

# *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.

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

# Serving the Lord

## May 24, 2026

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-5

\*Opening Hymn

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,  
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things  
So wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Have thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who does prosper  
Thy work and defend Thee!  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, Who with marvelous  
Wisdom has made thee,  
Decked thee with health, and with loving hand  
Guided and stayed thee.  
How oft in grief has not He brought thee relief,  
Spreading His wings to o'er shade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath,  
Come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again;  
Gladly fore'er we adore Him.

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\*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.

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall,  
There is still one King reigning over all.  
So, I will not fear for this truth remains:  
That my God is the Ancient of Days.

Chorus

None above Him, none before Him. All of time in His hands.  
For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand.  
All the power, all the glory, I will trust in His name.  
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul,  
He is here with me. I am not alone.  
O, His love is sure and He knows my name.  
For my God is the Ancient of Days.

(Repeat Chorus)

Though I may not see what the future brings,  
I will watch and wait for the Savior King.  
Then, my joy complete, standing face to face  
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.

(Repeat Chorus)

For my God is the Ancient of Days.

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Preparation for Confession    Westminster Shorter Catechism  
Questions 84-87

Q. 84. What does every sin deserve?

**A.    Every sin deserves God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.**

Q. 85. What does God require of us, that we may escape His wrath and curse, due to us for sin?

**A. To escape the wrath and curse of God, due to us for sin, God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption.**

Q. 86. What is faith in Jesus Christ?

**A. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation, as He is offered to us in the gospel.**

Q. 87. What is repentance unto life?

**A. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.**

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

1 Peter 2:24-25

\*Hymn of Gratitude

*Before the Throne of God Above*

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea.

A great High Priest whose name is Love,  
Who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart.

I know that while in heaven He stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see Him there,  
Who made an end of all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died,  
My sinful soul is counted free,  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me,  
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb,  
My perfect spotless Righteousness,  
The great unchangeable "I Am",  
The King of glory and of grace.

One in Himself I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by His blood.  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

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## The Community of Grace

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

\*Offertory Response      *We Give Thee But Thine Own* (v. 1)

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be:  
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

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\*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World  
Sermon Text: Acts 20:17-27  
"The Apostle Paul's Ministry" - 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.

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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*.