
Grace Lutheran Church

736 Cayuga Drive
Niagara Falls, New York 14304
www.gracenf.org
Divine Service: Sunday 10:30 AM

Office (716) 283-1843
office@gracenf.org

Our Vision: Welcoming people to grow in hope, love, and certainty through God's Word of grace.

For Our Guests

Dear friend, welcome to Grace! Make yourself at home. Grace Lutheran Church is a family made up of regular, imperfect people growing in hope, love, and certainty through God's Word of grace, rejoicing together in God's restoration and forgiveness, and celebrating our new life in Christ Jesus. If you have any questions for us, please don't hesitate to speak with an usher or the pastor.

If you're in Niagara Falls **on vacation** right now, thanks for coming! We pray this worship service refreshes your spirit by showing you a wonder even more beautiful than the mighty Falls He made: the depth of His amazing love for you.

If you **live in the area**, we pray you find comfort, peace and joy through the worship service today. We would be delighted to worship with you again, and if you don't have a church home and you'd like to become part of the Grace family, please speak with an usher or the pastor.

RESTROOMS are located in the parent's room (back of the church) and next to the parking lot door.

** I have children, and they're not always quiet. Do you mind?*

We warmly welcome children to worship just like Jesus did, and we love the liveliness they bring to the service. If your little one's crying is making you uncomfortable, there's a cry room in back for your convenience. Don't worry about coming and going if that's what you need to do. We're parents and grandparents too. We've been there and we understand!

** The plate's coming. Do I have to give an offering?*

Members of Grace have the privilege and responsibility of stewarding the mission of our congregation through generous giving. God teaches that giving comes from a joyful heart, not under compulsion. If you are visiting today, you are not expected to participate in the offering; please direct your gift to your home congregation.

** What about Holy Communion?*

Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays and in other special services. We believe what Jesus says about Holy Communion: that it is His body and blood, not symbolically but actually present, given to us for the forgiveness of sins. The Bible cautions that anyone who receives Communion without this understanding will be receiving it to their great harm.

For this reason, out of sincere love, we ask that those who commune at this altar are baptized Christians who, having been instructed in the faith, regret their sins and desire to receive Christ's real Body and Blood for forgiveness, trusting in God's Word as He revealed it in Scripture. If you are not a member of a Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregation, please speak with the pastor before you commune.

If you are not communing today, you are welcome to come forward for a pastoral blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest at the rail. There is non-alcoholic white wine on each tray for those who require it. Finally, those who have difficulty walking may indicate such to an usher and Communion will be brought to you.


In the timeless tradition of the Christian church, the Common Cup is offered to all. If you desire to commune using the common cup, raise your hand as the individual cups approach, then assist the Elder by holding the chalice at its base and guiding it as you receive.

Members and Guests: Please help us serve you by indicating your presence today, and any special needs, on the fellowship sheet in your bulletin & place in offering plate.

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

– based on Divine Service 3: LSB 184 –



From The Lutheran Hymnal of 1941, this beautiful liturgy setting reminds us of the timeless nature of the Divine Service.

This symbol () means that part of the service is found in the Lutheran Service Book hymnal.

Welcome, Announcements

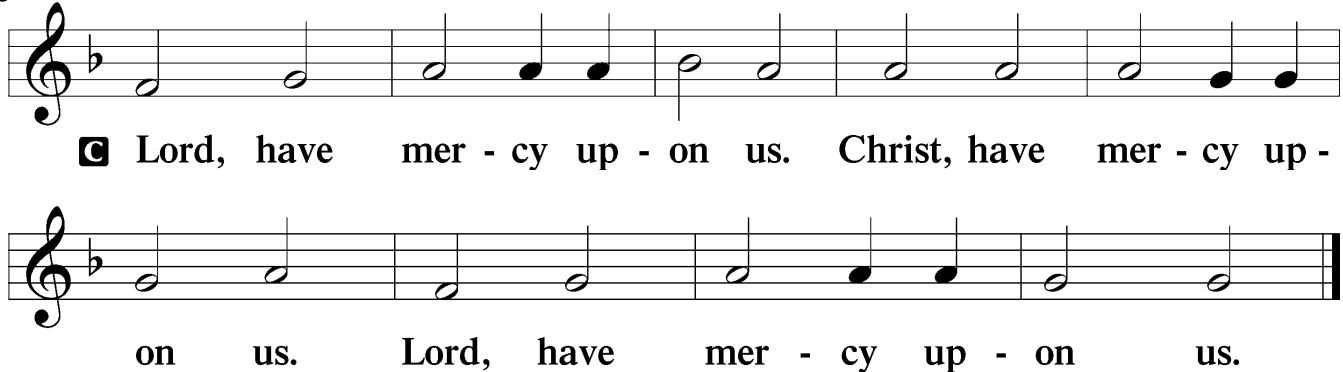
Hymn of Invocation: “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

LSB 802

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Kyrie

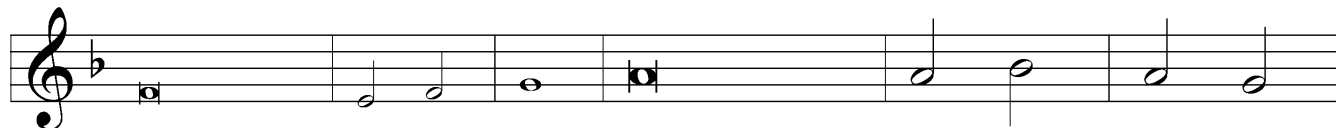
LSB 186



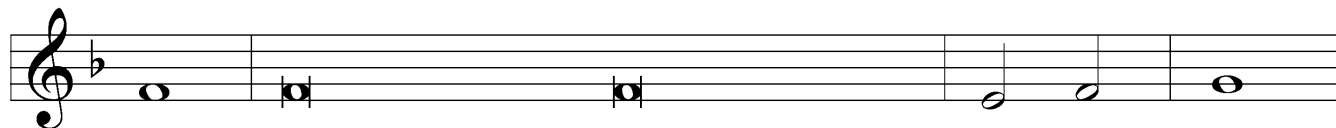
C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

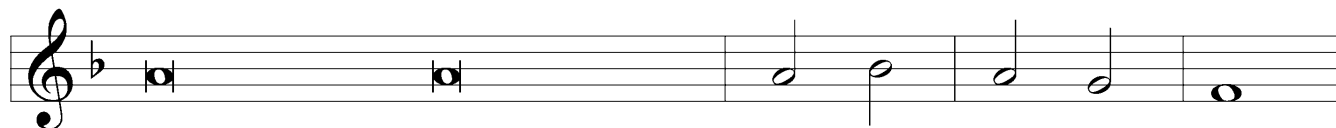
LSB 187



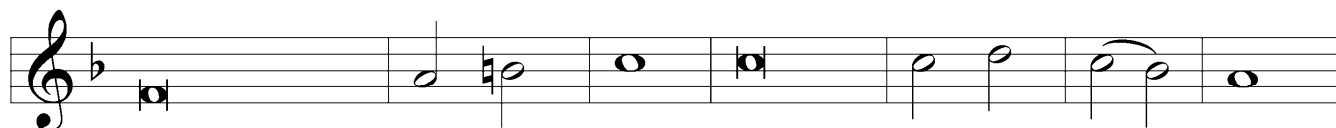
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



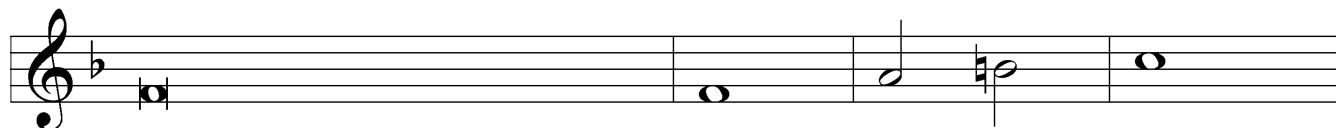
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



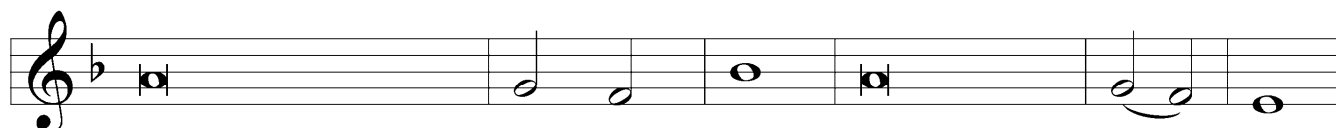
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



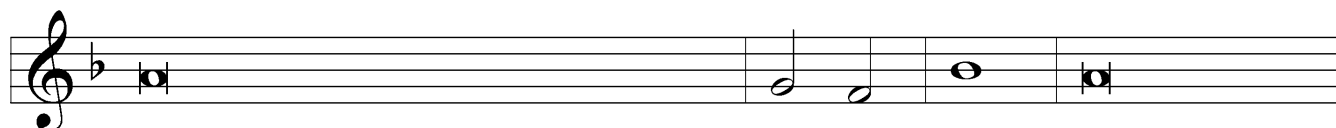
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



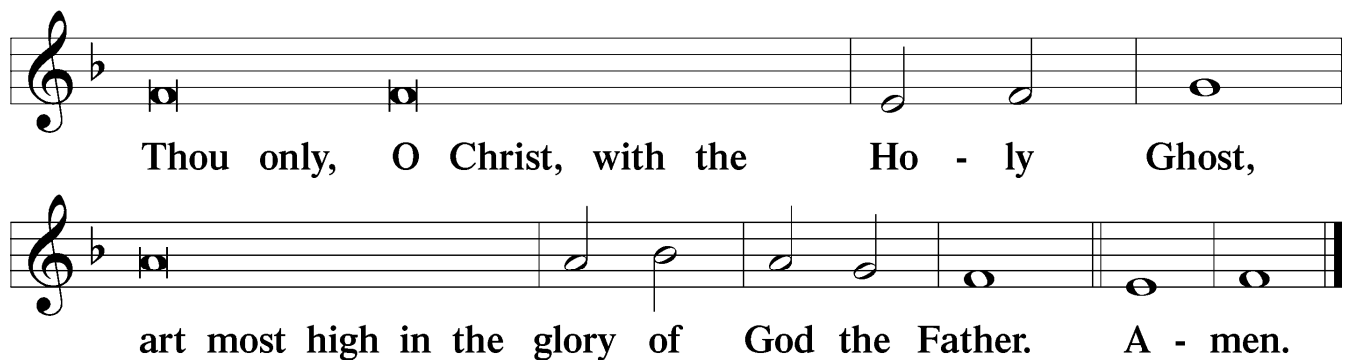
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 91:11; 103:1



C He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*

and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. ¹¹But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good

confession, ¹⁴to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

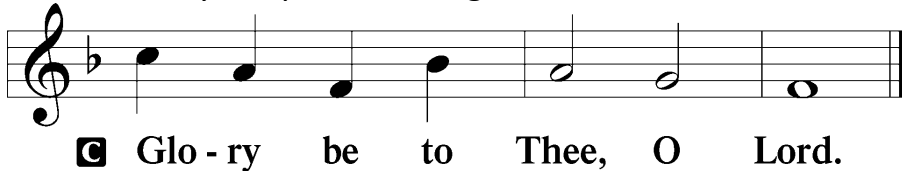
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

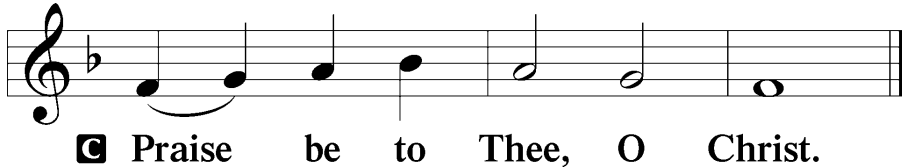
Holy Gospel



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.



P ...This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Hymn of the Day: "What Is the World to Me"

LSB 730

Sermon

 **The Nicene Creed**

Back Cover of Hymnal

Offering

*"God's Word is Our Great Heritage" by Friedrich O. Reuter
and "Thy Strong Word" by Thomas J. Williams*

Offertory

LSB 192



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it
from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-
tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

Prayer of the Church

The Pastor will close each section: **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
Then please respond: **C** Hear our prayer.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

If you have not communed with us before, please read "What about Holy Communion?" on page 2.

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir-it.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up un-to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks un-to the Lord, our God.
C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

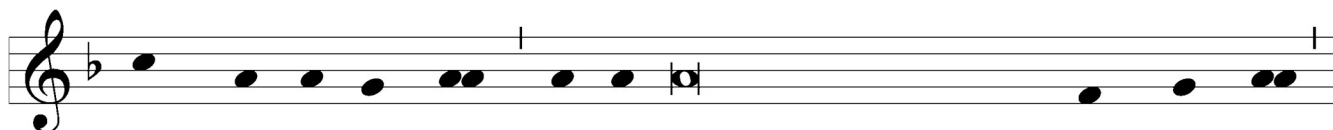


bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

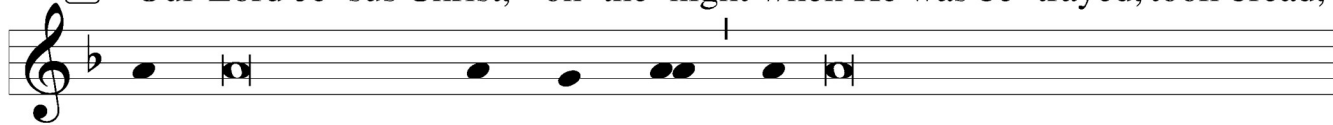


Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

C 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.



P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ bod - y, which is giv-en for you.

This do in re - mem - brance of Me.” In the same way al - so

He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it

to them, say - ing: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in

My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the for-give - ness of sins.

This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pax Domini and Agnus Dei

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

C A - men.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution Hymn:

“Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior”

LSB 619

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

LSB 623

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

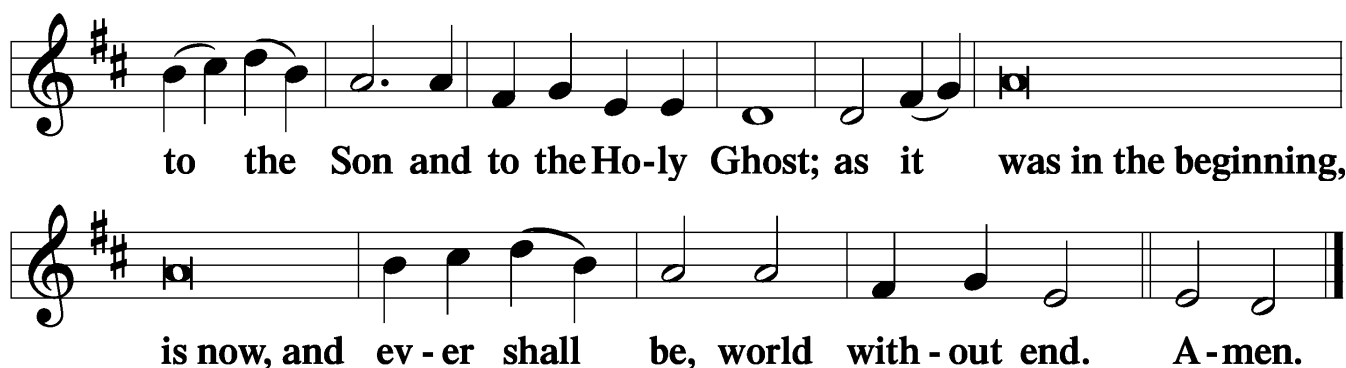
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -

cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

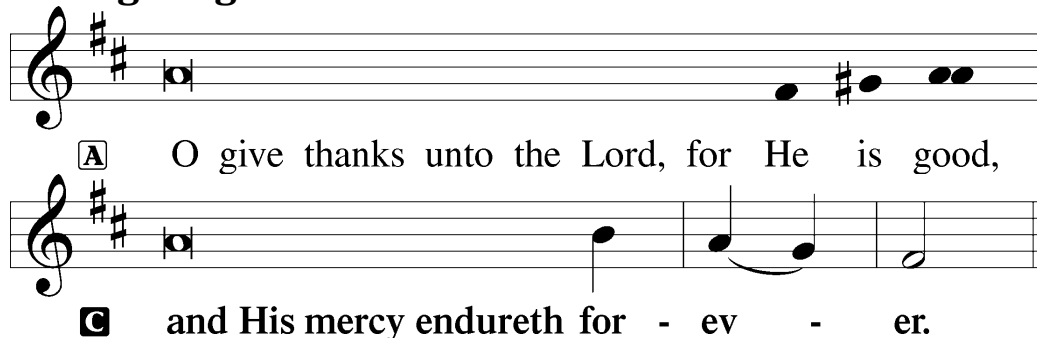
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

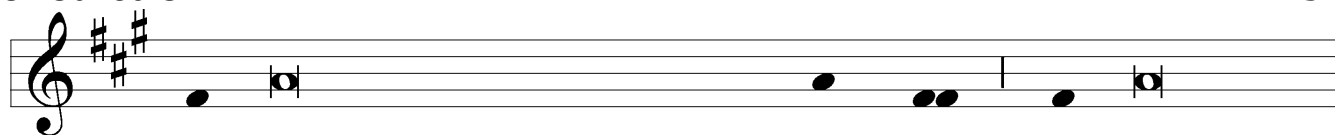
C Amen.



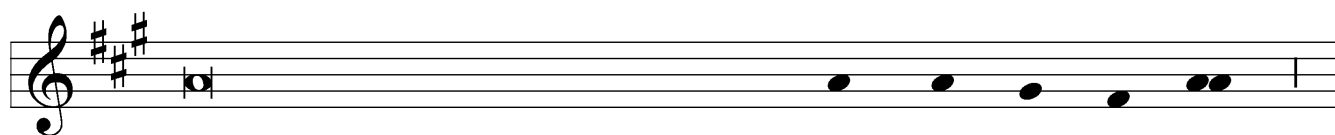
P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.
A Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

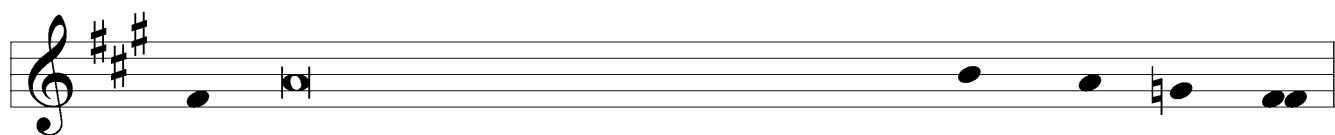
LSB 202



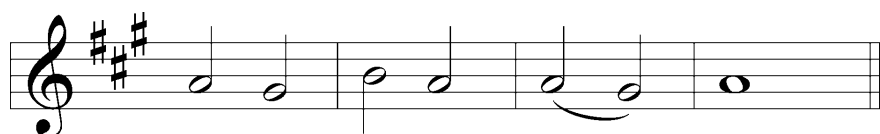
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sending Hymn: "God of Grace and God of Glory"

LSB 850

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!



THOSE ASSISTING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Ben Bahr

Organist: Maye Smith

Acolytes: Sherry Cassatt & Elizabeth Washburn

Head Ushers: Gary Krull & Mark Andrews

Reader: Jim Wolf

Offertory Violinist: Benjamin Goehring

Communion Assistants: Jim Wolf & Randy Broeker

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley, John Goodnick & John Bahr

Altar Care: Erika Tuscher & Lin Matiasz

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY – 09/28/2025

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship (HC)

11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY – 09/29/2025

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

NEXT SUNDAY – 10/05/2025

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship (HC)

Statistics for the week of
September 21, 2025

Worship Service: 82 Attended, 24 Views

Adult Education: 21

Youth Education: 19

Education Staff: 3

Offering: \$2,118,24

Mission of the Month: \$50.00

Sunday School: \$11.00

* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please submit new announcements
by **Thursday 10AM**: office@gracenf.org.
Office Hours 1st Sun 8:30-12:30, M/Th/F 10-2
GIVING: Options at www.gracenf.org*

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today Neil & Michele Stenzel and Amanda Drozek in loving memory of Dolores C. Stenzel.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4, 2 Timothy 1:1-14, and Luke 17:1-10.

A SIGN UP SHEET is available on the glass case for this year's Trunk or Treat to be held on Saturday, October 18, from 3 - 4:30 pm. That is only three weeks away! We need to know as soon as possible how many are planning to participate so we can begin advertising. Please sign up TODAY if you plan to bring your car and join in the fun with our congregation and neighborhood families. We are also accepting donations of candy and treats. If you are able to help in this way, you may leave your treats on the donation tables in the chapel and narthex.

CANDY & TREATS: Individually wrapped candy and treats are needed for our Trunk or Treat. If you cannot attend and would like to support this community outreach in this way, please leave your donation on the table in the narthex or chapel.

September mission envelopes: This September support the mission of our local Lutheran schools: Holy Ghost and Saint John. Both provide quality education with a biblical foundation to kids in PreK through 8th grade. To donate, use your designated September mission envelopes or write "September mission" on your check or the envelope find in the pew. Your donations will go to tuition assistance to help more children afford going to these great schools!

Real Life Faith Group : High school and college-age girls are invited to join the Real Life Faith Group at St. John Lutheran Church on Monday evenings, 7:00–8:30 PM (10/20–11/24). This new group, led by pre-K-3 teacher Katie Marzano, will explore how God's Word can shape your life and impact the world. More info at <https://stjohnnt.com/rlf/>.



Blood Drive Grace Lutheran Church

**Social Hall
736 Cayuga Drive
Niagara Falls, NY 14304**

**Saturday, October 11, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

For an appointment visit your American Red Cross Blood Donor App,
RedCrossBlood.org, Find a Drive: NFCCommunity
or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

+++Double your impact!
Ask about a Power Red Donation to help Trauma Victims,
Moms and Babies, and Sickle Cell Patients!+++

**Come to give blood Sept. 22-Oct. 19 for a \$10
Amazon.com Gift Card by email! See rcblood.org/fall**

Download the Blood Donor App | redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

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About the Cover

In life and in death, Lazarus was comforted by the Word of the Lord, while the rich man sought only comforts that did not last. The rich man, even after death, believed that Lazarus was there to serve him and his family. His family already had everything they needed to find the comfort of God: the Law and the Prophets. We have everything we need today. Whether rich or poor, true comfort is found only in God's Word made flesh, Jesus, who has indeed risen from the dead.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Amos 6:1–7

- ¹ "Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who feel secure on the
mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the first of the
nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes!
- ² Pass over to Calneh, and see,
and from there go to Hamath the
great;
then go down to Gath of the
Philistines.
Are you better than these kingdoms?
Or is their territory greater than your
territory,
- ³ O you who put far away the day of
disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?
- ⁴ "Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their
couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
- ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the
harp
and like David invent for themselves
instruments of music,
- ⁶ who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest
oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of
Joseph!
- ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first of
those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch
themselves out shall pass away."

Epistle: 1 Timothy 3:1–13

¹The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ²Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷Moreover, he must be well thought

of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

⁸Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹²Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19–31

¹⁹[Jesus said:] "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' ²⁷And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' ³⁰And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"