



Welcome ~ Thank you for joining us!

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa † Pastor Stephanie Wood

September 6, 2026 † 9:30am

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

Large Print

Prelude Music

Moderato Gaetano Grieco

Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen. Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn*

Gather Us In ELW (back of Red Book) **532**

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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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.**

Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray. O Lord God, **enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Message

Scripture Reading | Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

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 119:33-40

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.

Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.

Holy Gospel* | Matthew 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song*

Build My Life

Prayers of the People*

Let us pray. Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Call to Offering

By embracing generosity, we harmonize with God's plan of abundance for all and purpose for creation. Let us give generously so that our ministries can flourish here and in the world.

(You may place your offering in the offering plates by the door as you exit the sanctuary or by scanning the QR code on the back of the bulletin to give online.)

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. God of creation, **you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer*

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.

Invitation to Communion

Everyone is welcome to the table. As you are able, please come forward to receive communion. If you prefer juice for communion, it will be clear, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

Prayer After Communion*

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing*

The God of love draw you into full accord
and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all
circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Song*

Build Your Kingdom

Sending*

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God!

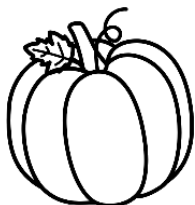


Coming Up at Grace

Scan to view the current Weekly Update Email

Office Closed for Labor Day

The church office will be closed tomorrow Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.



Fall Block Party!

Sunday, Sept 20 | 10:30am Outdoor Worship | 11:30am-1:30pm Block Party!

Join us Sunday, September 20, for our annual Fall Block Party with outdoor worship, sloppy joes, bingo, music, activities, and more! Watch for sign-ups to come via email this week for volunteer help and donations.

Grace2Dine

Friday, September 11 | Noon | Home of the Boehme's (2632 W 34th St, Davenport)

Dennis & Nancy Boehme are our hosts, and they are going to provide the taco meat and we are to bring the extras. Talk with the Boehme's or Hollie (514-4022 or 650-3213) with your RSVP and item you will be bringing. All are welcome!

Join Choir!

You are invited to join Heart and Voice, Grace's adult choir, as it returns this fall. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 9, at 7pm, and we'd love to have you share your gifts for our whole choir season or for special services (Christmas, Easter, etc.) Our mission is ministry in song as we worship together. Join us! Questions? Sally Meier, Choir Director tonalworkout@gmail.com or 309-292-0281.

Junior Bible Study Starts Next Sunday!

This fall, JBS will be during worship for the first three Sundays of the month. The fourth Sunday will be between worship services. This will allow the children to have a chance to spend time with one another. Having a combined class once a month also invites an opportunity to try something a bit more elaborate since we have a longer session.

This year we are using *Wonder on the Go*. It invites children to wonder about the characters in Bible Stories and what we can learn about God. Each session will include a short video, a story from the Spark Children's Bible, and activities. We are particularly excited that it was created by a local Director of Faith Formation at St Stephen Lutheran Church in Urbandale IA.

In House Blood Drive

Tuesday, September 15 | 2-6pm

Become a blood donor! Less than 10% of the population gives blood, so donors that give on a regular basis are important to meet these needs. To schedule your donation, contact Mark Jepson 563-508-9091 or majepson55@netscape.net.

Pet Blessing & Pet Food Collection

Sunday, September 27

You are invited to bring your furry and scaly friends for a Blessing of the Animals! You can also bring a photo of your pet or kids may want to bring a stuffed animal. As we remember St. Francis of Assisi (patron saint of animals and the environment) we give thanks for God's creation and our furry companions. That same Sunday, Social Ministry is asking for **pet food & supplies donations** for *Rescued* in Silvis. They will also take treats, cat litter, toys, and donations! Questions? Hollie Swain at 563-650-3213

LWR School Kits, Fabric Kits, & Personal Care Kits

See the display in the narthex. All kits should be returned to Grace by September 13.

Special Project Grants

The Grace Church Council has established a Special Projects Fund with revenue from Grace's Endowment, and we're looking to YOU for ideas and to lead projects that foster innovation and creativity in ministry and further the on-going mission of Grace. Application forms are available at church or can be emailed to you. Questions? Contact: Paul Lewellan, plewellan@mac.com



Ongoing Ministries

See the next *ongoing ministry meeting dates and times in the "Looking Ahead" section below and grab an ongoing ministry pew card. Feel free to get in touch with the group contacts with any questions. (You can also scan this QR Code for our recent newsletter.)

Looking Ahead

**Men's Lunch Wednesdays at Noon*

**Centering Prayer Mondays at 4:30pm*

Sept 7 Office Closed Labor Day

Sept 8 & 9 *Quilters 9am-Noon

Sept 11 Grace2Dine

Sept 12 *Page Turners 8:30am (date change)

Sept 13 LWR Kits Due

Sept 13 First Fall JBS

Sept 14 Pray & Play

Sept 15 *Naomi Circle 9-11am

Sept 15 In-House Blood Drive

Sept 16 *Grief Support Group 5:30pm

Sept 20 Fall Block Party

Sept 24 Bonfire Church

Sept 27 Pet Blessing & Pet Food Collection

Sept 27-29 Prs at Theological Conf

Interested in Joining Grace?

Please contact the office for information about joining Grace. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life here 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 or scan this QR Code to donate one time or to set up recurring gifts. Your offerings support and nurture ministries at Grace along with support for local and global organizations. We appreciate and thank you for your generosity!



Calendar

Sunday, September 6

Food Pantry Sunday

9:30am Traditional Worship & Livestream

10:30am Coffee Hour

Monday, September 7

Office Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8

9:00am Quilters

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH

1:30pm Social Ministry - Narthex

2:30pm Outreach & Welcome - PBH

7:00pm Worship & Music - PBH

Wednesday, September 9

9:00am Quilters

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

5:30pm Grief Support Group - PBH

Thursday, September 10

Friday, September 11

12:00pm Grace2Dine

Saturday, September 12

8:30am Page Turners (Date Change)

Sunday, September 13

8:30am Joint Worship & Livestream
 9:30am Coffee & Conversation
 10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday, September 14

Pray & Play 8:30am-4:00pm
 10:30am Staff Meeting
 4:30pm Centering Prayer

Tuesday, September 15

9:00am Naomi Circle - Narthex
 10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
 2:00pm Blood Drive

Wednesday, September 16

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

Thursday, September 17**Friday, September 18****Saturday, September 19****Sunday, September 20**

10:30am Outdoor Worship
 11:30am Block Party!



Serving in Worship

Preaching & Presiding	Stephanie Wood
Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Bill McCullough
Communion Assistants	Bill McCullough, Debbie Alejo, Russ Finkler, Paul Lewellan (basket)
Communion Bread	Karen Jewel
Acolyte	Debbie Alejo
Greeters	Jackie Cain, Peg McCullough
Ushers	Paul Lewellan, Scott Jewel
Sound System	Russ Finkler
Prayers	Paul Lewellan
Altar Guild	Karen Jewel
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Coffee Hour	Kathy Shriver

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

Grace Lutheran Church

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YouTube: Grace Lutheran Davenport

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