

# For Our Guests

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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.

*\* 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!

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

*\* The plate's coming. I have to give an offering, right?*

No! God teaches that giving comes from a joyful heart, not under compulsion. If you feel spiritually moved to give, do so, but God's gifts you receive today don't come with a price tag. It is our honor to have you as our guest.

*\* 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 understanding this will be receiving it to their great harm.

So, 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 would like to receive a blessing instead, simply cross your arms over your chest and the pastor will bless you. If you are not sure, please speak with the pastor prior to the service. An usher will be glad to assist you. 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. If possible, please sit in the first pew on the left side if receiving Communion at your seat.

**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.**

**A SERVICE OF JUBILEE  
-CELEBRATING-  
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**


**APRIL 5, 2026  
10:30 AM**



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

Rev. Benjamin G. Bahr, Pastor

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

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

## Welcome & Announcements

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.
- P** After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.
- C** There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.
- P** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.
- C** The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.
- P** “He is not here. He is risen, just as He said.” Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

## Processional Hymn: “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

LSB 457

*Our focus is always Christ! Please turn to face the Cross as it passes.*



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
△ 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

**P** Our God is a forgiving God, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us therefore confess our sins, that we may receive His mercy.

**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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

*Acts 10:34-43*

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Choir Anthem: "Alleluia! Jesus Lives"

*Ralph C. Schultz*

## Epistle Reading

*Colossians 3:1-4*

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 28:1-10*

*(LSB 952)*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth 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: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

*LSB 465*

## Sermon

## 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

## Offertory: "He Is Arisen! Glorious Word"

*LSB 488*



He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled  
is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen.  
My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, And Sa - tan's ar -  
rows bro - ken lie, De - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.  
O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing glo - rious,  
Life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

## *The Sacrament of Holy Communion*

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

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

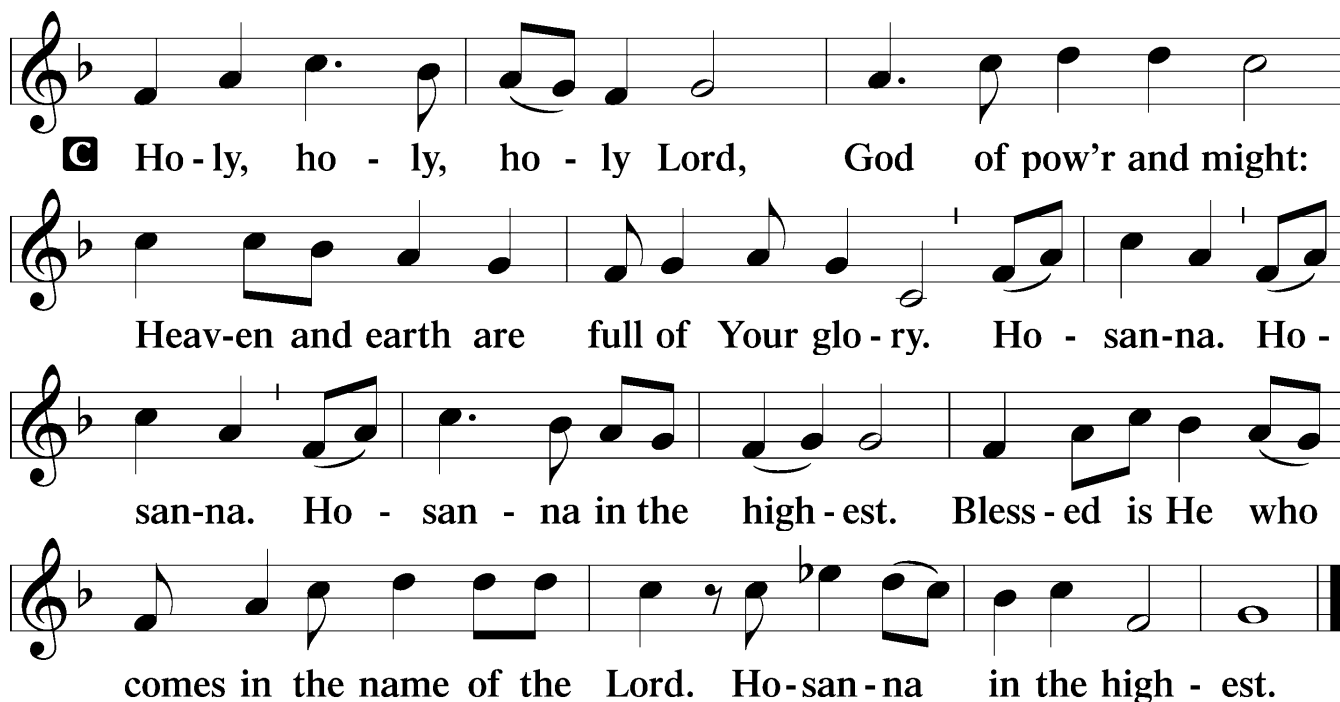
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



**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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  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.**

**☐** 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.

*Please be seated for the Distribution of the Lord's Supper.*

*Do you need Holy Communion brought to you? Let our ushers know and, if possible, sit in the first pew on the left side.*

**☐ Distribution Hymns:**

- "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461
- "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" LSB 633
- "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" LSB 477

**Thank the Lord**

*LSB 164*

**☐** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.  
 Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.  
 He re-calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy  
 with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## Dismissal Blessing and Prayer

**P** Let us pray. We thank you, Father, for the precious gift you have here given, and we pray that you would use this feast to strengthen our faith and reassure us of your loving presence, through which we are empowered to love 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

**📖 Sending Hymn:** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”

*LSB 463*

**P** Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**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

Crucifer: Chasin Washburn

Acolytes: Zak Fees & Tyler Markel

Reader: Katelyn Pantano

Head Ushers: Dick Crawford & Randy Broeker

Communion Assistants: Jim Wolf & Dick Crawford

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr

Altar Care: Ursula Zimmerman

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### THIS WEEK AT GRACE

#### TODAY – EASTER SUNDAY – 04/05/26

8:00 am Easter Sunrise

8:30 am Easter Breakfast

9:15 am Christian Education

10:30 am Easter Jubilee (HC)

#### MONDAY – 04/06/26

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

#### SUNDAY – 04/12/26

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship Service

#### Statistics for the week of

March 29, 2026

Worship Service: 94 Attended, 23 Views

Adult Education: 16

Youth Education: 14

Education Staff: 5

Offering: \$3,618.24

Special Missions: \$29.00

Sunday School: \$4.00

\* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please submit new announcements  
by **Wednesday 12pm**: [office@gracenf.org](mailto:office@gracenf.org).  
April Office Hours 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun 8:30-12:30, M/W/Th 10-2  
**GIVING**: Options at [www.gracenf.org](http://www.gracenf.org)*

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** are Acts 5:29-42, 1 Peter 1:3-9, and John 20:19-31.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed this week, April 5-10 and open the second Sunday in April.

**SOMETHING NEW:** We currently have ten members of our congregation with mobility concerns who prefer to take communion in the front row rather than attempt the steps leading up to the communion railing. To help them avoid injury, we will be reserving the front row on the chapel side for their use on communion Sundays. We thank you for your understanding.

**GOLISANO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL:** Throughout April, we will be accepting donations of small toys, coloring and activity books, crayons, etc., for the children hospitalized at Golisano (formerly Oishei) Children's Hospital. Volunteers offer these items to the families to help parents entertain their children. There are SHOPPING LISTS of suggested donations on tables in the chapel and narthex for your convenience if you would like to participate. PLEASE NOTE: Donations of toiletries are NOT needed at this time. Jim Wolf volunteers at Children's each week and would be glad to answer any questions you have about this project or about volunteering at the hospital.

**APRIL MISSION ENVELOPES** are designated to support our military at this time when many of our men and women are being deployed to the Middle East. Your donations will support the "MILITARY PROJECT", located at our Concordia Seminary at Fort Wayne. They provide theological resources, support, basic supplies, and encouragement to military chaplains around the world as they work to bring the mercy of Christ to military members. Pastor Bahr has received materials from them for his work as chaplain at the Niagara Falls Air Base. If you'd like to participate, place your mission envelope in the offering plate during April, or donate online by choosing "monthly mission".

**THANK YOU** for responding generously to our March toilet paper mission project. A total of 665 rolls of toilet paper were donated. This much appreciated item will be distributed to the **clients** of Heart, Love, and Soul in Niagara Falls. Thank you to Ross Folmsbee for sponsoring this Thrivent Action Team.

**GRACE LADIES** will be selling Treichler gift cards again this year. See the sign-up sheet on glass bookcase. Cost is \$25 – cash or check made out to Grace Ladies. Sign-up sheet is available from April 12<sup>th</sup> through May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please pay Ursula Zimmerman or Alice Moll.



### About the Cover

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Christ's resurrection has changed everything. By faith, we have died to sin, have been buried with Him, and have been raised with Him. This changes the way we look at this life, turning our eyes upward toward the things of God. One day, Christ will return. On that day, what we now hold by faith will be delivered before our very eyes as we appear with Christ in His glory at the resurrection of our bodies. Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

### First Reading: Acts 10:34–43

<sup>34</sup>Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

### Epistle: Colossians 3:1–4

<sup>1</sup>If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is,

seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:1–10

<sup>1</sup>Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." <sup>8</sup>So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."