



## Grace Lutheran Church ~ LCMS

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



### Congregational Officers

Mark Heimgartner, President, 712-541-3077  
Ryan Zittritsch, Vice President, 712-541-1321  
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  
Linda Hamer, 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

### June 21, 2026 Father's Day

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@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranchurch@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am-4:00 pm [www.gracelemars.org](http://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  
Dr. Stephen and Maggie Oliver, Taiwan and Asia Region  
Micah Cumming-Seminary Student

+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +  
**Father's Day**  
**June 21, 2026**

**Opening Hymn: #605 "Father Welcomes"**

**Refrain**

Father welcomes all His children  
To His fam'ly through His Son.  
Father giving His salvation,  
Life forever has been won.

1 Little children, come to Me,  
For My kingdom is of these.  
Life and love I have to give,  
Mercy for your sin. **Refrain**

2 In the water, in the Word,  
In His promise, be assured:  
Those who are baptized and believe  
Shall be born again. **Refrain**

3 Let us daily die to sin;  
Let us daily rise with Him,  
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,  
Live in the peace of God. **Refrain**

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**Invocation**

In the name of the Father, who created us, the Son + who re-  
deemed us, and the Holy Spirit who gives us faith to believe in  
the one true God,

**Amen!**

**Responsive Verses** (Based on 1 John 3)

See what great love the Father has lavished on us,  
**that we should be called children of God!**

And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us  
**is that it did not know him.**

**This Week at Grace Lutheran +**

**Sun, June 21:** Worship w H/C at 9:00 am  
Bible Study at 10:15 am  
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm

**Mon, June 22 :** Bible Study at 9:30 am  
Board of Ed at 7:00 pm

**Wed, June 23:** Caasa at 2:00 pm

**Sat, June 27:** Life Screening at 8:00 am

**Sun, June 28:** Worship at 9:00 am  
Bible Study at 10:15 am  
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm

**Those Serving Us this Week**  
**June 21, 2026**

**Elders:** Darrell K / Mark H / Ryan Z  
**Ushers:** Christ Colt / Mark H  
**Reader:** Tony Heisterkamp  
**Trustee:** Andrew Schwartz  
**Music:** Ruth Alexander  
**Acolyte:** Ruthie Colt

**Those Serving us Next Week**  
**June 28, 2026**

**Elders:** Darrell k / Allyn A / Ryan Z  
**Ushers:** Chris Colt / Mark H  
**Reader:** Allyn Andersen  
**Trustee:** Ricky Harris  
**Music:** Jennifer Heisterkamp  
**Acolyte:** Ushers

Dear friends, now we are children of God,  
**and what we will be has not yet been made known.**

But we know that when Christ appears,  
**we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.**

All who have this hope in him  
**purify themselves, just as he is pure.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called the children of God.**

**Confession of Sins & Forgiveness** (Based on 1 John 3)  
Everyone who sins breaks the law;  
**in fact, sin is lawlessness.**

But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins.  
**And in him is no sin.**

No one who lives in him keeps on sinning.  
**No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.**

Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray.  
**The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.**

The one who does what is sinful is of the devil,  
**because the devil has been sinning from the beginning.**

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.  
**No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them;**

they cannot go on sinning,  
**because they have been born of God.**

This is how we know who the children of God are and who the

children of the devil are:

**Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.**

We all have sinned and have gone astray from God our heavenly Father.

**We have sinned and done great evil.**

But God our Father, in His mercy, has sent His only Son Jesus, **that whoever believes in Him might have forgiveness and eternal life.**

To those who call upon Him for mercy,  
**He gives the power to become the children of God.**

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.**

### **The Prayer of the Day**

Heavenly Father, We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the gift of our fathers. Thank you for their strength, their wisdom, and the countless sacrifices they make for our families. We ask that You bless every father and father figure in our lives. Grant them the patience to nurture, the courage to lead with integrity, and the strength to carry their burdens. When they are tired or overwhelmed, be their anchor and their ultimate example of unwavering love. We also pray for those for whom this day is difficult. Be a father to the fatherless, bring comfort to those who are missing their dads, and bring peace and healing to broken or distant relationships. Thank You for being our ultimate Father.

**Amen!**

### **Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 20:7-13**

7 O Lord, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. 8 For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me

vide high school students an experience within a Christian environment in which they are valued, establish and build Christ-based friendships, participate in engaging activities, reflect upon their Christ-given identity & purpose in life, and are challenged to develop in Christian character.

ble for preview online.

**June 21: 9:00 AM WORSHIP:** Rev. Andrew Noble will lead our worship.

**June 21-27: MINNEBOJI CAMP:** Minneboji is our South Dakota District connection having “camped” at Camp Okoboji for more than 70 years.

**June 28: 9:00 AM WORSHIP:** Rev. Chris Ascher will lead our worship.

**July 5: 9:00 AM WORSHIP:** Rev. Charlie Adams will lead our worship.

**9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM OMELET BRUNCH:** Come and enjoy good food and Fellowship

**July 5-11: JUNIOR HIGH WEEK:** For grades 6 to 8. Junior High Week focuses on providing an opportunity to nurture their faith and grow in community through Bible Studies, worship, and recreational activities.

### **July 9-12: J.O.Y. CAMP 2**

J.O.Y. Camp is intentionally designed for campers with developmental needs to participate in engaging, fun activities while growing in their faith in Jesus.

**July 12: 9:00 AM WORSHIP:** Rev. David Beagley will lead our worship.

**July 12-18: CUB WEEK II:** For grades 3 to 5. It exists to provide an experience within a Christian environment where they are valued, create new friendships, learn about faith in Christ and participate in engaging activities

**July 19: 9:00 AM WORSHIP:** Rev. David Matthews will lead our worship.

**July 19-25: YOUTH WEEK:** Youth Week’s purpose is to pro-

a reproach and derision all day long. 9 If I say, “I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,” there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. 10 For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! “Denounce him! Let us denounce him!” say all my close friends, watching for my fall. “Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him.” 11 But the Lord is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. 12 O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. 13 Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Children’s Sermon**

#### **Epistle Lesson: Romans 6:12-23**

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. 13 Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

15 What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, 18 and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of right-

eousness. 19 I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

20 When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. 22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

#### **Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:11-24**

11 And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. 13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. 14 And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23 And

**Orphan Grain Train Project:** We are collecting for the orphan grain train. We will be collecting now thru end of August. Please see the flyer in the bulletin for more info on what is needed. If you have a donation please put in the board room across from the church office. Any questions speak to Lois Ohlendorf.

**Mark your Calendar** and get looking for a new recipe to try at the Church potluck Sunday June 28 at 5:00 pm. Everyone is invited and as always bring a friend. Can't wait to see what we all will be eating.

**Thrivent Choice Dollar:** New choice dollars for the 2nd quarter of 2026 will be available after Jun 6th. Please direct them as soon as possible by calling Home Office at 1-800-847-4836 or directing them online at [www. Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com). Thanks for your continued support of the choice dollars program at Grace.

**Fellowship and Social ministry:** Will be hosting an ice cream fundraiser on July 19th after church service. We will have ice cream and all the toppings to go with it. Free will offering will be taken and monies will be put toward getting new chairs for the fellowship hall.

**Let Freedom Ring!** Grace's own missionary, the Rev. Daniel Mapur, will be preaching for the **9:00am service on Sunday, July 5, 2026**. He will be sharing his personal account of the Lost Boys of the Sudan, as well as telling us how he came to know Jesus Christ and how he became a preacher/evangelist in the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. In addition, Allyn Anderson will be sharing patriotic music with us throughout the service. This is your chance to hear the true account of how the freedom of the Gospel is still making a difference in the lives of people today!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS at Camp Okoboji**

June 20: **AUXILIARY ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION:** Join us for a freewill lunch beginning at 11:00 AM, shop at the craft table, view and examine the quilts and enjoy the afternoon bidding on the quilts of your choice to support the Auxiliary as they raise funds to support Camp Okoboji. 2026 Quilts will soon be availa-

### **On Main Street June 28 airing:**

This is the Life – “The Prisoners” – An elderly woman is attacked and terrorized by a teenage gang.

Worship Service – Rev. Jeff Bloom of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE, delivers the message, “Freedom” based on Romans 7:1-13. This program is interpreted and closed-captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. Additional information is available on the web site: [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com).

**Holy Communion:** If you are a visitor to our service and would like to take Holy Communion, we ask that you please speak to an Usher for more information. We take God’s Word seriously when we are told to administer this Sacrament correctly, and would like to make sure your spiritual needs are taken care of. Also, the center ring of communion cups contains non-alcoholic wine.

### **Financial Stewardship Update:**

As of June 7, 2026, Grace Lutheran Church is currently behind our projected ministry budget by \$38,631.

**Reflect on Blessings:** Take time to remember the abundant ways God has blessed our church family.

**Pray Continually:** Please join us in prayerful consideration of our churches financial needs.

**Partner in Ministry:** Ask how God may be inviting you to support our ongoing mission and vision.

### **Stewardship Sentence: June 21, 2026** – Proper 7 (Pentecost 4)

Scripture: “Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.” — Matthew 10:40

Stewardship Sentence: As disciples sent by Christ, we steward our lives as His representatives, receiving and serving others in His name.

bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **Sermon Hymn: #725 Children of the Heavenly Father**

1 Children of the heav’nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e’er was given.

2 God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4 Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne’er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

*Text: Public domain*

**Sermon:** “His Father Saw Him!” Luke 15:11-24

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Article (God the Father) and Meaning**  
**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason, and all my senses, and still takes care of them; He also gives me clothing and shoes, food**

**and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have; He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, so in faith and trust we pray:

**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**

#### **Peace of the Lord**

The peace of the Lord be with you,  
**And also with you.**

#### **Distribution of the Sacrament**

Distribution Hymns: #s 617, 636, 637

#### **Post-Communion Blessing**

**Amen**

#### **Post-Communion Prayer**

**Amen**

#### **Benediction**

**Amen**

**Closing Hymn: #922 Go, My Children, With My Blessing**

1 Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing—You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

3 Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you;  
Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

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### **+ News and Notes +**

**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.

**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.