
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 JULY 5, 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: “Jesus Shall Reign”

LSB 832

- 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. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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-shipped 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.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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.

Choir Anthem: "God Bless Our Native Land"

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 eleventh 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: "When Peace, like a River"

LSB 763

Sermon

B 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: "America, the Beautiful"

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.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution Hymn:

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

LSB 524

"If God Himself Be for Me"

LSB 724

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward 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

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: “Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966

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: Emma Fess & Elizabeth Washburn

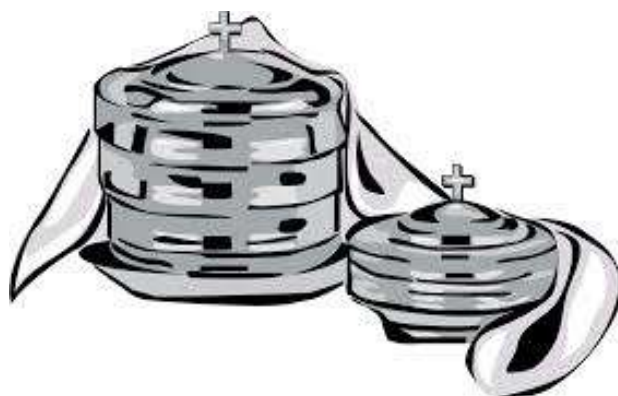
Head Ushers: Neil Stenzel & Randy Broeker

Communion Assistants: Dick Crawford & Gary Krull

Reader: Michele Stenzel

Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr

Altar Care: Virginia Markel & Sherry Cassatt



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY – 07/05/26

10:30 am Worship (HC)
11:30 am Coffee Hour

MONDAY – 07/06/26

6:30 pm Survivors' Group

MONDAY – FRIDAY 07/06/26-07/10/26

6:00 pm VBS

NEXT SUNDAY – 07/12/26

10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour

Statistics for the week of June 28, 2026

Worship Service: 68 Attended, 10 Views

Adult Education: 16

Education Staff: 1

Offering: \$1,681.24

Sunday School: \$4.00

VBS: \$150.00

Mission of the Month: \$213.40

* Weekly budget needs \$4,206

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please submit new announcements

*by **Wednesday 12pm**: office@gracenf.org.*

Summer Office Hours 2nd Sun 8:30-12:30, T/Th 10-3

GIVING: Options at www.gracenf.org

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today by Neil & Michele Stenzel and Amanda Drozek in loving memory of Dolores Stenzel.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Isaiah 55:10-13, Romans 8:12-17, and Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS are now in effect. The office will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-3pm.

ATTENDANCE SHEETS found in the bulletin assist us in making sure that all of our members are being cared for as needed. Please fill one out EACH WEEK and place it in the offering plate.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Everyone is invited to enjoy a treat in the chapel after worship while you visit with your friends at Grace. Coffee Hour will continue through August. Please join us!

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!

JULY MISSION ENVELOPES are designated to support the Niagara Falls Lord's Day Dinners. The founders of this mission, Yvonne and Matt Davis, provide free holiday meals to those in need at the VFW Post on Seneca Avenue. But they don't limit their service to holidays only. Anyone who is hungry can knock on their Ashland Avenue home's side window at any time and they will receive food to eat. They have been doing this for over thirty years, and they are funded strictly by donations. If you would like to help them with this mission, place your mission envelope in the offering plate during July or donate online under "monthly mission".

JULY BIRTHDAY LISTS have been posted at the narthex and parking lot entrances. Check out the list and join in offering birthday wishes and blessings to your fellow members at Grace.

SUMMER MISSION PROJECT: Tables have been set up in the chapel and narthex to receive donations to our annual collection of school supplies and children's underwear and socks. Approximately 80% of the children in our inner city schools are living at the poverty level, making it difficult for parents to provide adequate supplies needed for successful learning. Needed supplies include (but are not limited to) notebooks, folders, crayons, markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, pens & pencils, scissors, and erasers. We also accept donations of socks and underwear, items that our children often go without because their family budgets cannot afford them. All donations will be distributed directly to students in need by teachers and school nurses in September.



About the Cover

By God's Word,
we have new life
by faith in Jesus.

At the same
time, our old
sinful nature still
presses in upon
us. Paul knew the
struggle of the
Christian life. But
there would be
no struggle unless
the new life of the
Gospel had taken
root by the work
of the Holy Spirit.

We must always
go back to the
source of our new
life: Jesus Christ,
our crucified
and raised Lord,
in whom there
is "now no
condemnation"
(Romans 8:1).

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Zechariah 9:9–12

- ⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter
of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of
Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming
to you;
righteous and having
salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a
donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a
donkey.
- ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot
from Ephraim
and the war horse from
Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be
cut off,
and he shall speak peace to
the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the
ends of the earth.
- ¹¹ As for you also, because of the
blood of my covenant with
you,
I will set your prisoners free
from the waterless pit.
- ¹² Return to your stronghold,
O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will
restore to you double.

Epistle: Romans 7:14–25a

¹⁴We know that the law is
spiritual, but I am of the flesh,
sold under sin. ¹⁵I do not under-
stand my own actions. For I do
not do what I want, but I do the
very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do
what I do not want, I agree with
the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now
it is no longer I who do it, but
sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I

know that nothing good dwells
in me, that is, in my flesh. For I
have the desire to do what is right,
but not the ability to carry it out.
¹⁹For I do not do the good I want,
but the evil I do not want is what
I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do
what I do not want, it is no longer
I who do it, but sin that dwells
within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that
when I want to do right, evil lies
close at hand. ²²For I delight in the
law of God, in my inner being,
²³but I see in my members another
law waging war against the law of
my mind and making me captive
to the law of sin that dwells in my
members. ²⁴Wretched man that I
am! Who will deliver me from this
body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God
through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:25–30

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, "I
thank you, Father, Lord of heaven
and earth, that you have hidden
these things from the wise and
understanding and revealed them
to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for
such was your gracious will. ²⁷All
things have been handed over
to me by my Father, and no one
knows the Son except the Father,
and no one knows the Father
except the Son and anyone to
whom the Son chooses to reveal
him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor
and are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon
you, and learn from me, for I am
gentle and lowly in heart, and you
will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For
my yoke is easy, and my burden
is light."