

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).

AI generated translation of our service into Spanish is available. The translation can be accessed through a mobile phone by scanning the QR code provided. Worshippers can listen with ear buds or read a transcription. Instructions are on the table in the 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 has need. Please place completed forms in the basket on the back table.

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.

The Word of Truth

October 25, 2026

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

*Call to Worship

Psalm 103:19-22

*Opening Hymn

Forever Settled in the Heavens

Forever settled in the heav'ns,
Thy Word, O Lord, shall firmly stand;
Thy faithfulness shall never fail; the earth abides at Thy command.

Thy Word and works unmoved remain,
Thine ev'ry purpose to fulfil;
All things are Thine and Thee obey,
And all as servants wait Thy will.

I should have perished in my woe had not I loved Thy law divine;
That law I never can forget; O save me, Lord, for I am Thine.

The wicked would destroy my soul, but in Thy truth is refuge sure;
Exceeding broad is Thy command, and in perfection shall endure.

By *The Psalter* & John Hatton; From *The Trinity Hymnal*

*Prayer of Praise

*Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;

Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered and was buried;

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

and He shall come again, with glory,

to judge both the living and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together

is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets;

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and we look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise

He Is Exalted

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high. I will praise Him.

He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise His name!

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign.

Heaven and earth rejoice in His Holy Name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

Preparation for Confession (adapted from The Book of Common Worship)

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the plans and desires of our own hearts. We have disobeyed Your holy laws. We have left undone things we ought to have done; and we have done things we ought not to have done;

Private Confession of Sin

Be pleased, O Lord, to have mercy upon us sinners. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are repentant, according to Your promises declared in Jesus Christ, our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for His sake, that we may from now on live a godly and righteous life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Grace

1 Peter 2:24-25

*Hymn of Gratitude

Saved by Grace

Here in this place I give You praise;
It seems so small compared to grace.
But I rejoice because You chose
To save me and call me Your own.

Chorus

Saved by grace and justified,
Righteousness now mine in Christ.
All my sin and all my shame wiped away in Jesus' name.

Upon the cross You conquered death,
Knowing I could not pay the debt.
My soul was freed, no longer bound,
Amazing love in You is found.

(Repeat Chorus)

Someday I'll gain the victory, eternal life purchased for me.
To hear You say, "A job well done", my hope secure, my rest is won.
Saved by grace and justified, righteousness now mine in Christ.
All my sin and all my shame wiped away in Jesus' name.

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The Community of Grace

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

*Offertory Response

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

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*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World
Sermon Text: Acts 26:19-32
"Paul's Defense before King Agrippa – Part 2"
Pastor Todd Bowen

*Hymn of Response

O Church Arise

O church arise and put your armor on
Hear the call of Christ our Captain
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies
An army bold whose battle cry is Love
Reaching out to those in darkness

Our call to war to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure
And Christ will have the prize for which He died
An inheritance of nations

Come see the cross where love and mercy meet
As the Son of God is stricken
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet
For the Conqueror has risen and as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him

So Spirit come put strength in every stride
Give grace for every hurdle
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful
As saints of old still line the way
Retelling triumphs of His grace
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory

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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*.