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 OCTOBER 5, 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: "All Depends on Our Possessing"

LSB 732

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

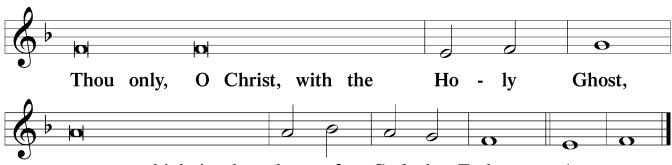
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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.
- 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.



Gloria in Excelsis LSB 187 O Glory be to God on high: C and on earth peace, good - will toward 0 we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, We praise Thee, men. we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly God the Fa-ther King, Al - mighty. \mathbf{O} 10 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Christ; Je sus \mathbf{O} O Lord God, Lamb of God, Father, Son the of 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. 0 0 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.



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; 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

I This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 91:11; 103:1



The 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

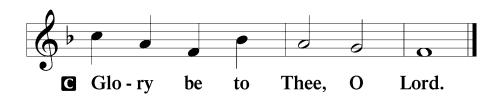
L This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.





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



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



Hymn of the Day: "When Aimless Violence Takes Those We Love"

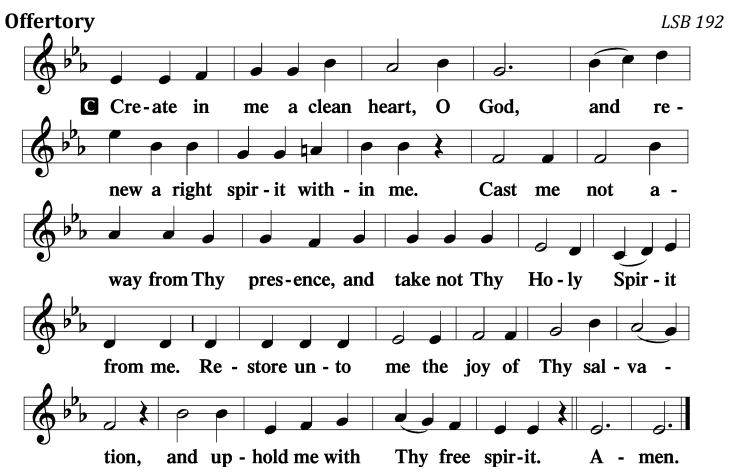
LSB 764

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Back Cover of Hymnal

Offering



Prayer of the Church

The Pastor will close each section:

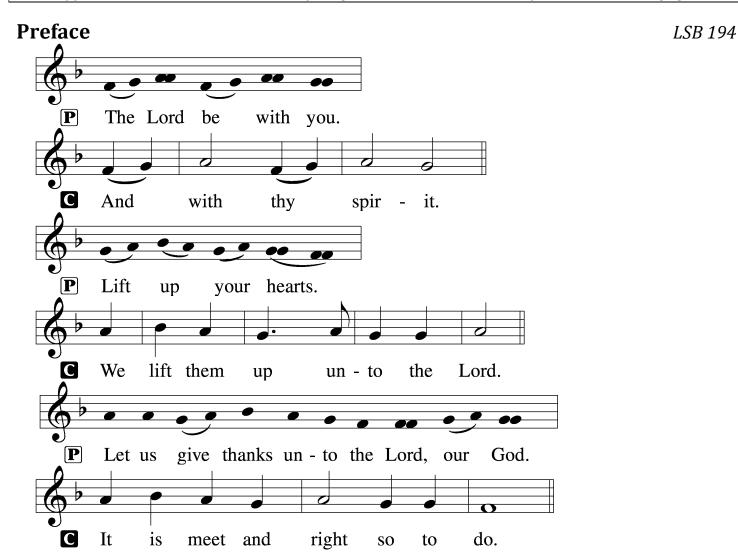
P Lord, in Your mercy,

Then please respond:

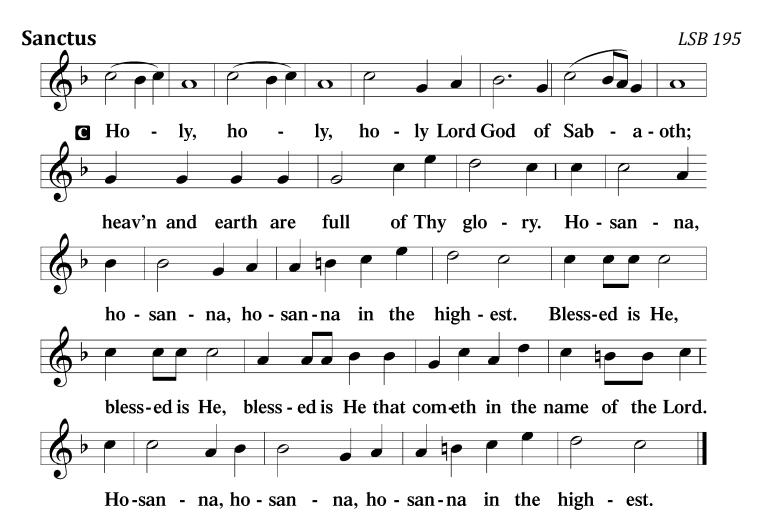
Hear our prayer.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

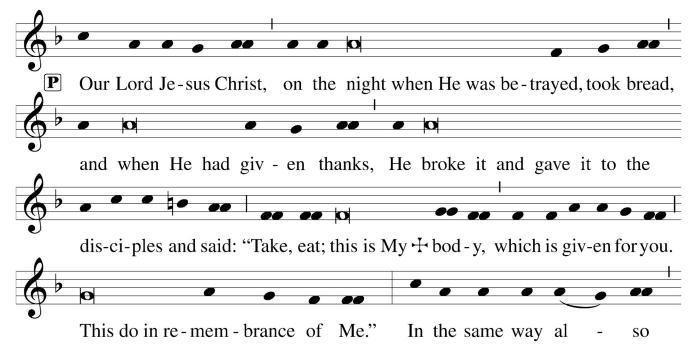
If you have not communed with us before, please read "What about Holy Communion?" on page 2.

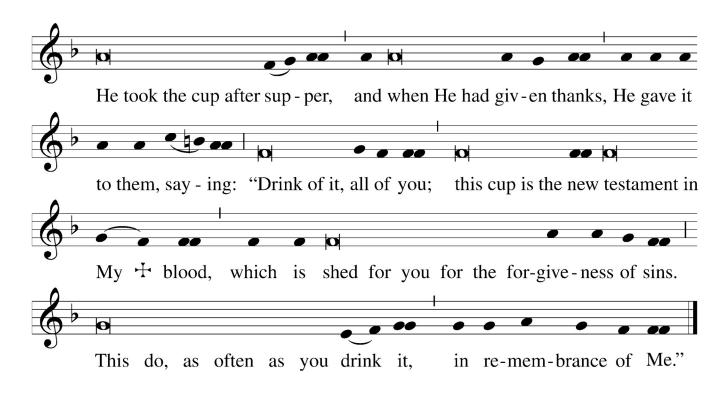


P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

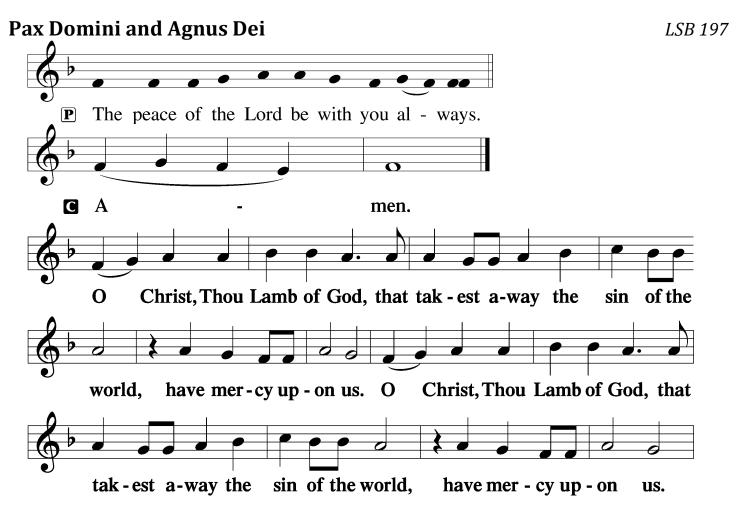


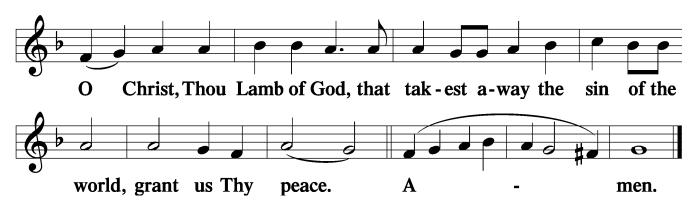
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the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





- P 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.





Distribution Hymn:

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"
"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

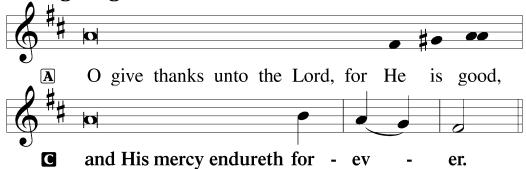
LSB 637 LSB 633

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



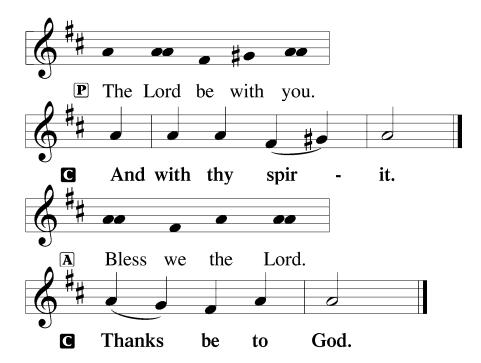
Thanksgiving LSB 200



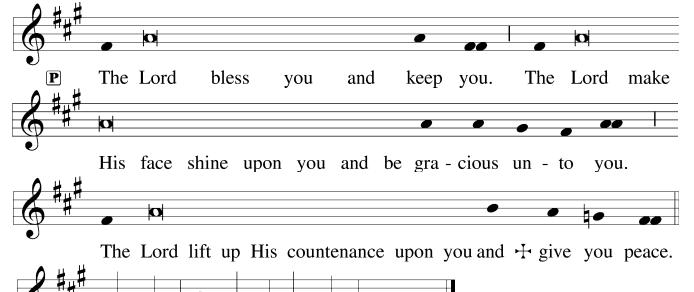
P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Benediction LSB 202



men.

Sending Hymn: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

a-men,

a

LSB 924

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

A-men,

Thanks be to God!

C



THOSE ASSISTING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Ben Bahr Organist: Maye Smith

Acolytes: Abram & Stewert Smith

Head Ushers: Mark Andrews & Neil Stenzel Readers: Virginia Markel & Jane Schulz

Communion Assistants: Randy Broeker & Dick Crawford Tech Crew: Mark Binkley, John Goodnick & John Bahr

Altar Care: Sherry Cassatt & Virginia Markel

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY - 10/05/2025

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship (HC) 11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY - 10/06/2025

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

MONDAY - 10/11/2025

9:00 am Red Cross Blood Drive

NEXT SUNDAY - 10/12/2025

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship

Statistics for the week of September 28, 2025

Worship Service: 63 Attended, 31 Views

Adult Education: 19 Youth Education: 18 Education Staff: 3

Offering: \$1,933.04

Mission of the Month: \$180.40

Sunday School: \$4.00

* 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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Ruth 1:1-19a, 2 Timothy 2:1-13, and Luke 17:11-19.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS lists have been posted at the narthex and parking lot entrances. We hope you will check out the list and offer birthday wishes and blessings to your friends at Grace. If you would like to request that we sing for a special milestone birthday or child's birthday, please speak to Dick Crawford or an usher prior to announcements.

ATTENDANCE SHEETS found in the bulletin assist us in making sure that all of our members are being cared for as needed. Please fill one out EACH WEEK and place it in the offering plate.

TRUNK OR TREAT: Please sign up on the glass case TODAY if you are planning on joining us with your car in two weeks for Trunk or Treat (Saturday, October 18, from 3 - 4:30 pm).

CANDY DONATIONS APPRECIATED: Donations of candy and other wrapped treats are needed for our upcoming Trunk or Treat. They may be left on the donation tables in the narthex and chapel. We usually have at least 100 families joining us for this neighborhood outreach, and your donations will help defray the cost to those participating with their cars. If you would like to support this activity, please bring your donation by NEXT SUNDAY.

CHOIR: We are scheduled to sing next Sunday. Ross will be in the balcony after worship today for anyone who would like to run through our anthem (Come Into the House).

OCTOBER MISSION ENVELOPES will support Orphan Grain Train, a non-profit that helps those in need in the United States and throughout the world. They share the love of Christ as they provide whatever is needed when disaster strikes, including food, clothing, water, shelter, medical supplies, and more. If you would like to support Orphan Grain Train, place your mission envelope in the offering plate during October, or give online by choosing "monthly mission".

THANK YOU: We received a letter from "Wings Flights of Hope", the organization we supported with our July mission envelopes, thanking us for our support and informing us that our donation provided three medical flights for Western New York patients needing critical care that could not be provided locally. Thank you for helping your neighbors in need.

HARVEST FOOD COLLECTION begins next Sunday and continues until Thanksgiving. There will be tables in the narthex and chapel to accept donations of non-perishable food items. We are also accepting hams and frozen turkeys that can be stored in our downstairs freezer. Your canned goods will support St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, and the turkeys and hams will help several Niagara Falls agencies provide holiday meals for your neighbors.

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: NFCommunity 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

Pentecost



About the Cover

At the end of the day, our service to the Lord can never repay Him for our salvation, let alone accomplish it. It is merely our duty to serve and obey Him. Our vocations are the arenas where the Lord works through us to accomplish His purposes. So when we think about all that we have done when the sun sets each day, all the glory goes to God, who has given us the work and, above all, has saved us by lesus' redemptive work.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

- The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.
- O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?
- Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.
- So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted. . . .
- ^{2:1} I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my
- complaint.

 ² And the Lord answered me:

"Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

- ³ For still the vision awaits its appointed time:
 - it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.
- 4 "Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith."

Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the

Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the

laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

8Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, swho saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, "for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, 12which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:1–10

¹[Jesus] said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

"Increase our faith!" "And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

7"Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? ⁸Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? ⁹Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"