



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

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## Grace Lutheran Church ~ LCMS

1430 7th Ave. SE, Le Mars, Iowa  
[www.gracellemars.org](http://www.gracellemars.org)  
Sunday Worship 9:00am



### **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 8, 2026**

Pastor Timothy Geitz (541-2266) [pastorofgrace@live.com](mailto:pastorofgrace@live.com)  
Susan Geitz Office Secretary (546-5516)  
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Church Email: [gracelutheranchurch@ymail.com](mailto:gracelutheranchurch@ymail.com)  
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am-4:00 pm [www.gracellemars.org](http://www.gracellemars.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  
Micah Cumming-Seminary Student

+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +  
Service of Prayer and Preaching  
February 8, 2026

Ringing of the Bells & Greeting

Opening Hymn #496 Holy Spirit, Light Divine

1 Holy Spirit, light divine,  
Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away,  
Turn the darkness into day.

2 Let me see my Savior's face,  
Let me all His beauties trace;  
Show those glorious truths to me  
Which are only known to Thee.

3 Holy Spirit, pow'r divine,  
Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
In Thy mercy pity me,  
From sin's bondage set me free.

4 Holy Spirit, joy divine,  
Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Yield a sacred, settled peace,  
Let it grow and still increase.

5 Holy Spirit, all divine,  
Dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down ev'ry idol throne,  
Reign supreme, and reign alone.

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Opening Sentences and Common Response p. 260

This is the day which the Lord has made;  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting  
**The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**Ash Wednesday:** Join us Feb 18th at 7:00 pm for Ash Wednesday service and disposition of ashes and communion will be served. Please make plans to bring your family.

**Lenten Devotional:** Pick up your Lenten devotional on the back table in the fellowship hall. This year is titled Behold your king.

**Super bowl Sundaes:** Please join the elders after church for a super bowl Sundae with toppings and brownies. All are welcome.

**The Book of Job:  
Blessed be the Name of the Lord!**

Feb. 18-Ash Wednesday, "Flying Blind" (Job 1:1-12)

Feb. 25, "Sweet Surrender" (Job 1:13-21)

Mar. 4, "Learning to Lament" (Job 3:1-26)

Mar. 11, "It is Enough" (Job 14:1-14)

Mar. 18, "Understanding How it all Works Together" (Job 23:1-17)

Mar. 25, "God Speaks in the Storm" (Job 38:1-11)

Mar. 29-Palm Sunday, "On Earth is not his Equal!" (Job 41:20-34)

Apr. 2-Maundy Thursday, "Why do the Wicked Prosper?" (Job 21:7-16)

Apr. 3-Good Friday, "Tearing Down the Spite House" (Job 42:7-9)

Apr. 5-The Resurrection of Our Lord, "I Know that My Redeemer Lives!" (Job 19:23-26)

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>.

**New church directory:** Grace is doing a new picture directory . The dates are March 19th and 20th that is when the pictures will be taken at church. If you can't come and have your picture taken on those dates you can submit a picture but it will cost you \$20 dollars. The sign up dates are starting today thru March 8 before and after service. Go to Grace's website at [gracelmars.org](http://gracelmars.org) to sign up or visit the table in the fellowship hall today before and after service.

**LYF Ice Skating:** The youth group (5-12th) grade will be going ice skating on February 21 at the BPI center in Sioux City. We will meet at the church at 6pm, skating is 7-9 pm. More details to come.

**Reflection:** "Lent calls us to examine our hearts—how are we using God's gifts to love and serve others?" Verse: **Matthew 6:21** – "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

**Building Healthy Families:** Husbands, listen up! Did you know 90% of effective communication is listening, not talking? When your wife is talking to you, stop what you are doing, turn toward her, and look at her face. Communicate the message that you are interested in and care about what she is saying. This is respectful, courteous, and a proven way to build a great relationship. Want to know of other ways? Check out the blog posts on the LFS website to find useful information to strengthen your marriage. Call us to schedule time to meet with a marriage counselor in person or virtually. We're here to help! Learn more at [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org)

Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

Make me to know Your ways, O Lord  
**Teach me Your paths.**

Sanctify us in Your truth.  
**Your Word is truth.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting  
**The name of the Lord is to be praised.**  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

#### **Old Testament Canticle** p.261-262

**The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation. With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people, proclaim that His name is exalted." The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation. Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

#### **Old Testament Lesson** Isaiah 58:3–9a

<sup>3</sup>““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. <sup>4</sup>Behold, 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. <sup>5</sup>Is 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? <sup>6</sup>“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? <sup>7</sup>Is 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? <sup>8</sup>Then 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. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Children's Sermon**

### **Epistle Lesson** 1 Corinthians 2:1–12

<sup>1</sup>And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup>and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. <sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. <sup>7</sup>But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the

closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. Additional information is available on the web site: [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com)

**Special Voters meeting:** Grace will be having a special voters meeting to elect a pastor delegate and lay delegate to vote for the synodical president. This meeting will be Sunday February 15th after service.

**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 4th quarter of 2025 are available after January 6,2026. 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](http://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!

**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

## Those Serving us Next Week

February 15, 2026

<b>Elders:</b>	Mark H / Tony H / Ryan Z
<b>Ushers:</b>	Chris Colt / Brayson Z
<b>Reader:</b>	Tony Heisterkamp
<b>Trustee:</b>	Ray Eickholt
<b>Music:</b>	Jennifer Heisterkamp
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Ushers

## + News and Notes +

February 8, 2026

**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: February 15 airing

This is the Life – “Destination Unknown” – Paul Werner (Leonard Nimoy) is a nuclear scientist who plans to defect to the Soviet Union. He reconsiders after a conversation on an airplane.

Worship Service – Rev. Richard Merrill of St. John Lutheran Church in Charter Oak, IA, delivers the message “Good, Better, Best” based on Matthew 17:1-9. This program is interpreted and

Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.<sup>11</sup>For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.<sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

### Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:13-20

<sup>13</sup>[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.<sup>15</sup>Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.<sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.<sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.<sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsory p. 263

Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
**Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

### The Ten Commandments

**You shall have no other gods.**

**You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**

**Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**

**Honor your father and your mother.**

**You shall not murder.**

**You shall not commit adultery.**

**You shall not steal.**

**You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**

**You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**

**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

### Sermon Hymn #578 Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;  
At Thy speaking it was done.

For created light we thank Thee,  
While Thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,  
Dark as night and deep as death,  
Broke the light of Thy salvation,  
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!

On us shower;  
By Your power  
Christ confessing,  
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

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### +This Week at Grace Lutheran +

**Sun, Feb 8:**      **Worship at 9:00 am**  
                          **Super bowl Sundae's**

**Education Hour at 10:15 am**  
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm

**Mon, Feb 9:**      **Bible Study at 9:30 am**

**Tues, Feb 10:**      **Circuit meeting at Grace 8:00 am**

**Weds, Feb 11:**      **Confirmation and Grace Kids at 6:00pm**

**Sun, Feb 15:**      **Worship w H/C at 9:00 am**  
                          **Education Hour at 10:15 am**

### Those Serving Us this Week

**February 8, 2026**

**Elders:**      Tony H / Mark H / Chad P

Chris Colt / Brayson Z

**Ushers:**      Tony Heisterkamp

Andrew Schwartz

**Reader:**      Ruth Alexander

**Trustee:**      Ushers

**Music:**

**Acolyte:**

## **Blessing and Benediction**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ~~¶~~Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn** #913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

1 O Holy Spirit, enter in,  
And in our hearts Your work begin,  
Your dwelling place now make us.  
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,  
Around and in us brightly shine,  
To joy and gladness wake us  
That we may be  
Truly living,  
To You giving  
Prayer unceasing  
And in love be still increasing.

2 Give to Your Word impressive pow'r,  
That in our hearts from this good hour  
As fire it may be glowing,  
That in true Christian unity  
We faithful witnesses may be,  
Your glory ever showing.  
Hear us, cheer us  
By Your teaching;  
Let our preaching  
And our labor  
Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.

3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life,  
Let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,  
In us be strongly burning  
That we be faithful unto death  
And live in love and holy faith,  
From You true wisdom learning.  
Your grace and peace

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;  
Bright with Thine own holiness,  
Glorious now, we press toward glory,  
And our lives our hopes confess.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining  
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;  
From the cross forever beameth  
All Thy bright redeeming light.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the light which Thou dost send  
Fill our songs with alleluias,  
Alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,  
To Thee laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
Praise the holy Trinity!

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**Sermon** "Smart Aleck!" 1 Corinthians 2:6-13

**Responsive Prayer** p. 265

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

(Special Prayers)

Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**Collect of the Day** p. 265

...through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Collect of the Word** p. 265

Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Luther's Morning Prayer** p. 266

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**The New Testament Canticle** p. 266

Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed. Raised from the dead, He will never die again. Death has no more dominion over Him.

Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia. Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Living, He lives to God. Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.