

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 cards in the basket on the back table.

We celebrate **the Lord's Supper** today. All who are admitted to the table in an 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.

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.

Jesus Builds His Church

November 3, 2024

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

*Call to Worship

Psalm 118:19-24

*Opening Hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the Head and Cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.

To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today:
With Thy wonted loving-kindness
Hear thy people as they pray;
And Thy fullest benediction shed within its walls always.

Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee forever with the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory evermore with Thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.

*Prayer of Praise

*Song of Praise

There Is Joy in the Lord

There is joy in the Lord, there is love in His Spirit
There is hope in the knowledge of Him
There's a fountain that flows like a river from heaven
Abounding in love to my soul

Chorus

All blessing and honor are His, all glory and power are His
Let all wisdom and strength be the Lord's in this place
Let all glory be given to Him

There is joy in the Lord, there is love in His Spirit
There is hope in the knowledge of Him
There's a fountain I know ev'ry time I am near it
My heart overflows to the Lord
(Repeat Chorus)

There is joy in the Lord, there is love in His Spirit
There is hope in the knowledge of Him
There's a fountain that flows like a river from heaven
Abounding in love to my soul

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Preparation for Confession

Romans 8:12-15

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Romans 8:16-17

Response to Grace

The Steadfast Love of the Lord

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
His mercies shall never come to an end;
They are new every morning, new every morning,
Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord; Great is Thy faithfulness.

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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 8:14-17
"An Apostolic Delegation" - 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

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food.
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping,
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain and cherish is with her to the end;
Though there be those that hate her,
And false sons in her pale,
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

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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*.