

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.

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

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 Comfort of Christ

May 3, 2026

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

*Call to Worship

Psalm 47:6-7

*Opening Hymn

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

Come, Thou Almighty King, help us Thy name to sing,
Help us to praise. Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word, gird on Thy mighty sword,
Our prayer attend. Come, and Thy people bless,
And give Thy Word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour. Thou who almighty art,
Now rule in every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

To the great One in Three eternal praises be,
Hence evermore. His sovereign majesty
May we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

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*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)

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Preparation for Confession

Isaiah 57:15 (ESV)

For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits
eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy
place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive
the heart of the contrite.

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Isaiah 57:18, 19

*Response to Grace

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
(Repeat)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
(Repeat)

Give thanks.

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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 heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

By Thomas Ken; From *The Trinity Hymnal*

*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World
Sermon Text: Acts 20:7-12
"An Extraordinary Mercy" - Pastor Todd Bowen

*Hymn of Preparation

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

Chorus:

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

(Repeat Chorus)

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last.

(Repeat Chorus)

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Celebration of the Lord's Supper

*Hymn of Celebration

We Come, O Christ, to You

We come, O Christ, to You, true Son of God and man,
By whom all things consist, in whom all life began:
In You alone we live and move,
And have our being in Your love.

You are the Way to God, Your blood our ransom paid;
In You we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.
Before the throne absolved we stand,
Your love has met Your law's demand.

You are the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in You,
The Source of every skill, the One eternal True!
O great I Am! In You we rest,
Sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true Life, to know You is to live
The more abundant life that earth can never give:
O risen Lord! We live in You: in us each day Your life renew!

We worship You, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King,
To You our youth and strength adoringly we bring:
So fill our hearts, that all may view
Your life in us, and turn to You.

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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*.