

A Chorus of Generosity



A Friendly Reminder: We've had a wonderful response to our 2026 Stewardship Campaign! If you haven't already, please bring/mail in the pledge form that was mailed out to you (or pick one up at church) OR scan this QR Code or go to bit.ly/GLCPledge2026 to submit your pledge online. The goal of the 2026 Stewardship Appeal for 2026 is to increase our gifts and offerings by \$31,980 or \$615 a week. We appreciate your generosity and look forward to seeing what Grace can do in 2026!



Pictures into Memories

November 23 | Between Services

Join Joel Lorentzen and Paul Lewellan for the third installment. Please join us, whether or not you came to prior sessions. Bring in a photo that touches you: a treasured person, a moment in time. Or bring in a paragraph to share that you've written about a photo. Joel and Paul will give tips on how to translate the images into words you can pass on. Don't let your memories get lost.

Looking Ahead

- **November 23** Pictures into Memories
- **November 23** Thanksgiving Worship
- **November 25-Dec 1** Pr. Stephanie Vacation
- **November 27-28** Church Office Closed
- **November 30** First Sunday in Advent
- **December 1** Pray & Play
- **December 11** Carols at Luther Manor
- **December 12** Grace2Dine
- **December 14** Candles & Carols
- **December 20** Blue Christmas @ Redeemer
- **December 21** Joint Worship Kids Program
- **December 24** Christmas Eve Worship 5pm and 7pm
- **December 25-26** Church Office Closed
- **December 28** Joint Worship Christmas Hymn Sing
- **January 1-2** Church Office Closed
- **January 5** Annual Reports Due
- **January 25** Joint Worship & Annual Mtg



Thanksgiving Worship

Sunday, November 23 | 5:30pm @ Grace

Join us at Grace as we worship together with St. Mark members for a service of thanksgiving with music, readings, scripture, reflections, and prayers.



Pray & Play Helpers

Our wonderful helpers at Pray & Play are vital to the program's success.

You can volunteer for as little or as long a time as you'd like, and helpers are needed both on-site with the kids or behind the scenes (like preparing snacks/lunch, wiping tables, clean up, etc.). **Last Fall date: Dec 1**, and Pr. Kirsten can answer any questions.



Thank You!

Thank you to all who generously donated to the NAMI Walk this year. Our Grace/St. Mark's team raised \$906! United by our unique experiences, journeys and stories, NAMIWalks is a beautiful celebration of each of us, and continues to move closer to the goal of "Mental Health for All!"

Good Christian Friends Rejoice with Heart and Soul and Voice!

The singers of Heart and Voice, Grace's adult choir invite you to join us in praising our Lord with song during the Advent and Christmas season. It would be lovely to have many voices join in the fun and spirit during this most beautiful holiday. This is an easy commitment of three rehearsals culminating in the Candles and Carols service on December 14 at 6:30pm

Rehearsals are as follows:

Saturday, November 22 from 1:00 – 3:00pm

Wednesday, December 3 from 7:00 – 8:00pm

Wednesday, December 10 from 7:00 – 8:00pm

We ask that you attend as many rehearsals as possible. Please contact Sally Meier at 309-292-0281 with questions, or just show up. We will have a part for you!



Sunday, November 23

8:30am Traditional Worship & Livestream
9:30am Pictures in Memories - PBH
10:30am Contemporary Worship
5:30pm Thanksgiving Worship @ Grace

Monday, November 24

10:30am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Centering Prayer
7:00pm Council Meeting - PBH

Tuesday, November 25

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
6:00pm Anx Generation Book Study

Wednesday, November 26

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group
6:00pm Confirmation @ St James
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 27

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

Church Office Closed - Thanksgiving

Friday, November 28

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

Church Office Closed - Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 29

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

1:30pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Sunday, November 30

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

8:30am Traditional Worship & Livestream
9:30am Coffee hour
10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday, December 1

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

Pray & Play 8:30am-4pm

10:30am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Centering Prayer

Tuesday, December 2

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
1:30pm Personnel Committee Mtg
5:00pm Property Committee Mtg

Wednesday, December 3

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group - Narthex
5:30pm Grief Support Group - PBH
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 4

11:00am Prayer Group - Narthex



Story of Paul Bible Study

December Hiatus Please contact the office at office@gracewelcomesyou.org or 563-322-0769 if you are interested. There is a participant book with only a few pages of reading for each session. Pr. Stephanie can answer any questions. *Classes will resume in January.*

Grief Support Group

Next Meeting: Dec 3 Grief Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays month 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Anyone is welcome at anytime, and please be assured our conversations are kept in confidence. Questions? Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

Naomi Circle

Next Meeting: Christmas Luncheon December 9, 11:30am* @ The Outing Club (2109 N Brady St, Davenport) *Note Date & Time Change. RSVP to Ann Lorentzen 563-349-0208 or lorentzen12@icloud.com. The remainder of the year Naomi Circle meets the third Tuesday of the month Sept-May for refreshments, fellowship, devotions, and bible study. All are welcome to join us! Questions? Joyce Marinaccio 563-343-3404 or gsgopher50@gmail.com.

Service Day Quilters

Next Meeting Dates: December 9 & 10 | 9am-Noon

Anyone can join to help at church or at home. Questions? Gloria Lange 563-271-1542 langejg1@msn.com or Kathy Miller kathyk1679@aol.com 563-676-0914.

Page Turners Book Group

Next Meeting: December 20 We meet at 8:30am the third Saturday each month at different locations for breakfast, book discussion, and great fellowship (reading the book is not required). **December Book:** *Little Pink House: A True Story of Defiance and Courage* by Jeff Benedict **Host:** Gloria Lange 563-271-1542

Location: The Brothers Restaurant (1718 ~ 2nd Ave, Rapids City, IL)

Centering Prayer

Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God - an the opening of mind and heart. Cheryl Kritsch 563-343-0135 facilitates the group which meets via Zoom every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm (link emailed in the Weekly Update).

Men's Lunch Group

The Men's Lunch Group meets at noon every Wednesday at church. Bring a lunch from home or pick something up from a restaurant. Contact Dennis Boehme boehmed@aol.com or 563-320-2661 to be added to the email list.



LivWell
CARES

Free Meals for Seniors this Holiday Season

No plans for the holidays? Let LivWell CARES cook for you! We will deliver hot, cooked holiday meals to your doorstep between 10am and

Noon on both Christmas day and New Years Day.

How do I get a meal?

Contact Pastor Kirsten at 563-322-0769 or pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org **no later than December 4**, with your Name, address, and preferred phone number. You can also call LivWell cares directly at 563-334-3700.

Scan for
the current
Weekly
Update email



Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

Christ the King Sunday

November 23, 2025 8:30am

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa

Pastor Stephanie Wood † Pastor Kirsten Lee

Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!

Please complete an attendance card - located in the pews or at the usher's table.

*Please stand as you are able. **Congregational response in bold.**

Prelude

Italian Hymn..... arr. Charles Callahan

Announcements

Call to Worship

Heart & Voice Choir *God Is Good*

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*Silence for reflection.*) Faithful God, **you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, † in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Almighty King ELW 408

- 1 Come, thou almighty King,
 help us thy name to sing;
 help us to praise;
 Father all-glorious,
 o'er all victorious,
 come and reign over us,
 Ancient of Days.

- 2 Come, thou incarnate Word,
 merciful, mighty Lord;
 our prayer attend.
 Come and thy people bless,
 and give thy word success,
 and let thy righteousness
 on us descend.

- 3 Come, holy Comforter,
 thy sacred witness bear
 in this glad hour!
 Thou who almighty art,
 rule now in ev'ry heart,
 never from us depart,
 Spirit of pow'r.

- 4 To thee, great One in Three,
 eternal praises be
 hence evermore!
 Thy sov'reign majesty
 may we in glory see,
 and to eternity
 love and adore.

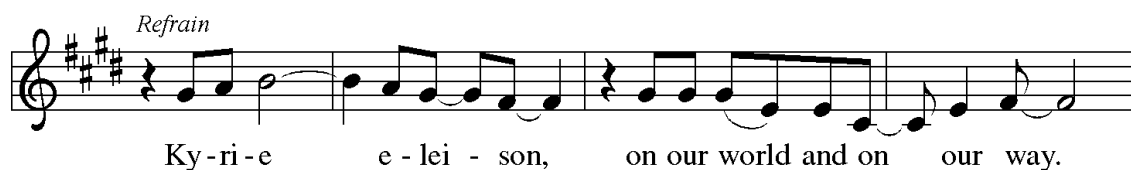
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Greeting

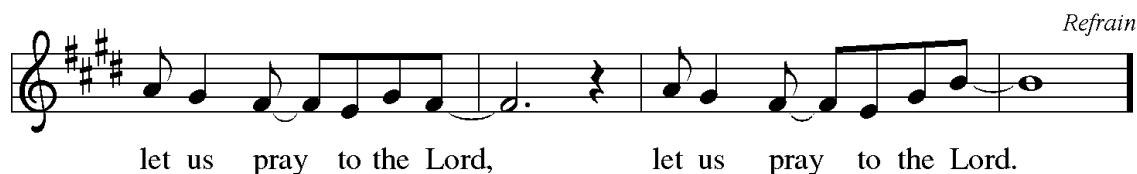
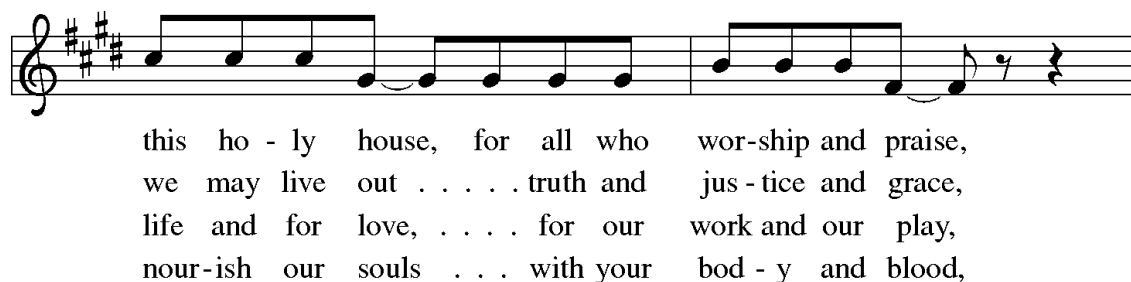
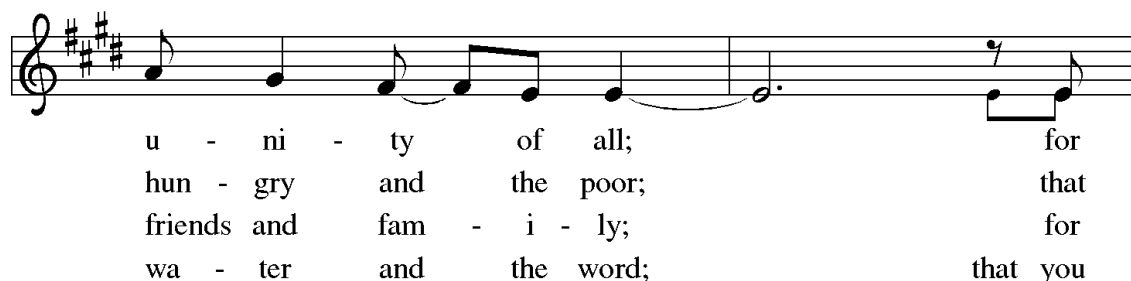
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison, On Our World and On Our Way ELW p. 184



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, our true life, **to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for**

your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Heart & Voice Choir Anthem

Lift Up Your Heads (join in the last verse).... Georg Weissel, arr. by C. Wesley Anderson

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of Glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.*

*Oh, blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
Oh, happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!*

*Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me Thine inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.*

***So come, my Sovereign; enter in! Let new and nobler life begin;
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown, be won.***

Children's Message

First Reading | Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

though its waters rage and foam, and
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
**who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.**

“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted
among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?..... ELW p. 188

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading | Luke 23:33-43

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of

condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

I Love to Tell the Story..... ELW 661

1 I love to tell the story
 of unseen things above,
 of Jesus and his glory,
 of Jesus and his love.
 I love to tell the story,
 because I know it's true;
 it satisfies my longings
 as nothing else would do.

Refrain

 I love to tell the story;
 'twill be my theme in glory
 to tell the old, old story
 of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story:
 how pleasant to repeat
 what seems, each time I tell it,
 more wonderfully sweet!
 I love to tell the story,
 for some have never heard
 the message of salvation
 from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

Apostles' Creed

Let us proclaim our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Prayers of the People

Let us pray. Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Call to Offering

Through the words and acts of Jesus, we experience peace, hope, and grace. God’s love is beyond limits and will move us to open ourselves to the beauty of infinite mercy, and when we share our gifts, the universe begins to transform for our neighbors, creation, and ourselves.

Offering Hymn

We Give Thee but Thine Own..... ELW 686



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of healing and hope, **you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.**

Anointing with Oil for Healing and Wholeness

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Loving God...

Your Son Jesus brought healing and wholeness to all. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain. Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair.

Siblings in Christ, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Compassionate God...

the strength of those who suffer, bring hope and peace to all who are in mental, physical, or spiritual distress.

All-knowing God...

source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care.

Loving God...

our creator and redeemer, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of those who suffer.

God of great and abundant mercy...

with your presence sustain all for whom we pray. Drive away their suffering, give them firm hope, and strengthen their trust in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you † and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns..... ELW 855

- 1 Crown him with many crowns,
 the Lamb upon his throne;
 hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
 all music but its own.
 Awake, my soul, and sing
 of him who died for thee,
 and hail him as thy matchless king
 through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the virgin's Son,
 the God incarnate born,
 whose arm those crimson trophies won
 which now his brow adorn;
 fruit of the mystic rose,
 yet of that rose the stem,
 the root whence mercy ever flows,
 the babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love--
 behold his hands and side,
 rich wounds, yet visible above,
 in beauty glorified.
 No angels in the sky
 can fully bear that sight,
 but downward bend their burning eyes
 at mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life,
 who triumphed o'er the grave
 and rose victorious in the strife
 for those he came to save.

His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

- 5 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, sts. 1-3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 4

Sending

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Festive Voluntary on "Darwall's 148th" arr. David Lasky



Junior Bible Study | God Gives Esther Courage

Junior Bible Study is offered for children after the children's sermon during worship at both services. We will return from our time together before communion begins. Once again, we will use The Story as our guide for our learning. We will learn the familiar Bible Stories through these books, felt board, games, and crafts. We hope your children can join us!

Interested in Joining Grace? Please contact the church office office@gracewelcomesyou.org, for information about joining Grace Lutheran Church. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life at Grace.

Do You Receive the Weekly Update Email? Every Thursday we email out the Weekly Update with current announcements, links, birthdays, anniversaries, Synod/ELCA updates, and more. If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.

Serving in Worship

Presiding	Pastor Stephanie Wood
Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Deb Gustafson
Healing Assistants	Deb Gustafson, Chuck Lehman, Colleen Levsen, One NEEDED
Acolyte & Crucifer	Matt Levsen
Greeter	Cindy Lee
Ushers	Rod Levsen Sr, Rod Levsen Jr
Jr Bible Study	Pr. Kirsten
Sound System	Mike Savely
Prayers	Connie Lannan
Altar Guild	Gloria Lange
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Worship Tech & Praise Band Leader	Vey Rodriguez
Coffee/Cookies/Snacks	Gloria & Jim Lange, Cindy Lee

Grace Lutheran Church

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YouTube: Grace Lutheran Davenport

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