
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 APRIL 26, 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: “The Day of Resurrection”**

LSB 478

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

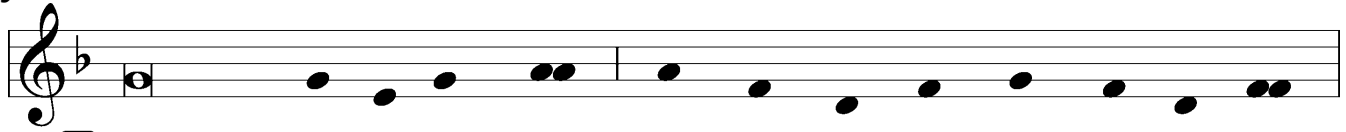
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6



C Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle Reading

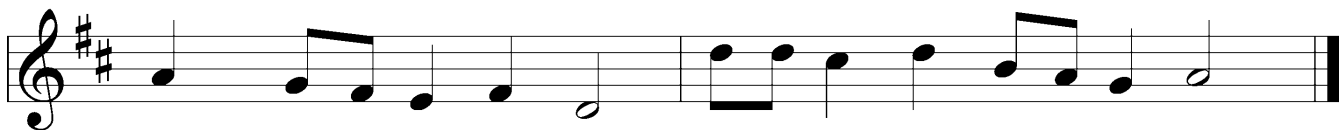
L This is the Word of the Lord.

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. John, the tenth 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:** "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"

LSB 710

Sermon

📖 **The Apostles' Creed**

Back Cover of Hymnal

Prayer of the Church

The Leader will close each section: **P** 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.

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*

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: “Shepherd of Tender Youth”

LSB 864

- 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: Zak Fees & Tyler Markel
Head Ushers: Dick Crawford & Randy Broeker
Reader: Wendy Coleman
Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr
Altar Care: Ursula Zimmerman

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY – 04/26/26

9:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Worship

MONDAY – 04/27/26

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

TUESDAY – 04/28/26

6:00 pm Young Adult Group

NEXT SUNDAY – 05/03/26

9:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Worship (HC)
11:30 am Social Ministries Meeting

Statistics for the week of April 19, 2026

Worship Service: 71 Attended, 21 Views
Adult Education: 17
Youth Education: 10
Education Staff: 5

Offering: \$2,416.24
Sunday School: \$20.00
Mission of the Month: \$113.00

* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-10, 1 Peter 2:2-10, and John 14:1-14.

LAST CHANCE: 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". 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 today, or donate online by Thursday, choosing "monthly mission".

NEXT SUNDAY there will be a **SOCIAL MINISTRIES** meeting in the chapel after worship. Lunch is enjoyed during the meeting. New members are always welcome to stay and check out what the Board does. Your opinion counts.

GRACE LADIES are 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 through May 3rd. Please pay Ursula Zimmerman or Alice Moll.

Creation/Evolution Class Grades 3-5 • Saturday, May 9, 10 AM – 12 PM

Let's talk about science, and how it truly aligns with God as designer and the Bible as true history! Students in grades 3-5 come with an adult mentor and learn more about dinosaurs, geology, and biology. Together, we'll discover how evolution and creation are not compatible theories of how life began, and prepare you to defend your faith in years to come.

Register today at:



With questions, contact Lacey Bahr: 716-525-5134 (text or call), laceybahr@gmail.com.

INDOOR GARAGE SALE: Saturday, May 16, 9 AM - 2 PM at St. John North Tonawanda. Enjoy gently used items at a low price, freshly baked goods, and vendors' variety. Please call Susan (315-729-3725) by May 2nd to reserve a \$20 table.

FREE CONCERT: FIVE14. Saturday, May 23, 7 PM at St. John North Tonawanda. Live praise and worship music, no tickets, wheelchair accessible.





About the Cover

Christ, the Good Shepherd, leads His sheep to eternal life. The Good Shepherd is intent on giving life as He searches for the lost, gives guidance for the wandering, provides protection for the helpless, and delivers food for the hungry. He gave us this abundant life by laying down His own for His sheep and taking it up again. Since Christ gave His life for us on the cross and rose from the dead, we can have confidence that the life He promises us is in His hand forever (see John 10:28).

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:42–47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who

judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Holy Gospel: John 10:1–10

¹[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."