

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.

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 Kingdom of God

November 23, 2025

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

*Call to Worship

Hebrews 1:1-4

*Opening Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.

Refrain

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above.
(Repeat Refrain)

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n.
(Repeat Refrain)

He sits at God's right hand till all His foes submit,
And bow to His command, and fall beneath His feet.
(Repeat Refrain)

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
(Repeat Chorus)

By Charles Wesley & John Darwall © Words & Music: Public Domain; For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com; CCLI Song # 36592; CCLI License # 791174

*Prayer of Praise

*Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise

Christus Victor (Amen)

O Most High, King of the ages, Great I AM, God of wonders,
By the blood, You have redeemed us,
Led us through mighty waters,
Our strength, our song, our sure salvation.

Now to the Lamb upon the throne,
Be blessing, honor, glory, power
For the battle you have won. Hallelujah! Amen.

O Most High, dwelling among us, Son of man, sent for sinners,
By Your blood, you have redeemed us,
Spotless Lamb, mighty Savior
Who lived, who died, who rose victorious.

Now to the Lamb upon the throne,
Be blessing, honor, glory, power
For the battle you have won. Hallelujah!
With ev'ry tribe and ev'ry tongue,
We join the anthem of the angels in the triumph of the Son.
Hallelujah! Amen.

O Most High, King of the nations,
Robed in praise crowned with splendor,
On that day, who will not tremble when You stand
Christ the Victor, who was and is and is forever.

Now to the Lamb upon the throne,
Be blessing, honor, glory, power
For the battle you have won. Hallelujah!
With ev'ry tribe and ev'ry tongue,
We join the anthem of the angels in the triumph of the Son.
Hallelujah! Amen.
Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

Now to the Lamb upon the throne,
Be blessing, honor, glory, power
For the battle you have won. Hallelujah!
With ev'ry tribe and ev'ry tongue,
We join the anthem of the angels in the triumph of the Son.
Hallelujah! Amen.
Sing the vict'ry of the Lamb. Hallelujah! Amen.

Preparation for Confession

Isaiah 6:1-5

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Isaiah 6:6-8

*Hymn of Gratitude *There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day,
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away:
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed Church of God be saved to sin no more:
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed Church of God be saved to sin no more.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme and shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme and shall be till I die.

When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing Thy pow'r to save:
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save;
Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.

By William Cowper, Lowell Mason, & Edwin Othello Excell; Words & Music: Public Domain; For use solely with the
SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com; CCLI Song # 27707; CCLI License # 791174

The Community of Grace

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

*Offertory Response *All Creatures of Our God and King, v. 5*

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

By Francis of Assisi & William Henry Draper © Music: Public Domain; © 1926 G. Schirmer;
From *The Trinity Hymnal*

*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World

Sermon Text: Acts 15:36-41

"The Prisoners that would not Leave" - Pastor Todd Bowen

*Hymn of Response

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move

At the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold

Take my intellect, and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose,
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne, it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee, ever, only, all for Thee.

By Frances Ridley Havergal & Henri Abraham Cesar Malan © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain; For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com; CCLI Song # 1390; CCLI License # 791174

*Benediction

Grace Covenant Church

A Congregation of the *Presbyterian Church in America*

418 West 12th Street
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 384-5625
gracegi.org

Pastor: Todd Bowen
Email: tbowen@gracegi.org

Administrative Assistant: Deb Holmes
Email: deb@gracegi.org

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*.