

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

"Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'"

Matthew 14:22-36



August 9, 2026 11th 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 +
Service of Prayer and Preaching
August 9, 2026

Ringings of the Bells & Greeting

Opening Hymn #817 Earth and All Stars

(vs 1, 2, 3, 7)

1 Earth and all stars!

Loud rushing planets!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Oh, victory!

Loud shouting army!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things.

I too will praise Him with a new song!

2 Hail, wind, and rain!

Loud blowing snowstorm!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Flowers and trees!

Loud rustling dry leaves!

Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

3 Trumpet and pipes!

Loud clashing cymbals!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Harp, lute, and lyre!

Loud humming cellos!

Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

7 Children of God,

Dying and rising,

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Heaven and earth,

Hosts everlasting,

Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

This Week at Grace Lutheran +

Sun, August 9: Worship at 9:00 am
Bible Study at 10:15 am
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
Mon, August 10: Bible Study at 9:30 am
Tues, August 11: Fellowship/ Social at 6:30 pm
Sun, August 16: Worship w H/C at 9:00 am
Bible Study at 10:15 am
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
Church Potluck at 5:00 pm

Those Serving Us this Week
August 9, 2026

Elders: Darrell K / Allyn A / Ryan Z
Ushers: Christ Colt / Mark H
Reader: Ryan Zittritsch
Trustee: Andrew Schwartz
Music: Ruth Alexander
Acolyte: Ushers

Those Serving us Next Week
August 16, 2026

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

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.

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 Job 38:4–18

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its waddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?”

¹²“Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ⁵From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶“Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson Romans 10:5–17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one be-

seating. You are also welcome to bring a friend!

You are invited to Celebrate Redeemer Lutheran’s Church 100th anniversary. “Rooted in Christ, Growing in Hope” Special celebration Service is Sunday September 20, at 2 pm. Former Pastor Paul Sieveking will be sharing the message. Cake reception following special service.

Pastor Gus George is turning 80. He would like to invited everyone to a reception after service on September 6. Stop by and wish him a happy birthday. Everyone is invited.

Save the date: Iowa District West Senior High youth gathering is October 3-4 at Camp Okoboji. This years theme is titled Unshakable Light. More details to come but if you are interested please speak to Pastor or Susan or Courtney so we can find chaperones.

Save the Date: Junior Youth Gathering is October 24-25 at the Sheraton hotel in West Des Moines. More details to come later. If interested please speak to Courtney Clark.

The table at Rejoice received some great treats this week from Grace Lutheran. We are thankful for all the help to keep our shelves and freezers full. Thank you to all Grace members that donate to this wonderful service. Rejoice Community Church.

Trinity Quilting Convocation - TLC Quilters invite you to join us August 29th for our Quilting Convocation from 9 am - 3 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Algona, Iowa. Join us in fellowship with other Christian quilters, participate in hands-on demonstrations, observe new quilting techniques, and learn more about operating a Christian quilting organization. Register by August 14th. Find out more at www.trinityalgona.org/tlc-quilters

Safe 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. Check out the posters!

Grace is collecting items for the Orphan Grain Train again this year. Let's fill a truck from Grace showing our love and support for those in need. We will be collecting thru August. Please put your donations in the board room. The list of items can be found on the tables in the fellowship hall. **No** books or furniture items will be taken. Any questions please call Lois Ohlendorf.

School Kits: We are collecting for school kits for the Orphan Grain Train. Items needed are Backpacks, spiral notebooks, pens & pencils and pencil sharpener, construction paper, 24 count crayons, rulers, glue sticks, scissors, 12 count colored pencils, single pocket folder and Rectangular pink erasers. There is a basket in the fellowship hall table to put your donations in. Happy shopping.

Is there a third grader in your house: At Grace we have a special tradition of gifting a Faith Alive Student Bible to third graders. If you have a third grader this year please call the office so we don't miss anyone. The bibles will be presented to the third graders on Rally Sunday, September 13 at 9:00 am.

New Thrivent Choice Changes! In Mid April, Choice Dollars were designated up front as **a single annual lump sum**. Members can now direct their full amount anytime between now and December 31, instead of after each quarter. NOW, ALL Thrivent members receive Choice Dollars, expanding the reach of generosity. Call 1-800-847-4836 or go online to direct your Choice Dollars. Thank you for your support for this program at Grace.

Pool Party: Pastor and Susan are hosting a private pool party at the outdoor pool in LeMars on August 29 from 6-8 pm. Everyone is invited from Grace. Bring your whole family and join us for a night of Christian fellowship and fun. Cost is free! No glass containers are allowed. The concession stand will **NOT** be open. There will be a surprise treat at the end of the night. If you are not a swimmer you can still come and fellowship with us. Lots of

lieves and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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

Gospel Lesson Matthew 14:22-33

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly

you are the Son of God.”

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 #715 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal.

+ **News and Notes** +

Stuff Cluttering Up Your Life? Then you won't want to miss Pastor Geitz's preaching and teaching series called "Uncluttered Faith," starting September 13th. This 6-week preaching/teaching series will walk through the importance of uncluttering not only your physical life, but more importantly, your spiritual life. Stay tuned for more details to follow.

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.

On Main Street : August 16 airing

This Is the Life – “Jeremy” – Deals with the relationship between a mother and a mentally challenged son who lives in a home. Worship Service – Rev. Lucas Booher of Zion Lutheran Church in Storm Lake, IA, delivers the message “God Be Merciful to Me, a Sinner” based on Luke 18:9-14. 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

August 16, 2026 – Proper 15 (Pentecost 12)

Scripture: “My house shall be called a house of prayer.” — Matthew 21:13

Stewardship Sentence: As God's people, we support His house and mission through faithful giving and prayerful devotion.

2 Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages,
Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding,
In peace I go.

3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen
And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen
My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me,
O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me
Unto the end.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001918

Chart and compass come from Thee.
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

2 As a mother stills her child,
Thou canst hush the ocean wild;
Boist'rous waves obey Thy will
When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!"
Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea,
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

3 When at last I near the shore
And the fearful breakers roar
Twixt me and the peaceful rest,
Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me,
"Fear not, I will pilot thee."

Text: Public domain

Sermon "Faith and Doubt!" Matthew 14:22-33

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 com-
mon 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 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

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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.

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 #722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me
Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me
From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor
I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior,
And lead the way.