

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 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. 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.**

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.

A Heart for God

September 29, 2024

Gathering Time

Welcome

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

*Call to Worship

Ephesians 1:3-6

*Opening Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (modified)*

Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.
Hitherto Thy love has blessed me
Thou hast brought me to this place
And I know Thy hand will bring me
Safely home by Thy good grace
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood
O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Oh that day when freed from sinning
I shall see Thy lovely face
Full arrayed in blood-washed linen
How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry
Bring Thy promises to pass
For I know Thy pow'r will keep me
Till I'm home with Thee at last

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*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn of Praise

You Are My All in All

You are my strength when I am weak.
You are the treasure that I seek. You are my All in All .
Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my All in All.

Chorus:

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
Rising again I bless Your name. You are my All in all.
When I fall down You pick me up,
When I am dry You fill my cup. You are my All in All.
(Repeat Chorus Twice)

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Preparation for Confession

Psalm 51:14-17

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Private Confession of Sin

Declaration of Grace

Psalm 34:17-18, 22

*Hymn of Gratitude

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

I will sing of my Redeemer, and His wondrous love to me:
On the cruel cross He suffered, from the curse to set me free.

Chorus:

Sing, O sing of my Redeemer! With His blood He purchased me;
On the cross He sealed my pardon,
Paid the debt and made me free.

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,
In His boundless love and mercy, He the ransom freely gave.
(Repeat Chorus)

I will praise my dear Redeemer, His triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
How the victory He giveth over sin and death and hell.
(Repeat Chorus)

I will sing of my Redeemer and His heav'nly love to me;
He from death to life has brought me, Son of God, with Him to be.
(Repeat Chorus)

The Community of Grace

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

*Offertory Response *All Creatures of Our God and King* (v. 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, Praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise Him, O praise Him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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*Prayer for God's Blessing

Sermon Series: Good News for the World
Sermon Text: Acts 7:51-53
"The Indictment against Israel" - Pastor Todd Bowen

*Hymn of Response *Knowing You (All I Once Held Dear)*

All I once held dear, built my life upon,
All this world reveres, and wars to own,
All I once thought gain I have counted loss;
Spent and worthless now, compared to this.

Chorus

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,
There is no greater thing.
You're my all, You're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
And I love You, Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know You more,
To be found in You, and known as Yours,
To possess by faith what I could not earn;
All surpassing gift of righteousness.

Chorus

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You,
There is no greater thing.
You're my all, You're the best,
You're my joy, my righteousness,
And I love You, Lord.

Oh to know the power of Your risen life,
And to know You in Your sufferings,
To become like You In Your death, my Lord;
So with You to live, and never die.

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*Benediction

Grace Covenant Church

A Congregation of the *Presbyterian Church in America*

418 West 12th Street
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 384-5625
gracegi.org

Pastor: Todd Bowen
Email: tbowen@gracegi.org

Administrative Assistant: Deb Holmes
Email: deb@gracegi.org

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*.