



100 Locust St. NE Blainstown, IA 52209

<https://GraceLutheranBtownIA.wixsite.com/home>

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1st Sunday of Advent - November 30, 2025

Order of Service - Printed in Bulletin

FM 90.5 or Grace Lutheran Church Blainstown - 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: Today is unique in that it is not only the First Sunday in Advent but also lands squarely on the commemoration of St. Andrew, whose day governs the start of Advent. In this way, Andrew continues to point to Christ as we begin a new Church Year. How odd it is, then, that the Gospel for the First Sunday in Advent is the same as the Gospel for Palm Sunday! This reminds us that Jesus came for the cross and empty tomb, and this is the only Gospel that can save us from sin and death. The cry of Advent is "prepare the way of the Lord." We will echo the words of John the Baptist, heralding Christ's coming. We will join in the chant of the crowd: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" (Matthew 21:9). We will hear Him speak to us through the voice of His Word. We will feast upon His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all sin. In all our preparations, we acclaim Him as Lord and receive Him and all His benefits.

Mission of the Month...for November is the Christopher John Rempfer Scholarship Fund. This fund is used to support students who prepare for full time church work.

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 lhm.org

Poinsettias for Advent and Christmas: Be a part of beautifying our chancel and support our youth, by purchasing a poinsettia in memory or honor a loved one, or you can choose to have us deliver one to a shut-in/nursing home resident. Forms are in your box and on the narthex table. Return the form to the box on the table by 11/30.

Support for the Community: Food insecurity can be daunting. With the recent lack of funding for SNAP benefits it has moved us to support our community as we are able. In the entryway, are non-perishable food items for anyone who is in need. If you would like to donate items (please make sure items are not expired) or know of someone who could benefit, 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 as part of the annual LWML pantry drive.** Thank you for your support!

Christmas Eve Children's Program - Over the next week (in Sunday School and Midweek Confirmation classes) we will be distributing parts to children for Christmas Eve. Any child that is interested in being a part of this annual event is welcome to join us. If you haven't contacted your child's Sunday School, midweek teacher or pastor, do so. **Practices will begin this coming Saturday, December 6th (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!

Outdoor Nativity set-up- Saturday, December 6 at 9am

Sanctuary decorations - Sunday, December 7th (following worship)

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 December 14th.