
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 MAY 10, 2026

– based on Divine Service 4: LSB 203 –

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

Welcome, Announcements

Hymn of Invocation: “Father Welcomes”

LSB 605

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess our sin. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ.

C Before God and one another, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition, and so we pray: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Almighty God, merciful Father, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. In Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children; therefore You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 and Gloria

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through 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, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



- C** These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



- Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

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

- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

B Hymn of the Day: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

LSB 469

Sermon

B 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.

B The Lord's Prayer

Back Cover of Hymnal

Offering

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:** “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”

LSB 490

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: Audrey Markel & Daniel Bahr

Head Ushers: Neil Stenzel & Jim Wolf

Readers: Mark Binkley & Bev Mills

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr

Altar Care: Erika Tuscher & Donna Hoffman

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY – 05/10/26

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship

MONDAY – 05/11/26

6:30 pm Survivors’ Group

TUESDAY – 05/12/26

6:00 pm Young Adult Group

NEXT SUNDAY – 05/17/26

9:00 am Christian Education

10:30 am Worship (HC)

11:30 am Voter’s Meeting

11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

Statistics for the week of

May 3, 2026

Worship Service: 72 Attended, 19 Views

Adult Education: 17

Youth Education: 14

Education Staff: 5

Offering: \$4,770.84

Mission of the Month: \$5.00

Sunday School: \$4.00

* 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 1:12-26, 1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11, and John 17:1-11.

MAY MISSION ENVELOPES are designated to support PIONEER ON THE LAKE (formerly Camp Pioneer). Pioneer is offering a full slate of events this summer, including special week-long camps, retreats, weekly car cruises, Sunday worship services, VBS, and much more. Their annual PIONEER FEST will be held on July 19. Pioneer offers various accommodations available to rent, including five premier cottages with central air and furnaces. If you would like to support Pioneer, place your mission envelopes in the offering plate during May, or donate online by choosing "monthly mission".

SPRING MISSION PROJECT: Tables are available in the narthex and chapel for donations of baby items to support SUMMIT LIFE CENTER in Niagara Falls. Summit supports young women and men facing unplanned pregnancies with free services, including counseling, parenting classes, support groups, and community assistance referrals. Attendance at activities earns clients credits that can be redeemed for baby clothes, blankets, diapers, wipes, and infant toiletries. If you would like to donate these items, we will continue to accept your gifts through Father's Day, June 21. If you prefer, there are also BABY BOTTLE BANKS available on the tables that can be used to donate your change to Summit.

THANK YOU for your generous mission envelope donations during April. A donation of \$870 will be sent to the MILITARY PROJECT at Concordia Seminary Fort Wayne to help them continue their work of supporting our military chaplains and the men & women that serve our country.

ANOTHER THANK YOU: During April, we received approximately 350 items of children's toys, books, and games as well as gift cards and cash for the children and families at Golisano Children's Hospital in Buffalo. Thank you to all who donated, as well as Marla Crawford for her Thrivent Action Team and Jim Wolf (a volunteer at the hospital) who delivered your gifts. They will be distributed to help comfort Golisano's young patients over the coming weeks.

VOTER'S MEETING: Next Sunday, May 17th immediately following Sundays service. We will discuss transferring funds to cover maintenance projects.

GLEANINGS DEADLINE is Monday, May 18th. This issue will be the summer issue covering June through August.



About the Cover

God's hand is always with us. In Christ, we have been adopted into the very family of God. Because we are members of this eternal family, Christ, our Brother, the Son of God raised from the dead, will never leave us as orphans. Through Christ's work on the cross and His resurrection, our Father in heaven sees us as His sons and daughters. Today, Jesus comes to us through His Word and Sacraments. One day, He will return to raise us and take us to be with Him as part of His eternal family forever.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 17:16–31

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babblery wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for

"In him we live and move and have our being";

as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we are indeed his offspring."

²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a

man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Epistle: 1 Peter 3:13–22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

Holy Gospel: John 14:15–21

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."