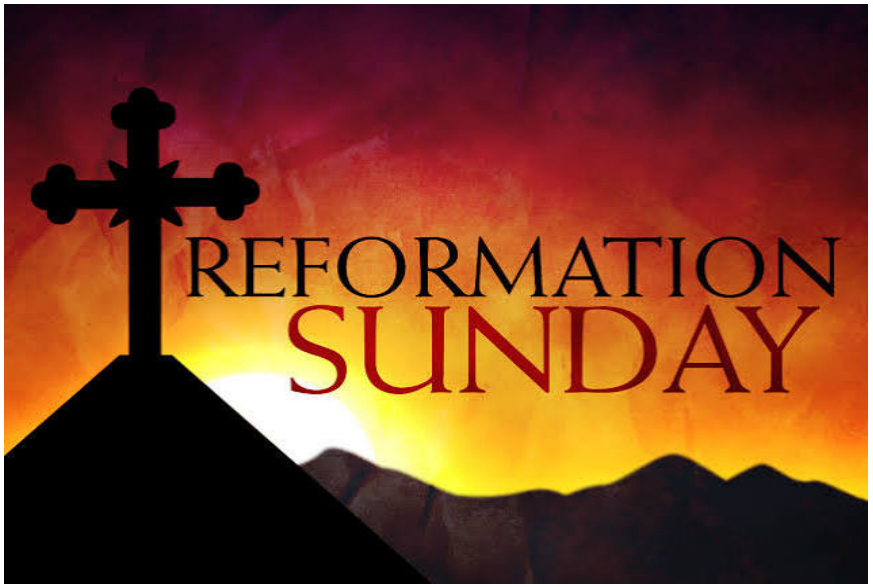
Congregational Officers

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

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Grace Lutheran Church ~ LCMS

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



October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday

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@ymail.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

“Refuge and Strength”
Psalm 46
Reformation Sunday-2026

Pre-service Music, Lighting of Candles
Silent Prayer, Ringing of the Bells

Opening Song: “In Christ Alone”

Verse 1
In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2
In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3
There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4
No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me

Jesus Sends Out Workers



He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Luke 10:2 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 10:1-11 (NIV).

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

PLENTIFUL	SANDALS	FEW	PEACE	ANYONE
KINGDOM	PURSE	TOWN	GREET	WORKERS
HARVEST	HEAL	HOUSE	DRINKING	SICK
ROAD	EATING	BAG	FIELD	WAGES

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From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✣ and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

What is the First Commandment?
You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?
We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Because our fear, love, and trust has wandered away from God to other things, let us call to mind our sin and confess it before God so that we may live in the forgiveness promised in our Holy Baptism.

O almighty God, our Creator and Redeemer:
We confess that we have been careless in our appreciation of Your mercy and grace. We have been forgetful of all that You have done for our salvation and the world. Our neglect of Your Word has kept us from receiving Your gifts. By the blood of Jesus Christ alone are we forgiven. Only by Your mercy has Your Spirit cleansed us of our sin and created in us new hearts that we may truly fear, glorify, and worship You all the days of our life. Hear our plea for forgiveness in Jesus' name. Amen

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In the name of Jesus and by His authority I proclaim to you the forgiveness of all your sins. Live in the freedom of your Baptism in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Responsive Reading (Psalm 46)
God is our refuge and strength,
An ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
Though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

This Week at Grace Lutheran +

Sun, Oct 25 : Worship at 9:00 am
Education Hour at 10:15
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm
Mon, Oct 26: Bible Study at 9:30 am
Board of Ed at 7:00 pm
Wed, Oct 28: Confirmation / Grace Kids
Thurs, Oct 29: Hallelujah Party/ Hope Haven at 11:00 am
Sat, Oct 31: Trunk or Treat at 5-8 pm.
Sun, Nov 1: Worship w H/C at 9:00 am
Education Hour at 10:15am
Sudanese Worship at 1:00 pm

Those Serving Us this Week
October 25 , 2026

Elders: Tony H / Allyn A / Ryan Z
Ushers: Chris Colt / Mark H
Reader: Allyn Andersen
Trustee: Ray Eickholt
Music: Jennifer Heisterkamp
Acolyte: Asher Zittritsch

Those Serving us Next Week
November 1, 2026

Elders: Tony H / Ryan Z / Allyn A
Ushers: Mark H / Chris Colt
Reader: Allyn Andersen
Trustee: Roy Thoms
Music: Jennifer Heisterkamp
Acolyte: Kaydence Bobier / Zoey Donlin

1410 am and 96.9 fm . Please keep this ministry in your prayers and if you would like to support this ministry your can find the pamphlets in the fellowship hall on the table

Annual Voters Meeting: Mark your calendar for November 15, 2026. Grace Lutheran will be having the annual voters meeting right after the church service. Please meet in the sanctuary and plan on attending.

Harvest Meal: The board of Elders is hosting a Harvest Meal after the voters meeting on November 15. Turkey and all the trimmings will be served. We will have a special offering for over and above giving for everything the Lord has blessed us
with this year. This is a great time for fellowship and a time to be t**hankfu**l for all the Lord has blessed you with. Please take time to pray on your **over and above** giving to Our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

Prayer of the Day:
Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Lesson: Revelation 21:1-4
1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

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

Epistle Lesson: Romans 3:19–28
19 Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for

all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

27 Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

Children's Sermon

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36
31So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" 34Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to You, O Lord!

The Apostles' Creed
I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was con-

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.

Board of Ed: We are hosting a trunk or treat this year at Grace! Everyone is invited to participate. Bring your car open up your trunk and decorate how you want and then hand out candy. It is easy and fun. If you are willing to be a participant please call the office or talk with Melinda Schwartz. It is going to be October 31 from 5– 8 pm. Be at the parking lot and set up by 4:30pm. If you rather not participate with the trunk bring your kids and grandkids to the parking lot. Should be lots of fun.

Help stock our shelves! Rejoice Community food bank is in urgent need of grocery items to support families in our community. If you are able to give, please consider donating to this important cause. Just put your donations in the shopping cart in the fellowship hall and we will make sure it gets over to Rejoice. Thank you!

Kitchen is in need of ice cream pails of all sizes. Please save them and bring them to the kitchen. Thank you!

The Good Shepard Hour: For over 70 years the Good Shepherd hour has broadcast the Word of God throughout north west Iowa and beyond. Listen on radio stations in Sioux City, Le Mars. Storm Lake, Fort Dodge and now Denison on Sunday mornings, or at any time on the internet. The Good Shepherd Hour is a short worship service with Bible readings, hymns, a sermon, creed, the Lord's Prayer, and Benediction. It is not a substitute for attending worship services regularly, but rather it is designed for those who are unable to attend in person. Most importantly, the Good Shepherd Hour is available for those who don't know Jesus at all or who have fallen away.

The speaker is Pastor Trevor Freudenburg of the LCMS. For spiritual growth and devotional life, past broadcasts can also be found at https://ksci.com/the-good-shepherd-hour.

The Good Shepherd Hour airs every Sunday morning on Klem

+ **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.

On Main Street November 1 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.Thomas Batchelder of Faith Lutheran Church in Orange City, IA, delivers the message "Blessed Are You, His Saints" based on Matthew 5:1-12. 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

October 25, 2026 – Proper 25 (Pentecost 22) / Reformation Sunday (Observed) Scripture: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind… You shall love your neighbor as yourself." — Matthew 22:37, 39

Stewardship Sentence: True stewardship is faith active in love, devoting all that we are to loving God and generously serving our neighbors.

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

ceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Hymn of the Day: #656 (By Martin Luther) "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

All
A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

Women
With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

Men
Though devils all the world should fill,

All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

All
The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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Sermon "Refuge and Strength" Psalm 46

Prayer of the Church

Luther's Morning Prayer:
We pray together Luther's Morning Prayer:
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.

Blessing
May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless ✞ at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV).
Amen

Closing Song: LSB #655 (By Martin Luther) "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

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Extinguishing of Candles, Silent Prayer,
Announcements & Dismissal