

# *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 4 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 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. 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.**

Please help us observe the policy of our hosts by refraining from bringing food or drink into the Sanctuary except for water and the needs of small children.

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

# I Will Give Thanks to the Lord

## November 19, 2023

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

\*Call to Worship

Responsive Reading of Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!

**People: Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with Praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

**People: For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

\*Opening Hymn

"Come, You Thankful People, Come"

Come you thankful people come

Raise the song of harvest home

Fruit and crops are gathered in safe before the storms begin

God our Maker will provide for our needs to be supplied

Come with all His people come

Raise the song of harvest home

All the world is God's own field  
Harvests for His praise to yield  
Wheat and weeds together sown  
Here for joy or sorrow grown  
First the blade and then the ear  
Then the full corn shall appear  
Lord of harvest grant that we  
Wholesome grain and pure may be

For the Lord our God shall come  
And shall bring His harvest home  
He Himself on that great day  
Worthless things shall take away  
Give His angels charge at last in the fire the weeds to cast  
But the fruitful ears to store In His care for evermore  
Even so Lord quickly come bring Your final harvest home  
Gather all Your people in free from sorrow free from sin  
There together purified ever thankful at Your side  
Come with all Your angels come  
Bring that glorious harvest home

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\*Prayer of Praise

\*Songs of Praise

“Give Thanks to the Lord”

Give thanks to the Lord for the works of His hand,  
For a kingdom that cannot be shaken.  
Give thanks to the Lord for we all now can stand,  
And fear not of being forsaken.

## Chorus

Give thanks to the Lord for His righteousness.

Give thanks to the Lord for His love.

Let us worship His name and His holiness.

Give thanks to the Lord.

Oh, give thanks to the Lord; give thanks.

Give thanks to the Father for sending His Son.

Give thanks to the Son for the Spirit.

Now lift up your voices to God, Three in One,

And shout so the whole world can hear it.

(Repeat Chorus)

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## "You Are My Hiding Place"

You are my hiding place, You always fill my heart

With songs of deliverance

Whenever I am afraid I will trust in You.

I will trust in You; Let the weak say I am strong

In the strength of my God.

(Repeat)

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Entrance into Confession

Psalm 51:14-17

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 34:17-18, 22

\*Hymn of Gratitude

*Arise, My Soul, Arise*

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;  
The bleeding sacrifice, in my behalf appears;  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
My name is written on His hands.

Chorus

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise, arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise, arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise

He ever lives above, for me to intercede;  
His all-redeeming love, His precious blood, to plead;  
His blood atoned for every race,  
His blood atoned for every race,  
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

(Repeat Chorus)

Five bleeding wounds He bears; received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me:  
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry  
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry  
Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

(Repeat Chorus)

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear;  
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise, arise, my soul, arise.  
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise, arise, my soul, arise.  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise

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## The Community of Grace

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

\*Offertory Response

*Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below, alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

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\*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Text: Psalm 56  
"When I Am Afraid" - Pastor Todd Bowen

\*Hymn of Response

*Commit Now All Your Griefs*

Commit now all your griefs and ways into His hands;  
To His sure truth and tender care,  
Who earth and heav'n commands.  
Who points the clouds their course,  
Whom winds and seas obey,  
He shall direct your wand'ring feet,  
He shall prepare your way.

Give to the winds your fears; hope, and be undismayed;  
God hears your sighs & counts your tears,  
God shall lift up your head.

Through waves & clouds & storms He gently clears your way;  
Wait for His time, so shall the night soon end in joyous day.

Still heavy is your heart? Still sink your spirits down?  
Cast off the weight, let fear depart, and every care be gone.  
He everywhere has sway, and all things serve His might;  
His every act pure blessing is, His path unsullied light.

Far, far above your thought His counsel shall appear,  
When fully He the work has wrought  
That caused your needless fear.  
Leave to His sovereign will to choose and to command;  
With wonder filled, you then shall own  
How wise, how strong His hand.

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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*.