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 NOVEMBER 22, 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: "Lift High the Cross" *LSB 837*

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 and 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.

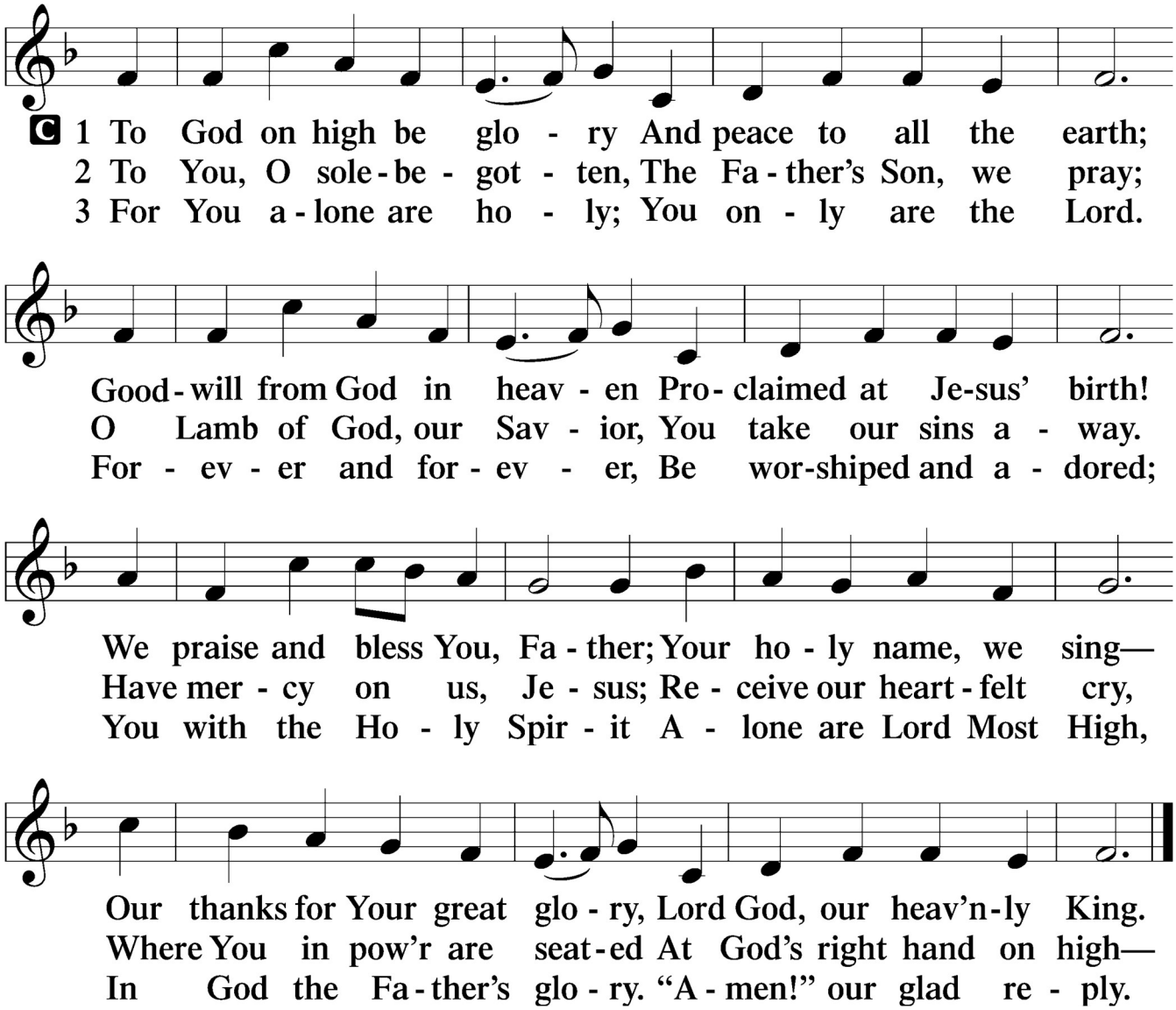
C **Before God and one another, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition, and so we pray: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Almighty God, merciful Father, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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*





Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, 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.**

Gradual

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

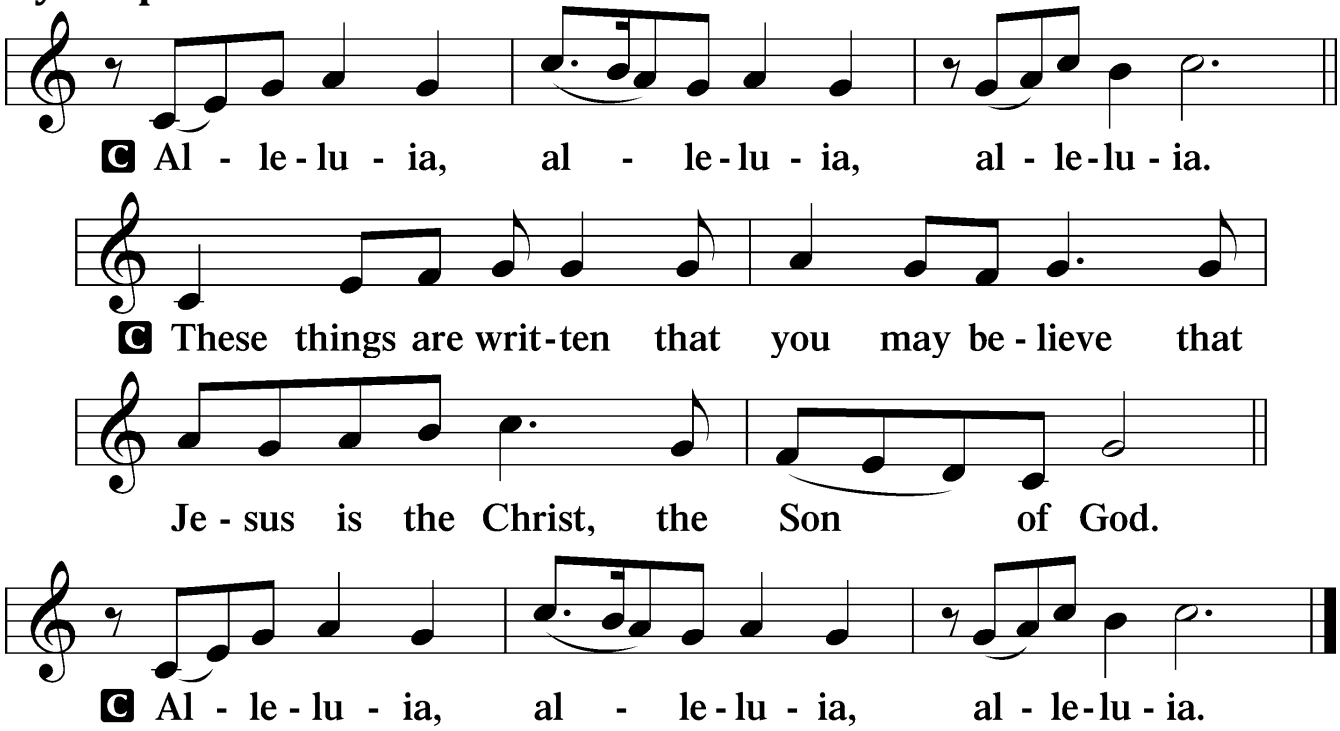


C **These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.***
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.
Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

Epistle Reading

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth 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: "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

LSB 348

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

℗ Let us bless the Lord. **℃ Thanks be to God.**

℗ 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. **℃ Amen.**

🕮 **Sending Hymn:** "Crown Him with Many Crowns" *LSB 525*

℗ Go in peace; serve the Lord. **℃ Thanks be to God!**

THOSE ASSISTING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor & Organist: Rev. Ben Bahr
Acolytes: Daniel Bahr & Audrey Markel
Head Ushers: Ross Folmsbee & John Loss
Readers: Dick & Marla Crawford
Tech Crew: Mark Binkley & John Bahr
Altar Care: Alice Moll & Luann Pyska

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY – 11/22/26
9:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Worship

MONDAY – 11/23/26
6:30 pm Survivors' Group

NEXT SUNDAY – 11/29/26
9:00 am Christian Education
10:30 am Worship (HC)
11:30 am Choir Rehearsal

Statistics for the week of November 15, 2026

Worship Service: 63 Attended, 30 Views
Adult Education: 13
Youth Education: 8
Education Staff: 4

Offering*: $2,106.84
Mission of Month: $320.00
Sunday School: $17.00
* Weekly budget needs $4,206

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please submit new announcements
*by **Thursday 10AM**: office@gracenf.org.*
Office Hours 1st Sun 8:30-12:30, M/W/Th 10-2
***GIVING:** Options at www.gracenf.org*

CHURCH OFFFICE will be closed on Thursday, November 26th in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS are Isaiah 64:1-9, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, and Mark 11:1-10.

GRACE LADIES – Our Christmas party will be Tuesday, December 8th, starting at 5:30pm. It will be catered by ALPS, like last year. Final menu selection will take place at our November 17th Wine & Cheese meeting at 6pm. Hostesses in November are Virginia Markel & Wendy Coleman. There is a Christmas party sign-up sheet on glass case in Chapel. Watch for more Christmas information in bulletins & Gleanings.

NOVEMBER MISSION ENVELOPE DONATIONS will be used to help pay for eyeglasses for Niagara Falls school children whose families cannot afford to purchase them, either because of their economic situation or lack of insurance coverage. If you would like to support this effort, place your mission envelope in the offering plate during November, or donate online by choosing "monthly mission".

TURKEYS AND HAMS: We will continue to accept donations of turkeys and hams until December 20. They will be used by Community Mission, Lord's Day Dinner, Salvation Army, and Lighthouse (formerly Magdalene Project) to provide a hot meal for those in need on Christmas. Donations can be placed in the freezer in our basement kitchen. If you need help carrying, please ask an usher.

THANK YOU for your generous donations to this year's **HARVEST FOOD COLLECTION.** We will deliver your gifts to St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry on Saturday. They will use our donations to restock their pantry after their Thanksgiving distribution this week. Thank you for caring for your neighbors in need.

POTTER'S FIELD CHRISTMAS KIDS: If you haven't picked up your child's wish list, please see Virginia Markel **TODAY** in the chapel after worship. If you signed up and you are no longer able to participate, please let Virginia know. Gifts should be limited to a $25 value. However, if you would like to spend more on your child, please let Virginia know when you return your gift so that Potter's Field can give the "extras" to the kids privately. WRAPPED GIFTS WITH THE CHILD'S NAME ATTACHED should be returned to Virginia no later than Sunday, December 13.

GIFT CARDS WELCOME: Potter's Field is also accepting gift cards in the amount of $25 (or less) from Walmart, Target, and Amazon for their older teenagers. If you would like to purchase a gift card, it should be given to Virginia on or before Sunday, December 13.

BENEVOLENCE FUND REMINDER: Our church keeps a small fund available to help pay for an immediate need (such as an overdue utility bill or a grocery trip). Requests for assistance should be made to Pastor Bahr. Information shared with him is kept strictly confidential. Donations to this fund can be made at any time using the envelopes labeled "Benevolence Fund" that are found in the chapel and narthex.

CHOIR REHEARSALS for Christmas Eve will begin on Sunday, November 29, after worship in the balcony. We will practice every Sunday until Christmas. New members are welcome.

Pentecost



About the Cover

Another Church Year has come to an end, reminding us that this world will also come to an end. All will be raised. Unbelievers will be raised to eternal judgment. But for all who are in Christ, "the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep," the day of resurrection will be the end of death itself (1 Corinthians 15:20). The last enemy will be no more since Christ was raised to never die again (Romans 6:9). All believers shall be raised to eternal life.

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

11"For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I,
I myself will search for my sheep and will
seek them out. 12As a shepherd seeks out his
flock when he is among his sheep that have
been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep,
and I will rescue them from all places where
they have been scattered on a day of clouds
and thick darkness. 13And I will bring them
out from the peoples and gather them from
the countries, and will bring them into
their own land. And I will feed them on the
mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in
all the inhabited places of the country. 14I
will feed them with good pasture, and on
the mountain heights of Israel shall be their
grazing land. There they shall lie down in
good grazing land, and on rich pasture they
shall feed on the mountains of Israel. 15I
myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,
and I myself will make them lie down,
declares the Lord God. 16I will seek the lost,
and I will bring back the strayed, and I will
bind up the injured, and I will strengthen
the weak, and the fat and the strong I will
destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

20"Therefore, thus says the Lord God to
them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between
the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because
you push with side and shoulder, and thrust
at all the weak with your horns, till you
have scattered them abroad, 22I will rescue
my flock; they shall no longer be a prey.
And I will judge between sheep and sheep.
23And I will set up over them one shepherd,
my servant David, and he shall feed them:
he shall feed them and be their shepherd.
24And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my
servant David shall be prince among them.
I am the Lord; I have spoken."

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

20But in fact Christ has been raised from
the dead, the firstfruits of those who have
fallen asleep. 21For as by a man came death,
by a man has come also the resurrection of
the dead. 22For as in Adam all die, so also
in Christ shall all be made alive. 23But each
in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then
at his coming those who belong to Christ.
24Then comes the end, when he delivers the
kingdom to God the Father after destroying
every rule and every authority and power.
25For he must reign until he has put all his
enemies under his feet. 26The last enemy to
be destroyed is death. 27For "God has put
all things in subjection under his feet." But
when it says, "all things are put in subjec-
tion," it is plain that he is excepted who put
all things in subjection under him. 28When
all things are subjected to him, then the Son
himself will also be subjected to him who
put all things in subjection under him, that
God may be all in all.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31–46

31[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man
comes in his glory, and all the angels
with him, then he will sit on his glorious
throne. 32Before him will be gathered all the
nations, and he will separate people one
from another as a shepherd separates the
sheep from the goats. 33And he will place
the sheep on his right, but the goats on
the left. 34Then the King will say to those
on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed
by my Father, inherit the kingdom pre-
pared for you from the foundation of the
world. 35For I was hungry and you gave me
food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36I
was naked and you clothed me, I was sick
and you visited me, I was in prison and
you came to me.' 37Then the righteous will
answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see
you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and
give you drink? 38And when did we see you
a stranger and welcome you, or naked and
clothe you? 39And when did we see you sick
or in prison and visit you?' 40And the King
will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you
did it to one of the least of these my broth-
ers, you did it to me.'

41"Then he will say to those on his left,
'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eter-
nal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
42For I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43I
was a stranger and you did not welcome
me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick
and in prison and you did not visit me.'
44Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord,
when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a
stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and
did not minister to you?' 45Then he will
answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as
you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.' 46And these will
go away into eternal punishment, but the
righteous into eternal life."

Scripture: ESV®
Cover verse: 1 Corinthians 15:24
Cover image: © Shutterstock.com (Proper 29) November 22, 2026
© 2026 CPH
Printed in USA
Concordia Publishing House • Your church's publisher • Visit us at CPH.org 26114