
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 APRIL 19, 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

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

 **Hymn of Invocation: “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”**

LSB 466

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, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

C Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth 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: "Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow"

LSB 476

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

Offertory: 488 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!

*Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742-1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
Text and tune: Public domain*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

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

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 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 ✝ 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 ✝ 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.

 **Distribution Hymn:**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

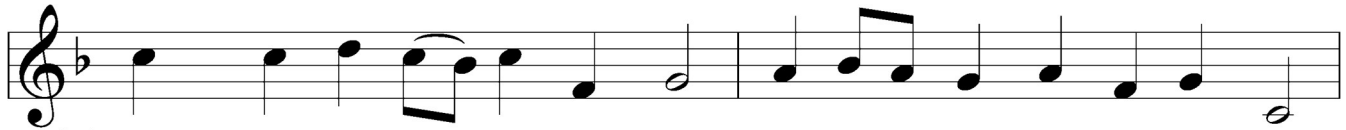
LSB 644

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

LSB 743

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice 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.

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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 ✠ give you peace. **C** Amen.

 **Sending Hymn:** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

LSB 918

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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: Elias Markel & Chasin Washburn

Head Ushers: Dick Crawford & Randy Broeker

Communion Assistants: Randy Broeker & Jim Wolf

Trio: Lacey & John Bahr and Dillon Deskovic

Reader: Doug Goodnick

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr

Altar Care: Ursula Zimmerman



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY – 04/19/26

9:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Worship (HC)

MONDAY – 04/20/26

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

TUESDAY – 04/21/26

6:00 pm Grace Ladies Meeting

THURSDAY – 04/23/26

6:30 pm Council Meeting

SATURDAY – 04/25/26

9:00 am Red Cross Blood Drive

NEXT SUNDAY – 04/26/26

9:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Worship

Statistics for the week of April 12, 2026

Worship Service: 57 Attended, 22 Views
Adult Education: 15
Youth Education: 14
Education Staff: 5

Offering: \$1,207.00
Mission of the Month: \$30.00
Sunday School: \$7.00
* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



ALTAR FLOWERS are given today by Sharon Dixon & Kim Kifer in loving memory of Pete Dixon and Shirley Lloyd.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Acts 2:42-47, 1 Peter 2:19-25, and John 10:1-10.

CHURCH OFFICE for this week will be open M/T/Th/F from 10:30a-1:00p.

PLEASE NOTE: 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 supporting our March Mission Envelope project for SAMARITAN COUNSELING. A check for \$975 will be sent to them to help defray the cost of counseling services for those who cannot afford their full fee. Other's lives will be impacted in a positive way because of your generosity toward your neighbors.

GRACE LADIES meeting is this Tuesday, April 21 beginning at 6PM. Hostesses will be Wendy Coleman, Sherry Cassatt and Virginia Markel. We will be making inspirational booklets (similar to our Christmas card booklets) to share with family and friends who are homebound, in hospitals & rehab, and nursing homes. Bring a 3-prong folder, inspirational sayings, pictures, bulletin covers, etc. Alice Moll will lead us in this activity with a sample booklet.



About the Cover

When the two disciples encountered Christ on the road to Emmaus, their hopeful hearts had grown cold at their Lord's death three days earlier. However, their hearts burned within them as the risen Lord opened the Scriptures to them. The living, breathing, bread-breaking Lord who appeared to them sent them running in the night to confirm what they had seen and heard with the other disciples, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed!" (Luke 24:34).

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36–41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

³⁶"Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Epistle: 1 Peter 1:17–25

¹⁷If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

"All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,

²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains
forever."

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:13–35

¹³That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles

from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.