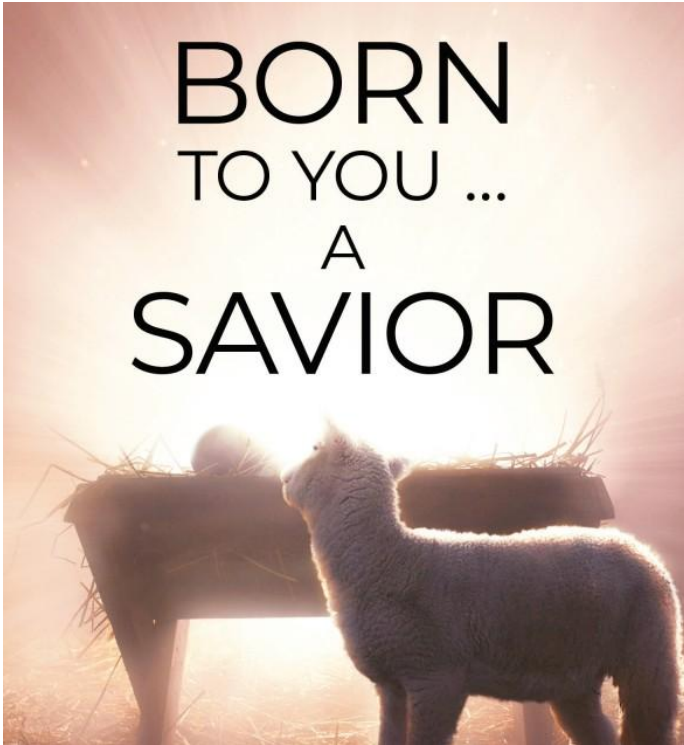


Grace Lutheran Church – LC—MS

1430 7th Ave SE, Le Mars, IA 51031

www.gracelemars.org

Sunday Worship 9:00 am



Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

“Born To You a Savior”

December 7, 2025

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Ringling of the Bells & Greeting

Opening Hymn #384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

1 Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

2 Oh, that birth forever blessed,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.

3 This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

4 O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him

And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore. Amen.

Text: Public domain

Kyrie (LSB #744 Amazing Grace)

**Look down in mercy on us, Lord,
Receive our prayers and praise,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word, For your amazing grace.**

Gloria (tune LSB #380 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*)

**Angels, sing, and earth, reply: "Glory be to God on high! " God
who flung the stars in space, God who formed the human race,
God the mind and God the cause, God the source of nature's
laws, God of wisdom, power, and love, God of gods, all gods
above. Angels, sing, and earth, reply: "Glory be to God on
high!"**

**Angels, sing, and earth, reply: Glory be to God on high! "God
who saw your creatures fall, Loved them still, and loved them all,
Gave your only Son to prove What is mercy, what is love; And the
Spirit, given free, Recreates your family. Angels, sing, and earth,
reply: "Glory be to God on high!"**

Collect of the Day

...who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 11:1–10

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. 3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, 4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. 6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. 7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. 9 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. 10 In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson Romans 15:4–13

4 Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 May the God of endurance and

encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

8 For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, 9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." 10 And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." 11 And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." 12 And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." 13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Lesson Luke 1:26-33

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day #359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

Text: Public domain

Sermon "Born to You a Savior-Surprise!" Luke 1:26-29

Confession of Faith (tune LSB #802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)

Great God, our Creator, from whom all receive
Their being and blessing, in you we believe.
Almighty, all knowing, all-gracious, all-true,
Provider and Father, our trust is in you.

And you, Jesus Christ, we affirm as our Lord,
True Son of the Father, by angels adored;
Redeemer incarnate, you paid for our sins,
And, joined in your rising, our new life begins.

Free Spirit of wisdom, of power and love,
On us, as on Christ, you descend from above;
You call us, you cleanse us, you open our eyes,
You keep us in peace, you restore paradise.

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Sanctus (tune #507 Holy, Holy, Holy)

**"Holy, holy, holy!" all the saints in glory
Fill your temple with their song around your golden throne;
"Holy, holy, holy!" with them we adore you;
God in three Persons, all in Christ as one.**

Agnus Dei (tune #702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee)

**Meek, slaughtered Lamb of God, You bore the sinners' load
To buy our peace: Now risen and enthroned, With life and glory
crowned, To all the lost and found Please grant your peace.**

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

Hymns: 900, 393, 373

Blessing of Those Who Communed

Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Amen.

Benediction

Amen.

Closing Hymn¹ What child is this, who, laid to rest,

On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: Public domain

News and Notes +
December 7, 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 13th from 9-11am. Please make arrangements so your kids can participate.

Building Healthy Families: December 7, 2025



Building Healthy Families: Trauma, emotional distress, depression, anxiety, or family conflict negatively impact many people, including those within our church fellowship today. When it does, we are often left searching for answers without knowing where to find help, especially help that will share and incorporate the important tenants of our Lutheran Christian faith. Lutheran Family Service offers professional mental health counseling with master's prepared and licensed therapists who share your faith and world view, now available to all regardless of location through telehealth. Call us...it's why we're here! **Lutheran Family Service** www.LutheranFamilyService.org

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 forum 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 forum to Susan or put in the office box by the door.

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.

The New offering envelopes for 2026 can be picked up anytime and they are on the table in the fellowship hall. If you don't see your name and would like offering envelopes, please call the office.

Portals of Pray for Jan-March are on the back table in the fellowship hall. We have large print and regular book sizes. Please pick yours up today.

+ This Week at Grace Lutheran +

- Sun, Dec 7:** **Worship w H/C at 9:00 am**
 Education Hour at 10:15 am
 Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
 4-H Meeting at 3:00 pm
- Mon, Dec 8:** **NO Bible Study at 9:30 am**
- Tues, Dec 9:** **Circuit Meeting at 8:00 am**
- Weds, Dec10:** **Confirmation/Grace kids at 6:00 pm**
- Sat, Dec 13:** **Children's Christmas Practice at 9-11am**
 LYF 5-12 grade Pack, Dine and Deliver at 11:00 am
- Sun, Dec 14:** **Worship service at 9:00 am**
 Bible Study at 10:15
 Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm

+ Those Serving Us this Week

December 7, 2025

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

+ Those Serving us Next Week +

December 14, 2025

- Elders:** Mark H / Darrell K / Ryan Z
- Ushers:** Gene Petersen/ Chris Colt
- Reader:** Allyn Andersen
- Trustee:** Ricky Harris
- Music:** Jennifer Heisterkamp
- Acolyte:** Ushers

FREE
Christmas Soup Supper
COMMUNITY IS INVITED!

Where - Grace Lutheran Church

1430 7th Ave SE

LeMars, Iowa

When- Sunday, December 21st

4:30pm to 6:00pm (or until we run out!)

At this time of year, many travel long distances to be with family and friends and yet sometimes because of distances families and individuals may be home alone. And yet others may be going through difficulties and tough times. This Christmas we want to share with YOU the real joy of Christmas around others with a warm bowl of Chili or Chicken Noodle Soup, and Coffee and Hot Apple Cider.

PLEASE INVITE A FRIEND TO COME WITH YOU!

MERRY
CHRISTMAS!



Christmas Story



Myrrh
Bethlehem
star
Mary
Immanuel
Frankincense
manger
angel
Jesus
census
shepherd
Joseph
baby
gold
stable
prophet
Magi

V	B	K	R	A	C	W	U	J	Z	A	L	P	G	I	W	T
M	L	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	N	P	H	M	C	F
T	C	O	N	V	S	O	V	E	Y	V	T	L	M	W	Y	
E	Q	R	H	S	V	C	F	P	I	W	E	Y	P	A	C	M
U	N	G	L	T	M	S	F	C	E	N	S	U	S	N	D	B
Y	I	C	L	A	A	F	R	S	A	C	P	Y	O	U	C	B
E	G	M	H	B	G	M	A	K	J	C	Q	A	O	E	Z	L
Y	G	R	R	L	I	Y	N	R	O	O	E	N	D	L	I	J
Z	O	A	Y	E	S	R	K	S	S	S	M	G	D	J	V	E
X	L	R	F	Q	Z	R	I	H	E	B	A	E	M	V	R	S
E	D	N	Z	H	Y	H	N	E	P	A	N	L	H	N	A	U
U	R	S	T	A	R	R	C	P	H	B	G	I	F	I	S	S
Y	K	U	P	T	O	T	E	H	I	Y	E	J	Z	A	V	Z
P	R	O	P	H	E	T	N	E	U	M	R	J	X	M	E	F
J	X	E	P	N	P	Q	S	R	S	H	Y	V	D	A	T	U
C	J	U	Z	G	Z	C	E	D	P	X	E	B	M	R	O	Z
G	C	I	Y	X	S	U	V	C	R	D	S	U	S	Y	D	B



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