

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 has 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 Gospel of Christ

September 20, 2026

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

*Call to Worship

1 Peter 1:3-5, 8-9

*Opening Hymn

O Savior, Precious Savior

O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love,
O Name of might and favor, all other names above;
We worship You, we bless You, to You alone we sing;
We praise You, and confess You our holy Lord and King.

O Bringer of salvation, Who wondrously has wrought,
Yourself the revelation of love beyond our thought;
We worship You, we bless You, to You alone we sing;
We praise You, and confess You our gracious Lord and King.

In You all fullness dwelling, all grace and pow'r outpours:
The glory all excelling, O Son of God, is Yours;
We worship You, we bless You, to You alone we sing;
We praise You, and confess You our glorious Lord and King.

O grant the consummation of this our song above
In endless adoration and everlasting love;
Then shall we praise and bless You where perfect praises ring
And evermore confess You our Savior and our King.

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*Prayer of Praise

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
Give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
For in my helplessness You heard my cry,
And waves of mercy poured down on my life.

Chorus

Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion,
And You reign, You reign over all!

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer;
I will sing of the blood that never fails,
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
Of death defeated and life without end.

(Repeat Chorus)

I long to be where the praise is never ending;
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades,
Where countless worshippers will share one song,
And cries of "worthy" will honor the Lamb!

(Repeat Chorus)

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Preparation for Confession

Romans 3:21-23

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested
apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear
witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in
Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:
for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Romans 5:8-11

*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

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World

Sermon Text: Acts 24:1-21

"Paul on Trial before Governor Felix" - Pastor Todd Bowen

*Hymn of Response

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.

I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;
And that is just the reason I tell it now to Thee.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story; for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long.

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

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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*.