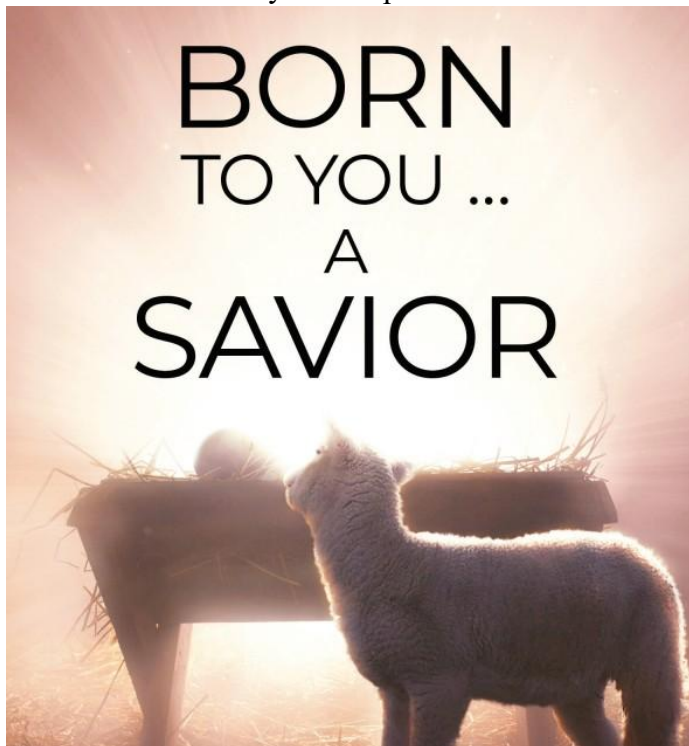


Grace Lutheran Church – LC—MS

1430 7th Ave SE, Le Mars, IA 51031

www.gracelemars.org

Sunday Worship 9:00 am



**First Sunday in Advent
November 30, 2025**

Pastor Timothy Geitz (541-2266) pastorofgrace@live.com

Susan Geitz Office Secretary (546-5516)

Jennifer Heisterkamp-Bookkeeper (546-5516)

Church Email: gracelutheranchurch@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am-4:00 pm www.gracelemars.org

Worship Broadcast on Local Channel 12 ~ Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Missionaries:

Pastor Carl and Chen His Li Hanson, Asia Region

Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster, Prague, Czech Republic

Rev. Jordan and Alison Andreasen, Romania

Hannah Hester, Asia Region

Hispanic Ministry of Siouxland

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

“Born To You a Savior”

November 30, 2025

AS WE GATHER

At Christmas, we celebrate the time God did something absolutely new, something nobody had ever heard about before. As human beings, we are used to gods who rule heaven and earth...powerful gods who demand to be worshipped...gods who expect people to sacrifice to them. Every nation on earth has a god like that.

But who has a God like this one, who comes down from heaven to become a Man Himself? Who becomes a baby, living in a manger, worshipped by shepherds. Who has a God who humbles Himself to serve, not to be served, and to give His life as a ransom for many? Who has a God who suffers and dies on a cross, and then rises to live again forever—all so that He can share that everlasting life with anyone who trusts in Him?

We do! We have that God—because He has made us His own. And this God who made us and redeemed us now calls us to trust Him.

Lutheran Hour Ministries

“Born To You A Savior”

✠ PREPARATION ✠

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Romans 13:12;

Philippians 1:6

The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Silence for self-examination.

Holy and gracious God,

I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

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 ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

HYMN LSB #358 *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

1 “From heav’n above to earth I come

To bear good news to ev’ry home;

Glad tidings of great joy I bring,

Whereof I now will say and sing:

2 “To you this night is born a child

Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;

This little child of lowly birth

Shall be the joy of all the earth.

5 “These are the signs that you shall mark:

The swaddling clothes and manger dark.

There you will find the infant laid

By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”

7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,

And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.

11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
You have but hay and straw so rough
On which as King, so rich and great,
To be enthroned in royal state.

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Public domain

KYRIE

Kyrie, Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, Lord, have mercy.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in the church, and for peace in the world, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, Lord, have mercy.

For mercy to forgive all our sins, for mercy to forgive the sins of one another, and for mercy for all those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, Lord, have mercy.

For grace to rule our unruly wills, for grace to prepare to receive the Lord in His Word and Supper, and for grace to be found faithful when He comes at the end of all time, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, Lord, have mercy.

For hope to preserve us from despair, for hope to bear cheerful witness to Christ before the world, and for hope to sustain us in the hour of trial, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, Your Spirit, that we recognize and believe in the witness of His coming in flesh, prepare and proclaim Him who comes here in His Word, and welcome Him with joy when He comes in His glory at the end of all days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and to the end of all the ages.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 2:1–5* (“Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.”)

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 13:(8–10) 11–14* (“Put on the armor of light.”)

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:1-14* (The Word became Flesh.)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB #362 *O Sing of Christ*

1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known
The kindness of the Lord,
Eternal Word made flesh and bone
So we could be restored.
Upon our frail humanity
God's finger chose to trace
The fullness of His deity,
The icon of His grace.

2 What Adam lost, none could reclaim,
And Paradise was barred
Until the second Adam came
To mend what sin had marred.
For when the time was full and right
God sent His only Son;
He came to us as life and light
And our redemption won.

3 He came to that which was His own,
But He was not received;
Yet still through Him God's glory shone,
And some His name believed.
To these He gave the right to be
The heirs of heav'n above,
Born not of human ancestry
But born of God in love.

4 Lord Jesus Christ, You deigned to dwell
Among us here on earth
As God with us, Emmanuel,
To bring this holy birth.
Though rich, You willingly became
One with our poverty,
That we might share Your wealth and name
For all eternity!

SERMON *“A New Thing” John 1:1, 14*

CREED *Apostles’ Creed*

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Silence for prayer and meditation.

We pray that we may depart from the ways of the wicked and manifest in word and deed our faith in His Word and our delight in His will, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may resist the temptation to despair in time of trouble and manifest a joyful heart and hope in all circumstances of this mortal life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may enjoy the gift of good government, wise and faithful leaders, and peace among the nations, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That those who suffer in any want or need—the sick, grieving, and those troubled in mind or soul—may be granted healing and comfort, [*especially . . .*], and that all may be preserved in faith and holiness to the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may be united in doctrine and life and that in the unity of this Table all who here receive the Sacrament may be granted discernment of Christ's body and blood and faith to receive this communion to their benefit, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Additional petitions may be inserted here.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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 ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN LSB #386 *Now Sing We, Now Rejoice*

1 Now sing we, now rejoice,

Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art!
Thou my Savior art!

2 Come from on high to me;
I cannot rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy Child;
Through Thy grace and merit,
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee!
Draw me unto Thee!

3 Now through His Son doth shine
The Father's grace divine.
Death was reigning o'er us
Through sin and vanity
Till He opened for us
A bright eternity.
May we praise Him there!
May we praise Him there!

4 Oh, where shall joy be found?
Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing
In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there!
Oh, that we were there!

Text: Public domain



Advent Word Finder



Find the hidden words



M	A	R	Y	H	K	U	G	I	Y	E	
W	L	I	O	F	A	I	T	H	X	S	Mary
Y	D	N	S	J	Z	I	L	O	P	H	Wise
R	O	M	U	O	H	Q	X	R	O	B	Bible
Y	N	Q	W	Y	G	I	K	Z	W	A	Faith
U	K	C	H	R	I	S	T	S	W	E	Joy
W	E	J	V	T	T	B	Z	W	B	O	Christ
I	Y	E	X	I	S	I	C	S	J	Z	Donkey
S	B	S	Y	L	T	B	C	M	Z	E	Inn
E	N	U	E	I	A	L	I	J	S	O	Jesus
A	A	S	N	T	R	E	N	Y	S	T	Star
M	X	H	S	O	L	Q	N	X	O	K	



News and Notes +
November 30, 2025

Don't Have Cash Today? You can give using the Tithe.ly app with either iOS or Android phones. Simply download the Tithe.ly app and use it to give once or to give a recurring gift. You can also set up payments through your bank. Contact the office for more information.

Visitors: You are welcome to support our ministry here any time. Our offerings are used to support several missionaries, provide a comfortable facility for members and visitors alike to worship in, support the work of our District and Synod, and provides for our Pastor and other employees. We encourage you to give to God of what He has first blessed you with. to make sure your spiritual needs are taken care of.

On Main Street: Not available at this time.

Fellowship/Social Ministry will be collecting food for Rejoice's food pantry until the end of the year. Grab a purple bag and fill it up and put in the shopping cart in the fellowship hall. All donations are very much appreciated.

Thrivent: New Choice dollars for the 3rd quarter of 2025 are available after October 6.. If you have not directed your choice dollars, please direct them as soon as possible by calling Home Office at 1-800-847-4836 or by directing them on line at www.thrivent.com. Thanks for your continued support of the Choice Dollars program at Grace.

A New Discovery: We have just learned of a new opportunity that is available to Thrivent members. For owners, you have the opportunity to designate an additional \$25 to a ministry of your choosing **during the month of your Birthday!** Please call 1-800-847-4836 or access Thrivent through their website. It is very simple, quick and easy

process, in order that you can designate where this \$25 dollars goes. Again, this is in addition to the Choice Dollars you already get and designate. Check it out!

Children's Sunday School Christmas Program will be December 14th at 9:00 am. Sunday school Christmas practices are, December 6th and December 13th from 9-11am. Please make arrangements so your kids can participate.

Building Healthy Families: November 30, 2025



Building Healthy Families: Someone once said, “Marriage is not just spiritual communion, it’s also remembering to take out the trash.” What have you done lately to show your spouse how much you appreciate them?

During these busy days of preparation for coming holiday events, a handwritten note, an unexpected and gentle physical touch, affirming words, preparing a favorite meal, or joyfully helping with household responsibilities are simple and no-cost ways to let your spouse know just how much they mean to you. **Lutheran Family Service**
www.LutheranFamilyService.org

November 30: “Generosity is the fruit of gratitude.” As we close this season of thanksgiving, let us continue to share our blessings faithfully, supporting God’s work in our church and caring for those in need.

“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” — Hebrews 13:16

Advent Services: The elders and pastor have decided that there will be no Advent Midweek Services this year due to the lack of attendance in past years. We will still be providing an Advent devotional book so you can still prepare your hearts for Christmas. Please pick booklets up on the table in the fellowship hall.

The Good Shepherd Hour Greetings to all fellow Lutherans within listening range of the Good Shepherd Hour. The Good Shepherd Hour is broadcasted over the radio in Fort Dodge, Le Mars,

Sioux City and Storm Lake on Sunday mornings. The GSH is a short service of that week's Bible readings, a hymn, a sermon message, a creed, Lord's Prayer and blessing. It is perfect for shut-ins and those home sick, who don't have access to their home church's service and for anyone else. . Most important, the GSH is available to those who don't know Jesus at all or have fallen away from Him. The Good Shepherd Hour was originally started in connection with the chaplaincy in Sioux City, but the chaplaincy has ended. Its current speaker is Pastor Trevor Freudenburg of the LCMS.

For your spiritual growth, past broadcasts can be found at <https://kscj.com/the-good-shepherd-hour>.

Good Shepherd Hour radio times and stations are below:

KVFD, Fort Dodge 1400 AM (8:00 a.m.) (\$ 55)

KLEM, Le Mars 1410 AM 96.9 FM (8:00 a.m.) (\$ 50)

KSCJ, Sioux City 1360 AM, 94.9 FM (8:00 a.m.) (\$100)

KAYL, Storm Lake 101.7 FM (8:30 a.m.) (\$ 35)

Please keep the ministry in your prayers. If you would like to support the Good Shepherd Hour ministry or want more information, please contact us at the address below. You can sponsor a broadcast for a station or for all the stations, or any donation will be a help to the ministry. Good Shepherd Hour, PO Box 5044, Sioux City, IA 51102-5044. Email: goodshepherdhour2@gmail.com

Poinsettia Orders: Please fill out the order form found on the tables in the fellowship hall. If you would like to donate a poinsettia for our church this Christmas season. You can donate in memory of a loved one or not. The cost this year is \$11.00. Give the form to Susan or put in the office box by the door.

Christmas Decorating: Please join the social ministry team today for church decorating after service. Many hands makes light work for all..

LYF (5th– 12th grade) Pack, Dine, Deliver will be Saturday December 13th after Christmas Practice. We will pack bags, eat lunch

together and then when parents pick up kids we will divide the bags for quick deliveries. Please plan on attending this fun event for our members over 80 years old.

+ **This Week at Grace Lutheran** +

- Sun, Nov 30:** **Worship at 9:00 am**
 Education Hour at 10:15 am
 Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
- Mon, Dec 1:** Bible Study at 9:30 am
 Elders Meeting at 7 pm.
- Weds, Dec 3:** Confirmation/Grace kids at 6:00 pm
- Sat, Dec 6:** Children's Christmas Practice at 9-11 am
- Sun, Dec 7:** **Worship service w H/C at 9:00 am**
 Education Hour at 10:15
 Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
 4-H at 2:00 pm

+ **Those Serving Us this Week** +

November 30, 2025

- Elders:** Allyn A / Mark H / Darrell K
Ushers: Chris Colt / Gene Petersen
Reader: Ryan Zittrisch
Trustee: Andrew Schwartz
Music: Jennifer Heisterkamp
Acolyte: Brayson Z / Asher Z

+ **Those Serving us Next Week** +

December 7, 2025

- Elders:** Mark H / Darrell K / Ryan Z
Ushers: Gene Petersen/ Chris Colt
Reader: Allyn Andersen
Trustee: Roy Thoms
Music: Ruth Alexander
Acolyte: Ushers



Congregational Officers

Allyn Anderson, President, 712-540-0137

Mark Heimgartner, Vice President, 712-541-3077

Lois Ohlendorf, Treasurer, 712-546-7736

Brenda Baldwin, Recording Secretary

Tony Heisterkamp, Chair, Elders 712-540-0127

Roy Thoms, Chair, Trustees, 712-541-5359

Melinda Schwartz, Chair, Bd of Education, 712-540-1254

Norma Johnson, Chair, Memorials, 712-299-9867

Courtney Clark, Chair, Youth, 712-539-8831

Jay Faber, Chair, Stewardship, 712-539-1516

Lola Fitch & Lois Ohlendorf, Co-Chairs, LWML

Lola Fitch, Chair, Altar Guild, 546-7292