
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 OCTOBER 19, 2025

– based on Morning Prayer: LSB 235 –

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

Welcome, Announcements

 **Hymn of Invocation: “With the Lord Begin Your Task”**

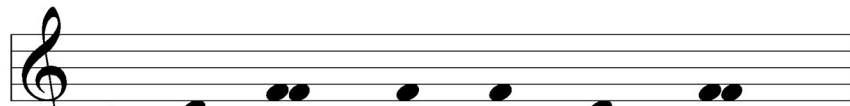
LSB 869

L In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Versicles

LSB 235



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth shall de - clare Your praise.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



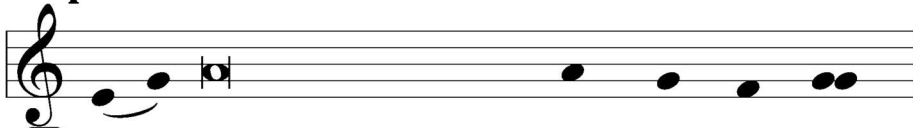
as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Alleluia



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Antiphon



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



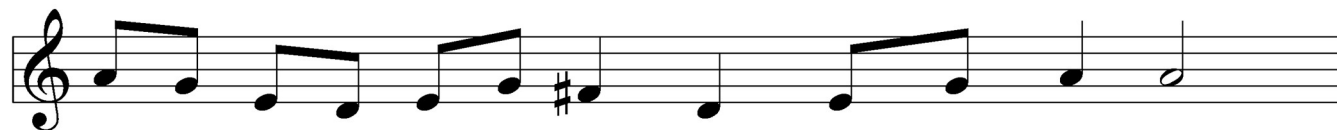
C O come, let us wor - ship Him.



C O come, let us sing to the Lord;



let us make a joy-ful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.



I Let us come in - to His pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing;



let us make a joy-ful noise to Him with songs of praise.



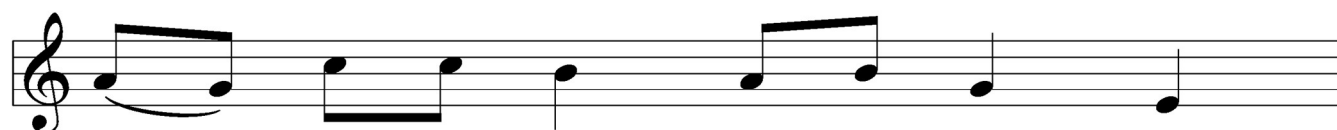
II For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods.



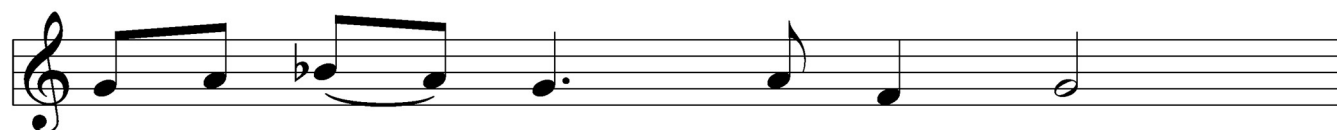
I In His hand are the depths of the earth;



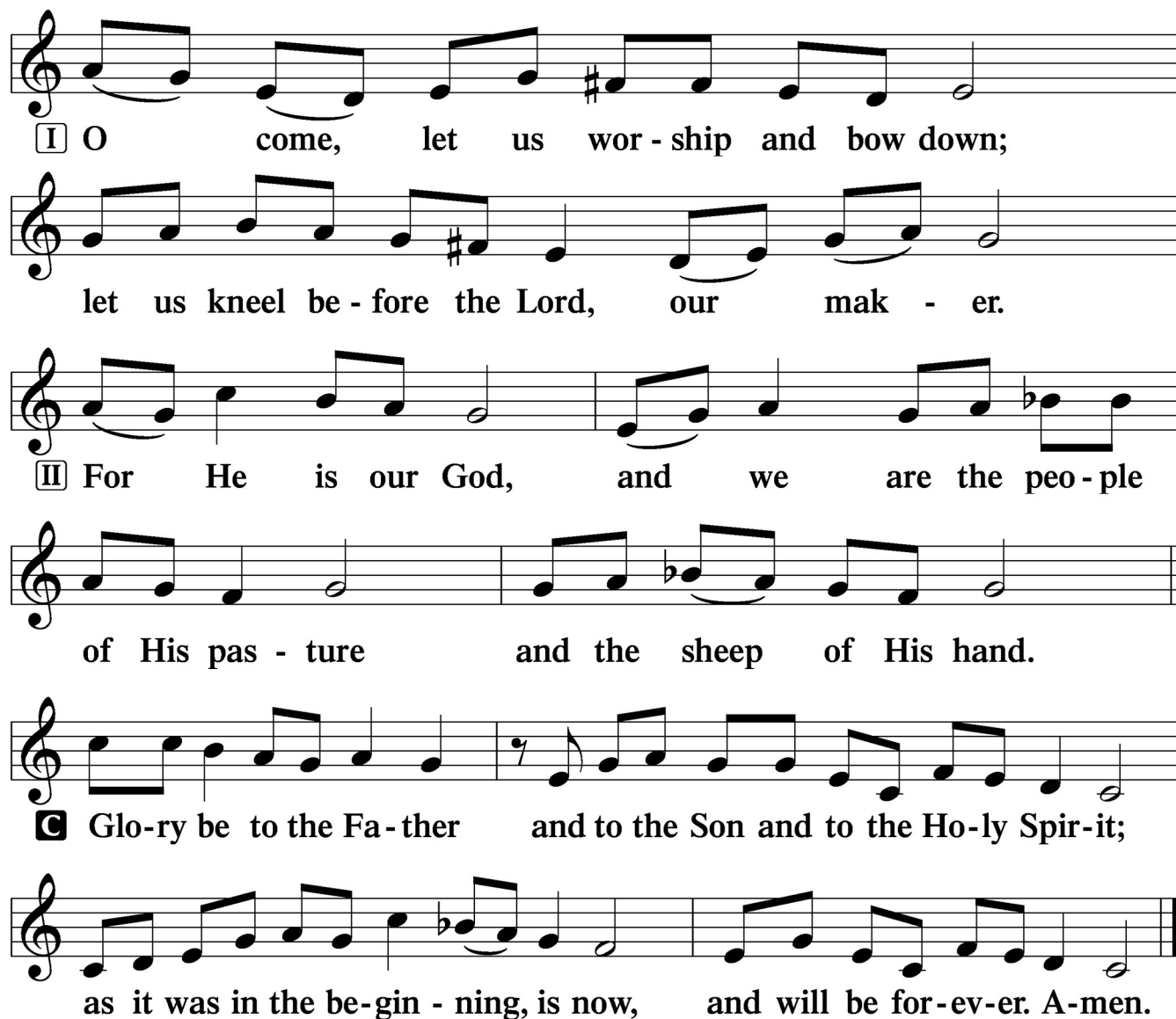
the heights of the moun-tains are His al - so.



II The sea is His, for He made it;



and His hand formed the dry land.



I O come, let us wor - ship and bow down;
 let us kneel be - fore the Lord, our mak - er.

II For He is our God, and we are the peo - ple
 of His pas - ture and the sheep of His hand.

C Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon

LSB 237



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Collect of the Day

L Let us pray.

O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; 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

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading Response

LSB 238

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Holy Gospel

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

L ... This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

 **Hymn of the Day:** “How Can I Thank You, Lord”

LSB 703

Sermon

 **The Apostles’ Creed**

Back Cover of Hymnal

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Leader will close each section: **L** Lord, in Your mercy,

Then please respond: **C** Hear our prayer.

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.

Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The Lord Almighty bless us and direct our days and our deeds in His Peace.

C Amen.

 **Sending Hymn:** “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

LSB 722

L Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

THOSE ASSISTING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Leader: Jim Wolf

Organist: Maye Smith

Acolytes: Dillon Deskovic & Stewert Smith

Head Ushers: Mark Andrews & Neil Stenzel

Reader: Stewert Smith

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley, John Goodnick & John Bahr

Altar Care: Sherry Cassatt & Virginia Markel

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Statistics for the week of October 12, 2025

Worship Service: 80 Attended, 23 Views

Adult Education: 19

Youth Education: 11

Education Staff: 5

Offering: \$2,283.24

Mission of the Month: \$25.00

Sunday School: \$11.00

Memorials: \$50.00

* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

TODAY – 10/19/25

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Social Ministries Mtg.

MONDAY – 10/20/25

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

TUESDAY – 10/21/25

6:00 pm Grace Ladies Meeting

THURSDAY – 10/23/25

6:30 pm Council Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY – 10/26/25

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship (HC)

11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please submit new announcements
by **Wednesday 12pm**: office@gracenf.org.*

Office Hours: M/W/Th 10-2

GIVING: Options at www.gracenf.org

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Revelation 14:6-7, Romans 3:19-28, and John 8:31-36.

THANK YOU to all who participated in yesterday's Trunk or Treat. Those who helped set up, served snacks, participated with their cars, led the games, donated goodies to pass out, helped clean up, and those who prayed for the event are all greatly appreciated! It was a successful team effort once again this year.

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".

HARVEST FOOD COLLECTION continues until Thanksgiving. There are tables in the narthex and chapel to accept donations of non-perishable food items that will support St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry on Military Road. SHOPPING LISTS are available on the tables that offer suggestions for the most needed items. Thank you for helping your neighbors.

PLEASE NOTE: Our turkey and ham project is temporarily on hold until we resolve our freezer issues. Our old freezer broke, and a generous donor has offered to cover the cost of a new one. We will let you know when it is available to accept your donations.

CHOIR will sing next Sunday. There will be a practice after the service. PLEASE mark your calendars.

GRACE LADIES next meeting will be on this Tuesday, October 21st at 6:00PM. We welcome guest speaker Karrie Genhardt from HOSPICE. Robin Stephenson & Luann Pyska are hostesses.

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/>.



About the Cover

If an unrighteous judge will answer the persistent pleas of a widow, we should pray continuously to the God who has chosen us and loves us in Christ. He gave Himself up for us! What a treasure we have in prayer for all times, whether good or bad. In times of uncertainty, we hold fast to the certain promises of God in Christ Jesus, trusting that God will deliver what we need. In Christ, all our prayers are heard.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 32:22–30

²²The same night [Jacob] arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5

¹⁴As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the

man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Holy Gospel: Luke 18:1–8

¹[Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.' ⁶And the Lord said, 'Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'"