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Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

# Looking Ahead

- **February 22** Quilters Clearance Sale
- **February 25** Midweek Lenten Worship
- **February 26** Lutheran Day on the Hill
- **March 1** Coffee with Council
- **March 1** Food Pantry Sunday
- **March 2** Office Opens at 9:00am
- **March 4** Midweek Lenten Worship
- **March 8** Daylight Savings! ☀
- **March 11** Midweek Lenten Worship
- **March 15** IFF Brunch
- **March 18** Midweek Lenten Worship
- **March 25** Midweek Lenten Worship
- **March 29** Palm Sunday
- **April 2** Maundy Thursday
- **April 3** Good Friday

**Large Print Bulletins** by request - ask an usher.



## Quilters Clearance Sale!

**Sunday, February 22 | 9-11am**

Our quilters are having a sale! Sewers love to make things, and we need to clear out some of our inventory. Many of the items could be yours with a donation. Some items will be priced. So, think ahead...Perhaps you are looking for a unique gift for someone in the future or perhaps you will see something that you would enjoy having. The proceeds from this sale will support Grace outreach programs. We will display and discuss some of our other projects.



## Coffee with Council

**Sunday, March 1 | Between Services**

Everyone is invited to join members of council for coffee and conversation between services. Get an update on the budget, learn about new council initiatives, share your observations, questions and concerns.



## Food Pantry Sunday

**Our next food pantry collection is Sunday, March 1.**

With grocery prices soaring the need is greater than ever! Suggestions for donations are in the Grace Notes newsletter. Bring your non-perishable donations on Sunday and set them before the altar.

## IFF BRUNCH

It's Food and Fellowship

**Sunday, March 15 | 11:30am**



**Join us at our Kick-off Brunch!**

**Where:** Home of Kathy Shriver  
6211 Whispering Hill Ct, Bettendorf

**Hosts:** Kathy, Janice Gibbs, and  
Nancy & Dennis Boehme

**11:30am:** Mimosas, Bloody Marys,  
(non-alcoholic available)

**Noon-ish:** Brunch Begins

Details regarding what to  
bring will come later.

Please RSVP soon to Janice Gibbs  
[janiceg5272@gmail.com](mailto:janiceg5272@gmail.com) or 563-332-6791

Grace Lutheran Church | 1140 E High St | Davenport, IA

## LENTEN WORSHIP

**Wednesdays | 7:00pm**  
**February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25**

Lent is a forty-day season of reflection, repentance, and renewal with God calling upon the whole body of Christ to work together for justice, dignity, and peace. All are welcome to join us each week for reflection and prayer.



## Thrivent Choice Dollars & Action Teams

Thrivent members can direct their charitable choice dollars to Grace! For more information talk to your Thrivent representative or go to [thriveon.com/thriventchoice](https://thriveon.com/thriventchoice). ALSO, Did you know Thrivent members can request funds (up to twice a year) for church projects through **Thrivent Action Teams**? Pastor Kirsten can walk you through applying for a \$250 grant. It's super easy!

## Sunday, February 22

8:30am Healing Worship & Livestream  
9:00am Quilter's Clearance Sale  
9:30am Coffee Hour  
10:30am Healing Worship

## Monday, February 23

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

## Tuesday, February 24

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH  
5:00pm Lenten Worship Set-up - PBH

## Wednesday, February 25

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group  
6:00pm Choir Rehearsal  
**7:00pm Midweek Lenten Worship**

## Thursday, February 26

**Lutheran Day on the Hill**

## Friday, February 27

## Saturday, February 28

1:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

## Sunday, March 1

### Food Pantry Collection

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

## Monday, March 2

Office opens at 9:00am

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

## Tuesday, March 3

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

## Coffee Hour Hosts

Sign up at the coffee kiosk to be a host for coffee hour. You can make/serve coffee (and heat up water for tea), bring treats, or bring healthy snacks, or even all three if you wish. Maybe you'd like to celebrate an anniversary, a birthday, or any special occasion (I always signed up to host on my kids' baptismal anniversaries to mark the occasion with something special.) Anyone is welcome to help out - and we can show you how the coffee pots work, where the supplies are kept, etc. Contact the church office if you'd like some pointers.

## 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.

## Grief Support Group

**Next Meeting: March 4** Grief Support Group meets the first & third Wednesdays of the 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.

## Service Day Quilters

### Next Meeting Dates: March 10 & 11 | 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.

## Naomi Circle

**Next Meeting: Tues, March 17, 9am** Naomi Circle meets the third Tuesday of the month September-May for refreshments, fellowship, devotions, and bible study. All are welcome to join us!

## Page Turners Book Group

**Next Meeting: March 21** 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). **March Book:** Lonesome Dove by Larry McMurtry (first half)

**Host:** Carol Keller 563-340-9013 **Location:** TBD



The Grace Social Ministry Team is working with Garfield Elementary to help supply weekend food to a few families. We invite the congregation to donate food from the list below or funds for groceries by marking your offering "Green Bag Project".  
Questions? Paul Lewellan, paullewellan@mac.com.

### Items we are collecting (any brand is welcome):

• Jars of Spaghetti sauce (please no glass jars)	• canned soup w/ meat	• single-serve applesauce
• pasta or spaghetti	• canned green beans	• oatmeal packets
• box macaroni & cheese	• canned corn	• single-serve cereal
• canned tuna	• canned fruit (pears, peaches, mandarin oranges, etc.)	• granola/protein bars
• canned chicken		• peanut butter sandwich crackers



## 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.). **Spring dates are: February 2, April 6, and June 1**, and Pr. Kirsten can answer any questions.

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.



# First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026 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

*Bless Now, O God the Journey.....* LLANGLOFFAN setting: Edwin Childs

## Announcements

## Confession & Forgiveness\*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. (*Silence is kept for reflection.*)

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of **†** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

## **Opening Hymn\***

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey.....* ELW 326

- 1      Bless now, O God, the journey  
          that all your people make,  
          the path through noise and silence,  
          the way of give and take.  
          The trail is found in desert  
          and winds the mountain round,  
          then leads beside still waters,  
          the road where faith is found.
  
- 2      Bless sojourners and pilgrims  
          who share this winding way;  
          your hope burns through the terrors,  
          your love sustains the day.  
          We yearn for holy freedom

while often we are bound;  
together we are seeking  
the road where faith is found.

3     Divine eternal lover,  
you meet us on the road.  
We wait for land of promise  
where milk and honey flow,  
but waiting not for places,  
you meet us all around.  
Our covenant is written  
on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993; Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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\*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for  
our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the  
church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here  
their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day\***

Let us pray. Lord God, our strength,

**the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **Children's Message**

### **Scripture Reading | Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So, when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."**

**Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore, all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

**Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

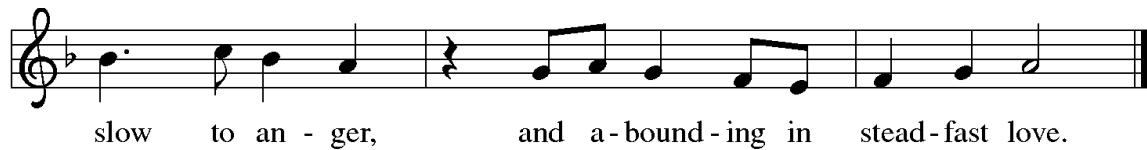
**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart!**

## Gospel Acclamation\*

*Return to the Lord.....* ELW p. 151



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



## Holy Gospel\* | Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' " Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' " Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day\*

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me.....* ELW 325

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;  
I want Jesus to walk with me;  
all along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
  
- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
when my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
  
- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
when my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

## **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. Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

## The 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\*

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*(Please be seated after sharing the peace.)*

## Call to Offering

The season of Lent invites us to better understand and deepen our spiritual covenants, strengthening our spiritual practice of generosity. Let us offer our gifts toward an abundant life and flourishing for all.

*(The offering plates will be passed along the pews.)*

## Offering Hymn

*Create in Me a Clean Heart.....* ELW 186

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
 spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
 your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
 Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of grace, **you have showered us with gifts of grace and abundance. Use our gifts to support one another, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world. Accept these gifts and our prayer that, nurtured by your Word, filled with your Spirit, we may share with gladness all that you have shared with us, until all creation is satisfied. 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.

*(You are invited to come forward to receive a blessing and anointing.*

*As you come forward you may kneel or stand in the front pew. After you have been blessed and anointed, you may return to your seat.)*

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\***

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, **☩** bless you now and always. **Amen.**

## **Closing Song\***

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey.....* ELW 326

1      Bless now, O God, the journey  
          that all your people make,

the path through noise and silence,  
the way of give and take.  
The trail is found in desert  
and winds the mountain round,  
then leads beside still waters,  
the road where faith is found.

- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims  
who share this winding way;  
your hope burns through the terrors,  
your love sustains the day.  
We yearn for holy freedom  
while often we are bound;  
together we are seeking  
the road where faith is found.
- 3 Divine eternal lover,  
you meet us on the road.  
We wait for land of promise  
where milk and honey flow,  
but waiting not for places,  
you meet us all around.  
Our covenant is written  
on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993; Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Sending\*

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God!**



### **Junior Bible Study | Holy Communion**

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. During Lent, we will be learning about communion during our JBS time and will take the place of a first communion class. If you have a child who you feel is ready to take communion, please speak with either one of the pastors for more info.

## **Interested in Joining Grace?**

Please contact the church office 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'd like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.

## **Online Giving**

Supporting Grace is easy with e-giving. Go to [bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline](http://bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline) or scan this QR Code to donate one time or to set up recurring gifts. We appreciate and thank you for your generosity!



## **Serving in Worship**

<b>Preaching &amp; Presiding</b>	Pastor Stephanie Wood
<b>Director of Outreach &amp; Youth Minister</b>	Pastor Kirsten Lee
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Carol Keller
<b>Healing Assistants</b>	Carol Keller, Deb Gustafson, Chuck Lehman, Colleen Levsen
<b>Acolyte &amp; Crucifer</b>	Kathy Shriver
<b>Greeters</b>	Jackie Cain, One NEEDED
<b>Ushers</b>	Mike & Deb Kirby
<b>Jr Bible Study</b>	Pastor Kirsten
<b>Sound System</b>	Chuck Lehman
<b>Prayers</b>	Connie Lannan
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Jewel
<b>Heart &amp; Voice Choir Director</b>	Sally Meier
<b>Organist</b>	Susan Senn
<b>Pianist</b>	Kathi Parrish
<b>Worship Tech &amp; Praise Band Leader</b>	Vey Rodriguez
<b>Coffee/Cookies/Snacks</b>	Jim & Gloria Lange, Carol Keller, Kathy Higgins

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

1140 East High Street, Davenport, IA 52803  
563-322-0769 | [office@gracewelcomesyou.org](mailto:office@gracewelcomesyou.org)

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