

Grace Lutheran Church ~ LCMS

1430 7th Ave. SE, Le Mars, Iowa

www.gracelemars.org

Sunday Worship 9:00am



January 3rd, 2021 2nd Sunday after Christmas

Pastor Timothy Geitz (541-2266) pastorofgrace@live.com

Jason Britton, Office Manager (546-5516)

Church Email: gracelutheranchurch@ymail.com

Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am-4:00 pm www.gracelemars.org

Worship Broadcast on Local Channel 12 ~ Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Missionaries:

Pastor Carl and Chen His Li Hanson, Asia Region

Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster, Prague, Czech Republic

Dr. Stephen and Maggie Oliver, Taiwan and Asia Region

Rev. Paul Flo-South Sioux City Hispanic Ministry

Nathan Nelson-Seminary Student

2nd Sunday after Christmas January 3rd, 2021

AS WE GATHER

As we gather for worship in the temple of the Lord, God calls us to remember that we are sinners, just as were the people of Israel. Our worship, tithes, and prayers are sometimes just as hypocritical as theirs were. In repentance then, let us turn back to God with sincere and contrite hearts that we might find in our gracious God the forgiveness we need in Jesus Christ.

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Welcome and Greeting by Pastor

Opening Hymn #397 *“As with Gladness Men of Old”*

1 As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright; So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed, There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav’n and earth adore; So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin’s alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav’nly King.

4 Holy Jesus, ev’ry day Keep us in the narrow way; And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

5 In the heav’nly country bright Need they no created light; Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down; There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

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Thank you to everyone that made suggestions for using the Thrivent Choice Dollars. All of your dollars help, even if the amount is small.

Gayle Conger Thrivent Treasurer

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS did you know you can choose to have your Thrivent Choice dollars directed to support Grace Lutheran's Ministry? Feel free to contact our representative, Joni Kellen at 712-541-5074. Your support is appreciated.

ALTAR GUILD is looking for a person to help for the months of September-October. They are also looking for a Co-Chair or a Chair person for funeral committee, if interested contact Lola Fitch at 546-7292

NEW SERIES

Next week, we will begin a new preaching/teaching series entitled "7 Keys to Open-Handed Living in a Tight-Fisted World." This 30-day devotional booklet and preaching/teaching series looks at how generosity can transform not only your own life, but also the lives of those around you. And all to the glory of God! Pick up your free booklet today and join us next week to see how God can use us to transform the world! Both the worship service and the Bible Study will be live-streamed on Facebook. Pastor Geitz

✠Those Serving Next Week January 10, 2021✠

Elders: Tony Heisterkamp

Ushers: Tony Heisterkamp & Allyn Anderson

Reader: Tony Heisterkamp

Music: Jennifer Heisterkamp

Trustee: Andy Jahn

Acolyte: Jacob Beller and Isaac Beller

Kyrie (LSB #744 Amazing Grace)

Look down in mercy on us, Lord,
Receive our prayers and praise,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word, For your amazing grace.

Gloria (tune LSB #380 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*)

Angels, sing, and earth, reply: "Glory be to God on high! " God who flung the stars in space, God who formed the human race, God the mind and God the cause, God the source of nature's laws, God of wisdom, power, and love, God of gods, all gods above. Angels, sing, and earth, reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

Angels, sing, and earth, reply: Glory be to God on high! "God who saw your creatures fall, Loved them still, and loved them all, Gave your only Son to prove What is mercy, what is love; And the Spirit, given free, Recreates your family. Angels, sing, and earth, reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and

frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 3:1-12

¹ For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶ This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

during the offerings. But you are welcome to support our ministry here any time. Our offerings are used to support several missionaries, provide a comfortable facility for members and visitors alike to worship in, support the work of our District and Synod, and provides for our Pastor and other employees. We just desire that you give to God out of what He has blessed you with.
Pastor

DON'T HAVE CASH TODAY? You can give using the Tithe.ly app with either iOS or Android phones. Download the free Tithe.ly app and use it to give once or to give a recurring gift. You may mail in or drop off your offering as well!

CHRISTIAN NEEDS is collecting the following items—
Pudding, Jello, Juice, Hamburger Helper, Cereal & Jelly

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING will be held following the service on January 10th. This meeting will be held to discuss the Synodical convention. A vote will be held to see if the synodical convention should be moved from 2022 to 2023.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS During the service on Jan 10th the board members will be installed for the 2021 year. Please make plans to attend if you are on the boards.

THRIVENT YEARLY REPORT Thank you to everyone that designated their Choice Dollars from Thrivent to Grace Lutheran Church for 2020. This year \$2,048 Thrivent choice dollars were donated to our church. (In case you have not designated you 2020 funds, you can still do so until March 31, 2021.) Thank you also to the Thrivent members that used their \$250/\$500 grant to help fund other needy programs or organizations. For next year, 2021, you will again need to designate your Choice Dollars. Your designation does not carry over from year to year. Your Thrivent Choice Dollar helped to support the following. Bibles for 3rd graders \$299.85, Postage stamps for Senior Christmas bags at grace \$561.00, Donation to the fund for Christmas Candy Bags for Children \$100, Seminary Student \$100.00, Help support families at Grace \$500.00, Grace Sunshine Lady \$100, Jesus is the Reason for the Season Campaign \$300.00

Closing Hymn #394 “*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*”
(vs. 1 + 5)

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar, Branch of royal David’s stem
In Thy birth at Bethlehem: Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou; That
we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany And may praise Thee,
ever blest, God in man made manifest.

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◆This Week at Grace Lutheran◆

- Sun, Jan 3:** **Worship at 9:00am w/ HC**
Sudanese Worship at 1:00pm
- Mon, Jan 4:** Bible Study at 9:30 am
Elders Meeting 7:00pm
- Wed, Jan 6:** Confirmation & Grace Kids at 6:00pm-8:00pm
Trustees Meeting 6:00pm
- Sun, Jan 10:** Worship at 9:00am
Special Voters meeting 10am
Education Hour for All Ages at 10:15am
Sudanese Worship at 1:00pm

◆News & Notes for January 3rd, 2021◆

◆Those Serving Us This Week◆

- Elders:** Tony Heisterkamp
Ushers: Doug Carter and Gene Petersen
Reader: Tony Heisterkamp
Music: Jennifer Heisterkamp
Trustee: Bryan Heeren
Acolyte: JJ Hawkins and Joaquin Hernandez

Visitors! If you are a visitor, please do not feel obligated to give

Gospel Lesson Matthew 2:1-12

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Day: #398 “*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*”

1 Hail to the Lord’s anointed, Great David’s greater Son! Hail,
in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun! He comes to
break oppression, To set the captive free, To take away
transgression And rule in equity.

2 He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong, To
help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong; To give
them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light, Whose
souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

3 He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth; Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth. Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go; And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring; All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing. To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend; His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest, From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest. The tide of time shall never His covenant remove; His name shall stand forever That name to us is Love.

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Sermon "ALL People" Matthew 2:1-12

Confession of Faith (tune LSB #802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)

Great God, our Creator, from whom all receive
Their being and blessing, in you we believe.
Almighty, all knowing, all-gracious, all-true,
Provider and Father, our trust is in you.

And you, Jesus Christ, we affirm as our Lord,
True Son of the Father, by angels adored;
Redeemer incarnate, you paid for our sins,
And, joined in your rising, our new life begins.

Free Spirit of wisdom, of power and love,
On us, as on Christ, you descend from above;
You call us, you cleanse us, you open our eyes,
You keep us in peace, you restore paradise.

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever.
Amen.

Words of Institution

Sanctus (tune #507 Holy, Holy, Holy)
"Holy, holy, holy!" all the saints in glory
Fill your temple with their song around your golden throne;
"Holy, holy, holy!" with them we adore you;
God in three Persons, all in Christ as one.

Agnus Dei (tune #702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee)
Meek, slaughtered Lamb of God, You bore the sinners' load
To buy our peace: Now risen and enthroned, With life and
glory crowned, To all the lost and found Please grant your
peace.

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

Distribution Hymns: 400, 384, 389

Blessing of Those Who Communed

Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Amen.

Benediction

Amen.