

# *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.

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.

# Christ the Redeemer

## April 21, 2024

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

\*Call to Worship

Revelation 5:8-10

\*Opening Hymn

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;

'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, He sets the pris'ner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean,  
His blood availed for me.

He speaks and, list'ning to His voice,  
New life the dead receive;  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;  
The humble poor believe.

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb,  
Your loosen'd tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come;  
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

\*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn of Praise

*Wonderful Merciful Savior*

Wonderful Merciful Savior, Precious Redeemer and Friend,  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
Rescue the souls of men, oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Chorus

You are the One that we praise. You are the One we adore.  
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace,  
You offer hope when our hearts have  
hopelessly lost the way, oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

(Repeat Chorus)

Almighty, infinite Father faithfully loving Your own,  
Here in our weakness You find us, falling before Your throne,  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

(Repeat Chorus)

Preparation for Confession (Isaiah 53:3-6)

He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and  
acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their  
faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he  
has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we  
esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he  
was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our

iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

1 Peter 2:24-25

\*Hymn of Gratitude

*Thy Mercy, My God*

Thy mercy my God is the theme of my song  
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue  
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last  
Hath won my affections and bound my soul fast

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair  
But through Thy free goodness my spirits revive  
And He that first made me still keeps me alive

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart  
Dissolved by Thy goodness I fall to the ground  
And weep for the praise of the mercy I found

Chorus

Halleluiah (halleluiah halleluiah)

Great Father of mercies Thy goodness I own  
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son  
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine

# 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 3:1-10  
"Jesus Continues His Mission" - Pastor Todd Bowen

\*Hymn of Response

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth;  
Before Him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blessed;  
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His Name shall stand for ever—that Name to us is Love.

By James Montgomery & Samuel S. Wesley; From *The Trinity Hymnal*

\*Benediction

\*You are invited to stand as you are able

# 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*.