

Grace Covenant Church

**“To the
Praise
of
His
Glorious
Grace”**

Ephesians 1:6

Welcome to Grace!

May God bless you this morning as we worship Him together! We extend a special welcome to those who are with us for the first time and are glad you are here!

Nursery service is available for children ages 3 and under. The nursery is located on the northeast corner of the main level. Go through the double doors across from the Sanctuary into the Fellowship Hall, then through the double doors on the far side of the hall to the right.

Restrooms are located in the office wing on the east side of the Sanctuary (access at end of narthex).

Blue **Communication Cards** are available on the back table in the Sanctuary to help us connect with our **visitors and newcomers** and receive **updates and requests for information or prayer** from any who have need. Please place completed forms in the basket on the back table.

We celebrate the **Lord's Supper** today. All who are admitted to the table in this or another evangelical church are invited to participate. In order to avoid unnecessary hindrances to your participation, the bread is **gluten-free** and the wine is **alcohol-free**. Volunteers will assist disposal of plastic cups after the service.

Classes for all ages to help us grow in Christ begin at **9:30 a.m.** on Sundays. Please use the east entrances or the kitchen entrance from the north lot if able to avoid distracting our hosts as they worship. After our classes and before worship, please join us for **refreshments** and catch up with everyone **in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 10:30 a.m.**

*You are invited to stand as you are able for starred parts of the service.

God's Holy Will

October 4, 2026

Gathering Time

Welcome

Piano Prelude (*please be seated and prepare for worship*)

*Call to Worship

Revelation 4:6b-8

*Opening Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who were, and are, and evermore shall be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn of Praise

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where Your streams of abundance flow, Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed be Your name.

Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,

"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name."

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's "all as it should be," blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name.

(Repeat Chorus)

You give and take away, You give and take away.

My heart will choose to say, "Lord, Blessed be Your name."

"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name,

Blessed be the name of the Lord,

Blessed be Your glorious name."

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Preparation for Confession

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits
eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy
place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive
the heart of the contrite."

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Isaiah 57:18, 19

*Response to Grace

I'm Forever Grateful

You did not wait for me to draw near to You
But You clothed Yourself with frail humanity;
You did not wait for me to cry out to You
But You let me hear Your voice calling me.

And I'm forever grateful to You,
I'm forever grateful for the cross;
I'm forever grateful to You
That You came to seek and save the lost.

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The Community of Grace

Offering (*see community page for electronic giving options*)

*Offertory Response

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior, Who has won the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity.

Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.

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*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World

Sermon Text: Acts 25:1-22

"Paul Turns for Rome" - Pastor Todd Bowen

*Hymn of Preparation

There Is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.

Chorus

Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

When I stand in glory, I will see His face;
There I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.
(Repeat Chorus)

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
(Repeat Chorus)

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Celebration of the Lord's Supper

*Hymn of Celebration

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
Be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight,
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tow'r:
Raise Thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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*Benediction

Grace Covenant Church

A Congregation of the *Presbyterian Church in America*

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Our Mission

Grace Covenant Church exists to *glorify God*

✝ By **exalting Him** in true worship,
✝ By **equipping His people** for ministry, and
✝ By **extending His kingdom** in
Central Nebraska unto the ends of the earth.

Our Identity

We are Evangelical (from *euangelion* in New Testament Greek – “good news”). We believe the Gospel, the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, God’s revealed and authoritative Word. The Gospel is central among the themes of Scripture, and is to be central in the worship, life, and ministry of our church.

We are Reformed. We hold to the great Biblical truths that were recovered in the Protestant Reformation. Our understanding of these truths is summarized in our doctrinal standards, the *Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms*. These truths are important in the teaching and leadership of our church.

We are Presbyterian. Our church is governed by elders (*presbuteros* in New Testament Greek), who shepherd and lead the congregation, and deacons, who serve in the areas of finances, property, and ministries of mercy. Our understanding of these Biblical offices and other matters of church government and worship are summarized in the *Book of Church Order* of our denomination, the *Presbyterian Church in America*.