

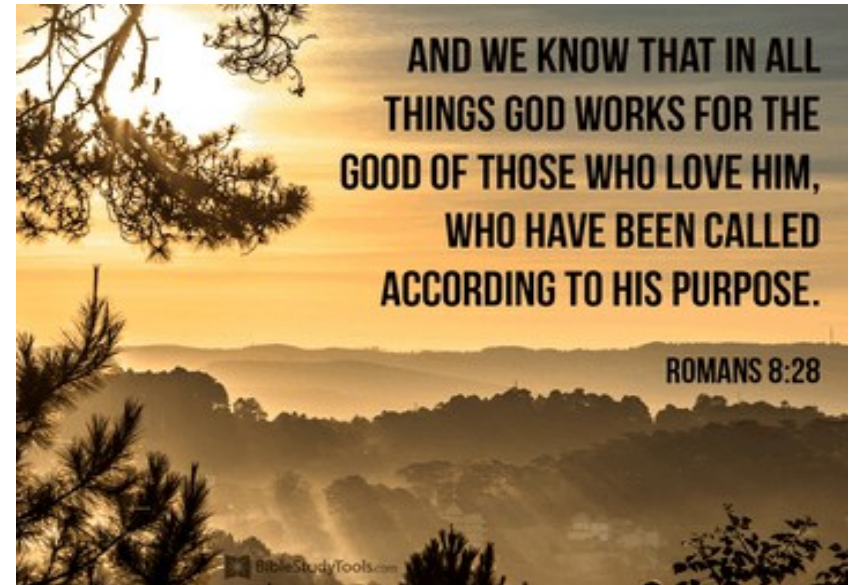
Congregational Officers

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



Grace Lutheran Church ~ LCMS

1430 7th Ave. SE, Le Mars, Iowa
www.gracelemars.org
Sunday Worship 9:00am



July 19, 2026 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor Timothy Geitz (541-2266) pastorofgrace@live.com
Ass. Pastor Daniel Mapur— Sudanese Pastor
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
Dr. Stephen and Maggie Oliver, Taiwan and Asia Region
Micah Cumming-Seminary Student
Hispanic Ministry of Siouxland

**+ Order of Worship +
Vajda Hymn Service
July 19, 2026**

Ringling of the Bells & Greeting

Opening Hymn #686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
May I still Thy goodness prove.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry

This Week at Grace Lutheran +

Sun, July 19: Worship w H/C at 9:00 am
Ice Cream Fundraiser
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
Mon, July 20: Bible Study at 9:30 am
Tues, July 21: Fellowship hall reserved 5-10 pm
Sat, July 25: Board of directors at Camp Okoboji
Sun, July 26: Worship at 9:00 am
Bible Study at 10:15 am
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm

**Those Serving Us this Week
July 19, 2026**

Elders: Mark H / Allyn A
Ushers: Christ Colt / Mark H
Reader: Allyn Andersen
Trustee: Andrew Schwartz
Music: Jennifer Heisterkamp
Acolyte: Ushers

**Those Serving us Next Week
July 26, 2026**

Elders: Allyn A / Mark H
Ushers: Mark H / Chris Colt
Reader: Allyn Andersen
Trustee: Ray Eickholt
Music: Ruth Alexander
Acolyte: Ushers

and purpose. A weak cone cracks under pressure, but a strong one holds firm when life gets messy.

The ice cream represents the joy, peace, and blessings God pours into our lives. It is sweet, refreshing, and meant to be enjoyed—but it also melts. If we're careless, distracted, or neglectful, we can miss opportunities to savor God's daily gifts. No one buys an ice cream cone just to admire it. You enjoy it one lick at a time. Likewise, the Christian life isn't lived all at once. It's lived one prayer, one act of obedience, one step of faith, and one day at a time.

Sometimes the ice cream starts to melt faster than expected. Life can feel that way too. Trials, disappointments, and unexpected hardships can make us feel like everything is slipping through our fingers. Yet those moments remind us to cling more closely to Christ, who never changes even when circumstances do.

An overflowing scoop is a beautiful sight, but it's also meant to be shared. As followers of Jesus, we are called to share the sweetness of God's love with others through kindness, generosity, forgiveness, and the hope of the gospel.

And when the ice cream is gone, the cone remains. In the same way, the pleasures and possessions of this world are temporary, but a life built on Christ endures forever.

So enjoy the blessings God gives, stand firmly on the foundation of His Word, share His love generously, and remember that what lasts isn't the sweetness of the moment—it's the One who holds your life together.

Save the date: August 16th at 5:00pm our next pot luck here at Grace Lutheran. Please bring a dish to share and invite your neighbors.

Me to realms of endless day.

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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 hu-
man 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

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 44:6–8

6Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. 7Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. 8Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

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

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson Romans 8:18–27

18For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 21that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. 26Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

Gospel Lesson Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

24[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, 25but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. 27And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How

On Main Street July 26 airing

This is the Life – “Man in the Middle” – Two men are left with a “secret” when one tells he has terminal cancer.

Worship Service – Rev. Neil Wehmas of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ida Grove, IA, delivers the message, “For Good?” based on Romans 8:28-39. 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

Financial Stewardship Update:

As of July 12, 2026, Grace Lutheran Church is currently behind our projected ministry budget by \$46,631.

Prayer: "Father, giving is an act of trust, and today we declare our trust in you. We thank you for providing for our families and our church body. We bring these offerings with open hearts, knowing you will always supply our needs. Bless the givers and the gifts alike. Amen.

Up to a Challenge? This month, we invite our church family to be the hands and feet of Christ by reaching out to those who may need encouragement, companionship, and prayer. A simple visit, phone call, or note can make a tremendous difference in someone's day.

God's Word reminds us, “Encourage one another and build each other up” (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Please take a moment to visit with some of our most often forgotten about members. A list of some of those needing encouragement can be found on the poster in the Fellowship Hall.

Be sure to join your Grace family for an ice cream cone right after church today.

Here's a reflective comparison that uses the ice cream cone as a metaphor for the Christian life:

The Ice Cream Cone and the Christian Life

The Christian life is a lot like an ice cream cone.

The cone is your foundation. Without it, the ice cream has nothing to rest on. In the same way, a life built on Christ has stability

nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia!
He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how. Though the
cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o’er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise: “I am with you evermore”?

3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to You from day to day. Interces-
sor, Friend of sinners, Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea Where
the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

+ **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.

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 cen-
ter ring of communion cups contains non-alcoholic wine.

then does it have weeds?’ 28He said to them, ‘An enemy has
done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to
go and gather them?’ 29But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the
weeds you root up the wheat along with them. 30Let both grow
together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reap-
ers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned,
but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . .

36Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disci-
ples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds
of the field.” 37He answered, “The one who sows the good seed
is the Son of Man. 38The field is the world, and the good seed is
the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil
one, 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest
is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40Just as the
weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close
of the age. 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will
gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-
breakers, 42and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place
there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43Then the righteous
will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has
ears, let him hear.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day: #771 Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord
**1 Be still, my soul, before the Lord,
For God is always near.
Before your mind is moved to pray,
God listens and will hear.**

**2 You need not multiply your words
Nor pray with practiced art.
Beyond all speech, God understands
The hunger of your heart.**

**3 Wait, then, in quiet confidence,
Your anxious thoughts at rest.
God knows your needs before you ask
And works for what is best.**

**4 Be still, my soul, before the Lord;
On God in patience wait.
God's love, unseen, surrounds your life;
God's help will not be late.**

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Sermon "Collect" Romans 8:22-28

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
Distribution Hymns: 628, 623, 637,

Blessing of Those Who Communed
Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Amen.

Benediction
Amen.

Closing Hymn #711 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"
1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne; Alle-
luia! His the triumph, His the victory alone. Hark! The songs of
peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood: "Jesus out of ev'ry