

# Grace Lutheran Church

736 Cayuga Drive  
Niagara Falls, New York 14304  
[www.gracenf.org](http://www.gracenf.org)  
Divine Service: Sunday 10:30 AM

Office (716) 283-1843  
[office@gracenf.org](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> 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 FEBRUARY 15, 2026

– based on Divine Service 1: LSB 151 –

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

## Welcome, Announcements

### **Hymn of Invocation: “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

*LSB 821*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Kyrie

*LSB 152*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



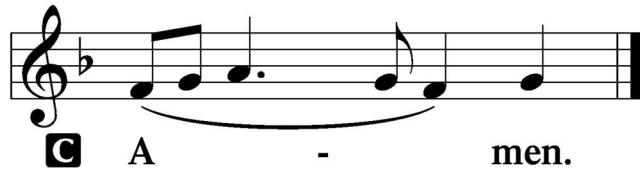
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Hymn of Praise

*Music found in LSB #155*

**C** REFRAIN: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

*Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

*Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

*Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

## Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshadowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 117:1-2a; 96:8



**C** Praise the **LORD**, all | nations!\*  
Extol him, all | peoples!  
For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*  
and the faithfulness of the **LORD** endures for- | ever.  
Ascribe to the **LORD** the glory | due his name;\*  
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

## Epistle Reading

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel



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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

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



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Hymn of the Day: "Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

LSB 415

## Sermon

## The Nicene Creed

Back Cover of Hymnal

## Prayer of the Church

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

## Offering

LSB 955

Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
cup of bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were  
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

## *The Sacrament of Holy Communion*

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

<b>P</b> The Lord be with you.	<b>C</b> And also with you.
<b>P</b> Lift up your hearts.	<b>C</b> We lift them to the Lord.
<b>P</b> Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	<b>C</b> It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, 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 at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of 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:

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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 Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\ddagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance 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.  
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

## BOOK Distribution Hymn:

“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

LSB 620

“Thy Strong Word”

LSB 578

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

**C** Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:

A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**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.

## Benediction

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\ddagger$  give you peace. **C** Amen.

## BOOK Sending Hymn: “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

LSB 417

**P** Go in peace; serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

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### THOSE ASSISTING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Ben Bahr

Organist: Maye Smith

Acolytes: Daniel Bahr & Audrey Markel

Head Ushers: Mark Binkley & John Loss

Communion Assistants: Randy Broeker & Neil Stenzel

Reader: Mark Binkley

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley, John Goodnick & John Bahr

Altar Care: Erika Tuscher & Lin Matiasz

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### THIS WEEK AT GRACE

#### TODAY – 02/15/26

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship (HC)

11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

#### MONDAY – 02/16/26

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

#### TUESDAY – 02/17/26

6:00 pm Grace Ladies Tea Party

#### WEDNESDAY – 02/18/26

6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service (HC)

#### NEXT SUNDAY – 02/22/26

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

#### **Statistics for the week of February 8, 2026**

Worship Service: 66 Attended, 23 Views

Adult Education: 19

Youth Education: 7

Education Staff: 5

Offering: \$1,219.04

Mission of the Month: \$303.00

Sunday School: \$8.00

\* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Please submit new announcements  
by Wednesday 12pm: office@gracenf.org.  
Office Hours: First Sunday of Month 8:30-12:30, M/W/Th 10-2  
GIVING: Options at [www.gracenf.org](http://www.gracenf.org)*

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are placed today by Jane Schulz and Ross & Amy Folmsbee in memory of their parents, Rev. Lawrence & Betty Herfurth and Harold & Janet Kroening.

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** are Genesis 3:1-21, Romans 5:12-19, and Matthew 4:1-11.

**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.

**FEBRUARY MISSION ENVELOPES** are designated to support **YOUNG LIFE**, an international youth organization with local chapters. At Young Life, responsible, caring Christian mentors work to bring teens to the knowledge of Christ. We have several members that have participated as teens in Young Life activities, and Dick Crawford has been associated with Young Life for many years. He would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding their mission and local work. If you would like to support Young Life, place your mission envelope in the offering plate during February, or donate online by choosing "monthly mission".

**SIMPLE SUPPERS** begin soon (a week from Wednesday) and will be offered through Lent at 5:30 p.m., prior to our 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evening services. There will NOT be simple suppers on Ash Wednesday or during Holy week. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to provide food and drinks. Please add your name to the sign up sheet on the glass case if you are able to help.

**YOUNG LIFE DINNER** will be held at Classics V on March 19 beginning at 6:15 p.m. A sign up sheet is available on the glass case. There is no charge for the dinner, but donations to Young Life are appreciated. Table(s) will be reserved for Grace members to sit together. Please see Dick Crawford if you have questions. All are welcome to attend.

**CHOIR** will rehearse in the balcony after worship today. We will be singing during our Ash Wednesday service this Wednesday.

**THANK YOU** to those who participated in this year's "Soup-er Bowl Sunday". Heart, Love, and Soul will be the recipient of the approximately 180 cans of soup that were donated.

**SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE**, our January mission of the month, will be the recipient of a check for \$3000 thanks to your incredible generosity. That will provide 10 beds for children in Niagara Falls who are currently sleeping on the floor. Thank you for making this amazing gift possible for the youngest among us that are in need.

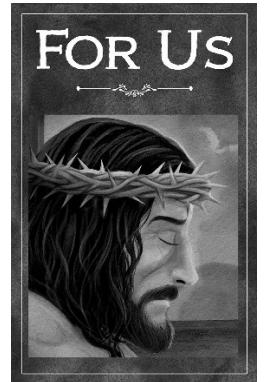
**NIAGARA HOSPICE BOUQUETS:** Today is the last day to sign-up for a bouquet. They will be on our altar Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. You may take yours home after worship. Sign-up sheet is on glass bookcase in chapel. Cost is \$10/bouquet, cash or check made to Niagara Hospice. See Jane Schulz to pay.

**GRACE LADIES** next meeting is this Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM. It will be a Mardi Gras Tea Party with a devotional and collection of our MITES (loose change) for Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML). Hostesses are Flory Bellreng and Linda Broeker.

**40 Days of Life** Begins their Lenten prayer vigil for unborn children and their parents on Ash Wednesday. To participate in the vision-casting for this event (on January 29th, 7PM) or to sign up for a prayer shift, please contact Kristen Jorg at 231-286-8685 or Lacey Bahr at 716-525-5134. Please pray for all affected by this event.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE – FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> @ 6:30PM**

This Ash Wednesday, we introduce our Lent sermon series, which is based on the ancient hymn “O Love, How Deep” (LSB 544). This hymn, written in the fifteenth century, contemplates the love of God in becoming man, taking on our life, dying our death, and rising again, all *for us*. But for us to understand and appreciate this love, we must first examine ourselves and our lives to see how we have failed in thought, word, and deed. While we may try to get credit for our so-called good works, we all still die with nothing to show for them. But God’s love is not like our love. Our love is self-centered and fickle. God’s love is steady, deep, and beyond all understanding (Ephesians 3:14–19). This love of God will have no end.





## About the Cover

Terrified disciples with their faces to the ground felt the touch of their merciful Lord. The power of the sight of the transfigured Lord is only matched by the power of His mercy, which removes fear. His glory is found on His cross, where He gave His life for the sake of sinners and rose from the dead, forever removing the terror of judgment for sin and giving eternal peace through forgiveness, life, and salvation.

## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Old Testament Reading:  
Exodus 24:8–18

<sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

## Epistle: 2 Peter 1:16–21

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

<sup>17</sup>For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 17:1–9

<sup>1</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” <sup>8</sup>And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”