  DIVINE SERVICE III WITH HOLY COMMUNION
  10:30 AM  Sunday School and Youth Bible Study
  10:30 AM  Quarterly Voters’ Meeting

Lectionary Summary: Faith Returns Thanks to God and Worships Him in the Person of Christ Jesus: Jesus comes in mercy and, by His Word, heals you in body and soul. “Go and show yourselves to the priests,” for you are cleansed (Luke 17:14), and you are granted access to the Lord’s temple. It is “at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks” (Luke 17:16), that you worship God, for Christ Jesus is your great High Priest; His body is the true temple. In Him, you “find rest, each of you in the house of her husband” (Ruth 1:9), for the Lord has “visited his people and given them food” (Ruth 1:6). The person of Jesus Christ lodges Himself in holy food — bread and wine for believers to eat and drink. You lodge where Jesus lodges; His Father is your God, His people are your people. Death cannot part you from Him because His death and resurrection are eternally yours through Holy Baptism. “Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead” (2 Tim. 2:8). As surely as death could not hold Him, so surely “the word of God is not bound” (2 Tim. 2:9). His Gospel is entrusted “to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also” (2 Tim. 2:2), so that you “may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim. 2:10). Such is the confession of faith for all the saints, who believe, teach and confess the one Lord and Savior — Jesus Christ.
Our Partnership in the Gospel

Grace’s Mission: We are friends in God’s family through Jesus, strengthened by His Spirit to represent Christ in our daily lives, our community and the world.

Grace’s Vision: To be an active, growing Christ-centered congregation offering youth and adults traditional Lutheran worship, Bible study and fellowship while reaching out especially to our neighbors, families and friends with the Gospel invitation.

2019 Theme: “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” 1 Peter 4:10

Our Worship Attendance:
October 6, 2019: 108