



Stewardship Update



Thank you! We have received 73 Statements of Intent. Of those pledges, 37 have increased their giving by a total of \$16,144. That is wonderful! Together we are a chorus of generosity. We are halfway to our goal, at \$312 a week. With your support, we will continue to serve God and our neighbor. If you haven't already, please bring/mail in the pledge form that was mailed out to you (or pick one up at church), scan this QR code, or pledge online at [bit.ly/GLCPledge2026](#) with our secure form.



Grace2Dine

Friday, December 12, Noon | Hickory Garden Restaurant
(3311 Hickory Grove Rd, Davenport)

Grace2Dine meets monthly to dine out enjoying wonderful fellowship and food. Please think about joining us! Questions? Contact the church office [office@gracewelcomesyou.org](#).

CANDLES & CAROLS

Sunday, December 14 | 6:30pm

You are invited to an evening of reading and song. The beautiful service of Candles and Carols is a lovely evening of anthems, hymns, scripture and prayers that are sure to uplift your spirit as you travel through the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Come relax and enjoy, as we reflect upon and treasure God's holy gift of Jesus.

Jr Bible Study Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21 | 9:30am Joint Worship

Rehearsals: December 7 & 14 during Jr Bible Study at both services.

We need sheep, shepherds, angels, narrators, and wise men! The costumes are all set, and it would be helpful if your child can attend both rehearsal dates.

Program Day December 21: We would like all participating children to be at the church by 9:00am on that day in Pat Bell Hall. (Even if they were unable to attend rehearsals, we will have a place for them.) There will be a birthday party for Jesus after the program in Pat Bell Hall. All are welcome to join us!

Blue Christmas

A Service of Night Prayer for the Winter Solstice

@ Redeemer Lutheran Church 1107 Tanglefoot Lane, Bettendorf

Saturday, December 20 | 7:00pm

This reflective gathering offers a supportive space for quiet reflection, solace, and a gentle reminder of comfort and hope during the Advent season.

Looking Ahead

- **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

Free Meals for Seniors this Holiday Season



LivWell
CARES

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 **no later than December 4**, with your Name, address, and preferred phone number. You can also call LivWell CARES directly at 563-334-3700.

Social Ministry Mitten Tree



The Grace Social Ministry Team is collecting hats and gloves (all sizes) for our local elementary schools.

These items can be new or very gently used, should be unwrapped, and can be placed on or under the tree in the narthex. Thank you for helping with this important ministry!



Scan for
the current
Weekly
Update email



Grace Lutheran Church

1140 East High Street, Davenport IA 52803
563-322-0769 | office@gracewelcomesyou.org

† Pastor Stephanie Wood
† Pastor Kirsten Lee *Outreach & Youth Ministry*
† Annie Nau *Office Administrator*
† Vey Rodriguez *Worship Tech & Praise Band Leader*
† Dawn Matthews *Treasurer*
† Jason Halkias *Custodian*

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
4:30pm Centering Prayer

Tuesday, December 2

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

Wednesday, December 3

Pastor Stephanie Vacation

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

Thursday, December 4

11:00am Prayer Group

Friday, December 5

Saturday, December 6

1:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Sunday, December 7

Food Pantry Collection

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

Monday, December 8

10:30am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Centering Prayer
5:00pm Sweet Arts Club - Kitchen

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!



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 langej1@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.

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

First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2025 8:30am

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa
Pastor Stephanie Wood † Pastor Kirsten Lee

Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!
Congregational response in bold.

Prelude

Hark the Glad Sound Thomas Haweis, setting by Kevin Hildebrand

Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*Silence is kept for reflection.*)

Long-expected God,

we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to

your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.
† You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Hark, the Glad Sound!..... ELW 239

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

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.**

Advent Candle Lighting

During these weeks of waiting and expecting,
where people live in fear of the unknown,
We pray for peace.

Where people are confused about
your will for their lives or for the world,
We pray for clarity.

Most of all, when the world longs for you,
**We pray you help us respond with
glad tidings of comfort and joy.**

We pray all this in the name of Jesus, our long-expected Savior. **Amen.**
Your light shines in the midst of the darkness. With the lighting of this candle
may you illuminate our hope in the midst of our fear. *(The first candle is lit.)*

Advent Hymn

Wait for the Lord ELW 262



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

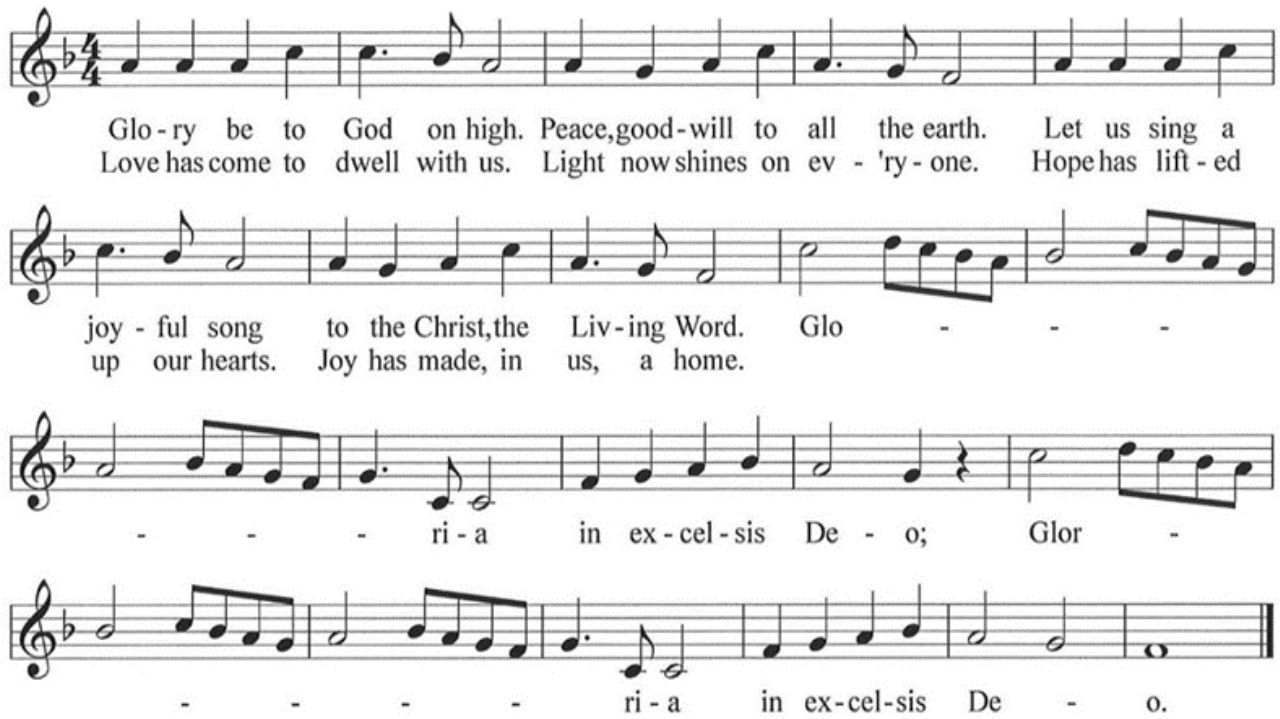
Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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Hymn of Praise

Glory be to God on High (Tune: Angels We Have Heard on High) Words: David Eck © 2011



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading | Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in

quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

Gospel Acclamation*

Refrain from Angels We Have Heard on High ELW 289

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Gospel Reading | Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

Jesus said to the disciples, "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Come Now, O Prince of Peace ELW 247

- 1 Come now, O Prince of peace,
 make us one body.
 Come, O Lord Jesus,
 reconcile your people.
- 2 Come now, O God of love,

make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile your people.

3 Come now and set us free,
O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile all nations.

4 Come, Hope of unity,
make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus,
reconcile all nations.

Text © Geon-yong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Prayers of the People

Let us pray. In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation. God of hope, **receive our prayer.**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

Hope is not only fuel that sustains our spirits. Hope lives within the tangible gifts we give each week to support the most vulnerable among us. In our generosity, we act on God's behalf, ensuring the needs of our community are met.

Offering Hymn

Your Blessings Are Immeasurable.....setting by David Eck
To the tune of "On Jordan's Bank the Baptists Cry"

Your bless - ings are im - mea - sura-ble. Our homes are warm, our
praise you, God, for love, for life, for sav - ing us___ from
bel - lies full. We of - fer now our - selves to you. God,
dark - est night. Now send us forth so we may tell the
use good us an of - y way you choose. We
good news of E - man - u - el.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Nourishing God, **you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.**

Blessing

May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Comfort, Comfort Now My People..... ELW 256

- 1 "Comfort, comfort now my people;
tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim
that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over;
God will reign in peace forever.
- 2 For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance,
since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior;
hills, bow down in humble favor.
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crooked,
and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635-1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Sending

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

And the Glory of the Lord Handel, arr. by John Schaum



Junior Bible Study | No Jr Bible Study Today - Thanksgiving Break 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 & Preaching Today	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Director of Outreach & Youth Minister	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Ruth McAndrews
Acolyte & Crucifer	Kathy Shriver
Greeters	Dennis & Nancy Boehme
Ushers	Debbie & Adolfo Alejo
Sound System	Chuck Lehman
Prayers	Sally Meier
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	Carol Keller, Jane Rock

Grace Lutheran Church

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563-322-0769 | office@gracewelcomesyou.org

YouTube: Grace Lutheran Davenport

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