



Welcome ~ Thank you for joining us!

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa † Pastor Stephanie Wood

September 27, 2026 † 8:30am

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

Large Print

Prelude Music

Earth and All Stars..... Setting by Kevin Hildebrand

Announcements

Call to Worship

Heart & Voice Choir *Be In This Place*

Confession & Forgiveness*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.** Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn*

Earth and All Stars..... ELW (back of Red Book) **731**

- 1 Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!
Sing to the Lord a new song! Refrain

Refrain

God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!

- 2 Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 3 Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 4 Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 5 Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926; Text © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House

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.**

Blessing of the Animals

Let us pray. Gracious God, in your love you created us in your image and made us stewards of the animals that live in the skies, the earth, and the sea. Bless us in our care for our pets and animals. Help us recognize your power and wisdom in the variety of creatures that live in our world, and hear our prayer for all that suffer overwork, hunger, and ill-treatment. Protect your creatures, and guard them from all evil, now and forever. **Amen.**

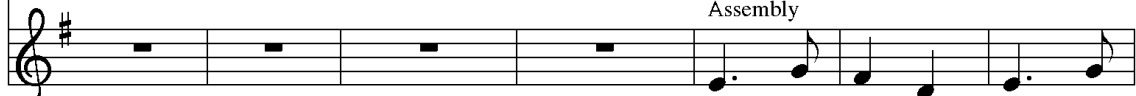
Kyrie (from *Now the Feast & Celebration*)..... setting by Marty Haugen

Leader



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have



For the reign of God, and for

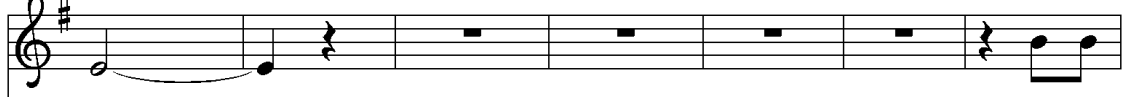


mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

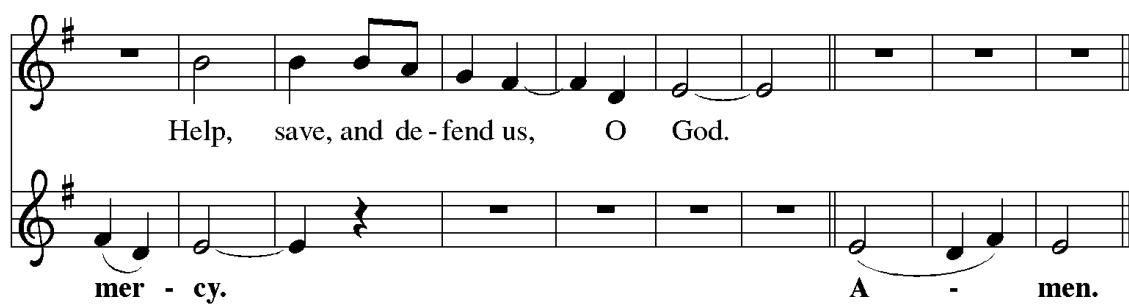
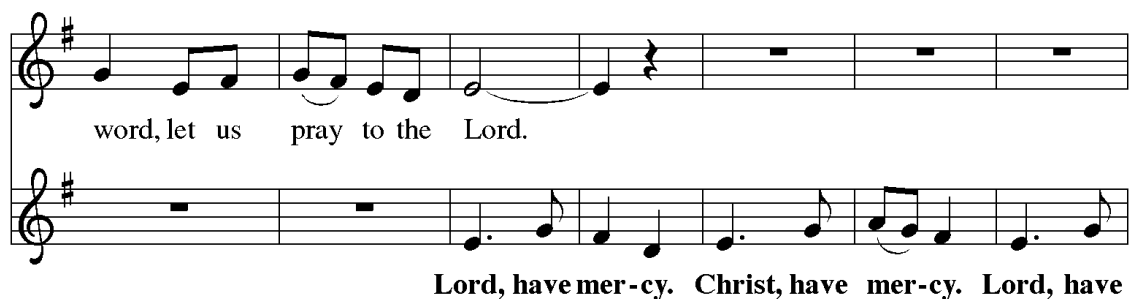
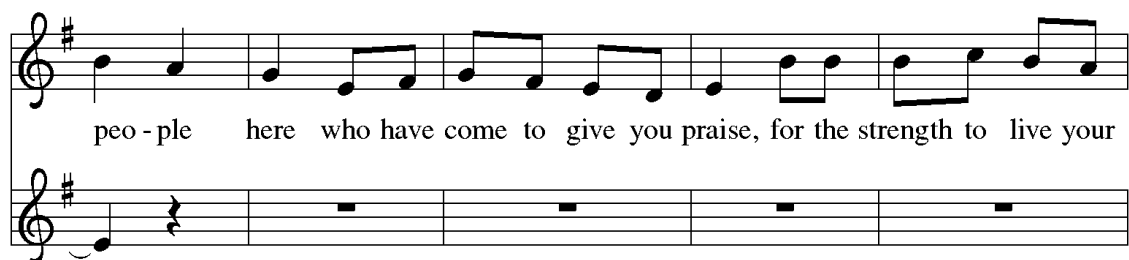




Lord. For your



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Prayer of the Day*

Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, **you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

Be With Me, Lord, Wherever I Go..... Traditional Hymn Tune, Arr. by Carl Strommen

*Be with me, Lord, wherever I go. Teach me what You would have me do;
Suggest whatever I think or say; direct me in your perfect way.*

*Prevent me, lest I harbor pride, lest I in my own strength confide.
Show me my weakness, let me see I have my power, my all from You.*

*Assist and teach me how to pray. Incline my nature to obey;
What You disdain I will so flee, and only love what pleases Thee.*

Children's Message

Scripture Reading | Philippians 2:1-13

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore, God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be
put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God
of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
**Remember, O Lord, your compassion
and love, for they are from everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
**remember me according to your steadfast
love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore, you teach sinners in your way.
You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia setting by Marty Haugen

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

Holy Gospel* | Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." So, they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day*

We Are Called ELW (back of Red Book) **720**

1 Come! Live in the light!
 Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
 We are called to be light for the kingdom,
 to live in the freedom of the city of God

Refrain
 We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
 we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

2 Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so hatred and blindness will be no more. *Refrain*

3 Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. *Refrain*

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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.**

The 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.

Sharing of the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated after sharing the peace.

Call to Offering

Let us give good gifts with loving hearts for the needs of our community, and may the gifts that we bring reflect the generosity of God's abundance and goodness.

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

Offering Hymn

As the Grains of Wheat ELW (back of Red Book) **465**

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.**

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*

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 Hymn*

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name ELW (back of Red Book) **534**

- 1 Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.
- 2 Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.
- 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night;
for us transform its darkness into light.
Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn;
your evening presence promise to your own.
- 4 Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-1893, alt.

Sending*

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Ash Grove arr. by David Lasky



Coming Up at Grace

Scan to view the current Weekly Update Email

Pictures into Memories Fall Edition

Today! Between Services in the Library

Join Joel Lorentzen and Paul Lewellan on September 27, in the library. Think campfires, garden harvests, back to school moments, and corn mazes. Bring your favorite photo to share even if you have not attended prior sessions. There are so many stories to tell, so little time..

Junior Bible Study

Today! Between Services in PBH

This fall, JBS is 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** inviting children to wonder about the characters in Bible Stories and what we can learn about God.

Green Bag Sunday

October 4 | Between Services

We are again delivering weekly food bags to elementary children facing food insecurity. Join us on October 4, between services to pack bags and learn about the project. **How can you help?** You can go grocery shopping from a list or fill or deliver the bags. You can donate food items: spaghetti sauce (no glass jars, please), pasta, mac and cheese, canned fruits and vegetables, soup, granola bars, instant oatmeal, canned chicken or tuna, healthy snacks. You can donate money to purchase food by marking your offering Green Bag Project. For further information, contact Pastor Kirsten or Paul Lewellan paullewellan@mac.com.

Food Pantry Sunday October 4

Our next food pantry collection is next Sunday, October 4. Bring your non-perishable pantry donations to church and leave them at the altar.

NAMI Walk

Saturday, October 10 | 8:30am Activities Begin | **10:00am** Walk!

Veteran's Memorial Park (1645 23rd St, Bettendorf)

Join us for NAMI Walks Greater Mississippi Valley 2026! With your support, we can reduce stigma, increase awareness, and raise funds for NAMI's free education and support programs in the Quad Cities Region. To register to walk and/or donate funds go to the Grace/St. Mark Page: namiwalks.org/teams/86611. If you need a ride, or if you have any questions, please contact Jane Rock at janesingerrock@gmail.com or call/text 563-340-8022.

Short Stories by Jesus

11am Thursdays | Begins October 8

It is challenging to wrap our head around life centuries before us. This fall we will dive into Jesus' short stories, his parables, by looking at the cultural context they were rooted in and how the original Jewish audience understood them. This Bible Study will follow along with Amy-Jill Levine's book *Short Stories by Jesus*, but you don't need to read the book to participate. She will be our resident expert as a scholar in New Testament and Jewish Studies. We will meet seven times on Thursdays at 11am, beginning October 8. Contact Pastor Stephanie if you have any questions.

Alzheimer's and Dementia Series

Join Megan Olsen of the Alzheimer's Association as she shares info about the following topics between worship:

October 18 - Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia

October 25 - Alzheimer's Behaviors and Communication, Caregiver Stress

November 1 - Lingering questions and topics

Join Choir!

You are invited to join Heart and Voice, Grace's adult choir and we'd love to have you share your gifts for our whole choir season or for special services (Christmas, Easter, etc.) Rehearsals are 6:30-8pm the first Wednesday of the month and 8:00am on Sundays when the choir sings. Questions? Sally Meier, Choir Director 309-292-0281 or tonalworkout@gmail.com.

IGNITE Youth Event

Wednesday, October 14 | 6pm | Faith Lutheran, Eldridge

Join youth from around the Quad Cities for a fun night of games, snacks, and friends! Questions? Talk with Pr. Kirsten 563-322-0769 pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org. We will meet at Grace at 5pm and travel to Faith in Eldridge together.

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 27 Pet Blessing & Pet Food Collection

Sept 27 Pictures into Memories

Sept 27-29 Prs at Theological Conf

October 4 Food Pantry & Green Bag Sunday

October 4 & 11 LWR Quilt Display

October 5 Pray & Play

October 7 *Grief Support Group 5:30pm

October 8 Short Stories Bible Study

October 10 NAMI Walk

October 13 *Naomi Circle 9-11am (*date change*)

October 13 & 14 *Quilters 9am-Noon

October 15 Short Stories Bible Study

October 17 *Page Turners 8:30am

October 18 Alzheimer's & Dementia Conversation

October 19-21 Pr. Stephanie Continuing Ed

October 21 *Grief Support Group 5:30pm

October 23 Kids Club (*watch for info*)

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!



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.

Christmas Dinner @ Grace, December 25

You are invited to join our Grace family for Christmas Day Dinner! ***As we plan, it would be helpful to know how many people may be interested.*** We expect the meal will be \$15 or less per person. Please let the office know if you are interested and how many you may have in your party (ie: just yourself, one or two guests, etc.). If you'd like to help, you may reach out to Ruth McAndrews or Carol Keller.

Calendar

Sunday, September 27

Pet Blessing & Pet Food Collection

8:30am Traditional Worship & Livestream
9:30am Pictures into Memories - Library
9:30am Coffee Hour - Narthex
9:30am Jr Bible Study - PBH
10:30am Contemporary Worship
12:00pm Confirmation Parent Mtg @ Zion

Monday, September 28

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

Tuesday, September 29

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH

Wednesday, September 30

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group

Thursday, October 1

Friday, October 2

Saturday, October 3

Sunday, October 4

Food Pantry & Green Bag Sunday

8:00am Choir Rehearsal
8:30am Worship & Livestream
9:30am Coffee Hour
10:30am Contemporary Worship
11:30am Confirmation Class @ Zion

Monday, October 5

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

Tuesday, October 6

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH
1:30pm Personnel Meeting - PBH
5:00pm Property Meeting - Narthex
6:00pm CYF Meeting - PBH

Wednesday, October 7

12:00pm Men's Lunch Group
5:30pm Grief Support Group - PBH
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 8

11:00am Short Stories Bible Study

Friday, October 9

Saturday, October 10

NAMI Walk @ Veterans Memorial Park

Sunday, October 11

8:00am Choir Rehearsal
8:30am Worship & Livestream
9:30am Coffee Hour
10:30am Contemporary Worship

Monday, October 12

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

Serving in Worship

Preaching & Presiding	Pastor Stephanie Wood
Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry	Pastor Kirsten Lee
Assisting Minister	Deb Gustafson
Healing Assistants	Deb Gustafson, Chuck Lehman, Janice Gibbs, Colleen Levens
Acolyte & Crucifer	Matt Levens
Greeters	Gene & Gail Carber
Ushers	Mark Jepson, Dean Rock
Jr Bible Study	Jane Krumwiede, Peg McCullough
Sound System	Mike Savely
Prayers	Sundays & Seasons
Altar Guild	Nancy Boehme
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	Kathi Parrish
Coffee Hour	Vicki Liebke

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv33333333333333333333)

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