

## 100 Locust St. NE Blairstown, IA 52209

https://GraceLutheranBtownIA.wixsite.com/home

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## 2nd Sunday of Advent - December 7, 2025 Order of Service - Divine Service Setting 1 LSB 151 FM 90.5 or Grace Lutheran Church Blairstown - Facebook

**Welcome** to all in the name of Jesus Christ! It's exciting to have you with us in the sanctuary, on our Facebook page or on FM 90.5.

**Supporting the Ministry of Grace** is a task God gives us as a loving response to what He has done for us. For your financial support, in addition to the offering plate during worship, we have a drop box in the entryway as well as our Facebook and website so you can give online.

As We Gather: Some people believe that hope is something you muster up by doing good works for yourself and others. The problem with good works is not that we should do them but why. Our works do not give us hope, for only God can do that and we receive hope through faith in our salvation. We do good works to reflect what it is we believe and hold dear. Works are the fruit of repentance and faith and do not add to what Christ has done in His mighty work of redemption. The call to bear the good fruit of repentance is not to work harder to be saved but to manifest in our everyday lives that we are saved, that we belong to the Lord, and that He has accomplished all things for our salvation. John faced a generation impressed with their works and empty of faith in God's mercy. We should know that doing works is not a choice. Hearts of faith will produce the good fruits of repentance. With hope firmly in our hearts, this is the calling of Christians and the mark of the work of the Spirit in our lives.

**Mission Of The Month...**for December is Lutheran World Relief, the ministry of our synod that helps provide for those in need.

**Advent Devotions online.** During this season of preparation for the coming of Jesus, additional resources are available through various sources. A recommended source is The Lutheran Hour at Ihm.org

Support for the Community: In the entryway, are non-perishable food items for anyone who is in need. Please utilize this resource as we show Christian love and care for our community. The entryway is always accessible for drop-off or to take items for those who need it. Once we have made it through this immediate need, we will be taking what is left to the Belle Plaine Food Pantry in the next couple weeks as part of the annual LWML pantry drive. Thank you for your support!

Christmas Eve Children's Program - At this point your child should have received their part (in Sunday School and Midweek Confirmation classes) for Christmas Eve. Any child that is interested in being a part of this annual event is still welcome to join us but time is running out. If you haven't contacted your child's Sunday School, midweek teacher or pastor, do so. Practices will continue this coming Saturday, December 13th (9:30-11:00).

Decorating for Christmas: The snowstorm over the weekend has caused us to postpone the annual decoration events. So, we can use your help today following worship. Lunch will be provided by Thrivent.

**Angel Tree:** Grace members will be once again gathering Christmas items for students and their families in need who attend Norway Elementary School. Please return your gifts (wrapped with the tag attached) to church no later than <u>December 14th.</u>

Are you interested in helping out? We thank Larry Hagen for all his years of service filling the altar candles on a regular basis. He is asking that someone else take over this job for the future. This can take place anytime during the week and usually not every week. Talk to Pastor if this is something you would be willing to do.

**Thank you** to all who have provided food for recent Grace events. Please remember to pick up dishes/containers in the kitchen to take home.

**Ladies Bible Study** will be on Tuesday at 4:30 with the Ladies Aid meeting following at 5:30. All ladies are welcome to participate.