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# 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

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*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 JUNE 28, 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: “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

LSB 901

- 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, 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.

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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.



**C** Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God! \*  
 How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!  
 For from him and through him and to him are | all things. \*  
 To him be glory forever. | Amen.

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. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

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

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

**Hymn of the Day: "We Give Thee But Thine Own"**

LSB 781

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.

**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:** “Lord of Our Life”

*LSB 659*

**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 & Dillon Deskovic

Head Ushers: Gary Krull & Ross Folmsbee

Reader: Mark Andrews

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr

Altar Care: Alice Moll & Luann Pyska

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## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

### TODAY – 06/28/26

9:15 am VBS Leader Training

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Coffee Hour

VBS Youth Training

Choir Rehearsal

### MONDAY – 06/29/26

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

### NEXT SUNDAY – 07/05/26

10:30 am Worship (HC)

11:30 am Coffee Hour

### Statistics for the week of

#### June 21, 2026

Worship Service: 76 Attended, 12 Views

Adult Education: 15

Education Staff: 1

Offering: \$2098.84

Mission of the Month: \$20.00

Sunday School: \$4.00

\* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please submit new announcements  
by **Wednesday 12pm**: [office@gracenf.org](mailto:office@gracenf.org).  
Summer Office Hours 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun 9:30-12:30, T/Th 10-3  
**GIVING**: Options at [www.gracenf.org](http://www.gracenf.org)*

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** are Zechariah 9:9-12, Romans 7:14-25a, and Matthew 11:25-30.

**PLEASE SIGN UP:** Our summer Coffee Hour after worship will continue through the summer. Everyone is invited to enjoy a treat in the chapel and visit for a few minutes with your friends at Grace. Please sign up on the glass case if you are willing to help by providing baked goods (homemade or purchased) or another treat.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** On July 26, we will celebrate our Grace members who have or will turn 80 or older during 2026. Plan to invite your families and friends to worship that day and join us for coffee hour after worship. We will enjoy a piece of birthday cake as we congratulate our "oldies but goodies", one of which will be turning 101 years young this summer!

**BABY BOTTLE BANKS:** If you have not returned your bank, please give it to Alice Moll or leave them in the church office as soon as possible.

**TUESDAY** is the last day to donate toward our June monthly mission, designated to support Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) K9 Comfort Dog program. LCC's golden retrievers are trained to interact with people who are suffering and in need. These special dogs open doors and create opportunities to share the mercy, compassion, and presence of Jesus during times of natural or man-made disasters such as floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, fires, and mass shootings. LCC never charges those they serve. This mission is supported by donations. Your donation will go directly to the training, care, and travel expenses of their K-9's. Check out the dogs' pictures at [www.lutheranchurchcharities.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcharities.org) under "K-9 Ministries".

**CHOIR REMINDER:** We will practice after worship today in the balcony, and we will sing during next Sunday's worship service.



### About the Cover

God's Law, written in stone and given through Moses, is "holy and righteous and good" (Romans 7:12). Sinners living under this Law deserve the death that lies under every tombstone. Yet, for the Christian, death with Christ is a different matter. He who is holy and righteous and good willingly took our trespasses against God's Commandments upon Himself, died on the cross, and rose from the dead to forgive us and rescue us from eternal death. The promise of eternal life in Him is rock solid.

## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

<sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

### Epistle: Romans 7:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup>Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. <sup>3</sup>Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

<sup>4</sup>Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup>For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup>But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

<sup>7</sup>What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin.

I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." <sup>8</sup>But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. <sup>9</sup>I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. <sup>10</sup>The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup>For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup>So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup>Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:34-42

<sup>34</sup>[Jesus said:] "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup>"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. <sup>41</sup>The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. <sup>42</sup>And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."