

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Let us call to mind the reason for our hope:
All **Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.**

Leader I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.”

All **The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him.**

Leader Let us put away all that distracts us from God’s great love.
All **Let us turn our hearts to God and receive his life giving Word!**

—based on Lam. 3:21-26; James 1:21

SONG OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS / T. CHISHOLM

1. Great is Thy faithfulness,
O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not;
as Thou has been Thou forever wilt be.

2. Summer and winter
and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars
in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

CHORUS
*Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
all I have needed
Thy hand hath provided,
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONGS OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

BE THOU MY VISION / TRANS. MARY E. BYRNE

1. Be Thou my Vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought,
by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my Light.

3. Riches I heed not,
nor man’s empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance,
now and always:
Thou and Thou only,
first in my heart;
High King of Heaven,
my treasure Thou art.

2. Be Thou my Wisdom,
and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee
and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father,
I Thy true Son;
Thou in me dwelling,
and I with Thee one.

4. High King of Heaven,
my victory won,
May I reach Heaven’s joys,
O bright Heaven’s sun!
Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
Still be my Vision,
O Ruler of all.

WHO YOU SAY I AM / B. FIELDING & R. MORGAN

1. Who am I that the highest King
would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me

Chorus 1
*Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I’m a child of God, yes I am*

2. Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me, yes He died for me

Chorus 2
*Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I’m a child of God, yes I am
In my Father’s house
There’s a place for me
I’m a child of God, yes I am*

Bridge
*I am chosen, Not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me, not against me
I am who You say I am*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Our Father in heaven,
we thank you for sending your Son,
our Savior to call us from death to life.
We confess that we were dead in sin before we heard his voice,
but when we heard his word, we arose to new life.
But, O Father, our old habits and customs still cling to us:
we are slow to listen, quick to speak, and quick to anger;
we consume your words,
but we neglect to do what you ask;
we neglect the orphan and widow among us;
we seek happiness through the promises of the world around us.
Forgive us and may your Spirit break our bonds
and throw off all evil and wickedness from us.
All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior,
who has taught us to come to you. **Amen.**

—based on James 1:18-27

(Silence is kept together.)

SONG OF ASSURANCE

LET THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH / F. ORTEGA

Let the words of my mouth
Be pleasing to you, pleasing to you
The meditation of my heart
Be pleasing to you, pleasing to you
Oh Lord, my strength
And my Redeemer
Oh Lord, my strength
And my Redeemer

*Whatever is true
Whatever is pure
Whatever is lovely
Whatever is worthy
Think on these things*

WORDS OF COMFORT & PEACE

Leader God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

All **Thanks be to God!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Almighty God, kindle in all our hearts the true love of peace, and give us courage to seek reconciliation by our own acts of repentance and forgiveness; help us to be doers of your word in all we do and say. For this, O Lord, we pray

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Lord Jesus Christ, grant wisdom to those who lead the nations, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; may your words of mercy and justice convict and guide our leaders. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Spirit of Compassion, look with kindness upon those who suffer in body, mind, and spirit: strengthen the weary, soften the hard-hearted, provide for the poor, and heal the afflicted. Open our arms to embrace the orphan and widow; protect our hearts from callousness. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
Together **And also with you!**

** Children ages 2 to 5th grade are invited to participate in our children’s program during the sermon; children return for Communion.*

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**If you’re visiting with us for the first time, please fill out an information card (available at the welcome table) and drop it into the offering box or give it to a church staff member. For more announcements, see the back of the bulletin or visit our website.*

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

**During the offertory, we consider all that we have and all that God may be asking us to give. Please take this time to ask God how you might give of your financial gifts, personal time and even vocational calling. There are different ways to give. You may mail your offering to our office address: 16 N Marengo Ave Ste 609, Pasadena, CA 91101; or give via our website: www.gracepasadena.org/give.*

SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:18-27 (ESV)

¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. ¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person’s religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God!**

MORNING MESSAGE

Brannin Pitre

“People Under the Word”
Sermon Series: The Gospel-Integrated Life

COMMUNION

GUIDELINES: *The sacrament of Communion is also called the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist. It is the family meal for those who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. The invitation is from Jesus Christ alone, not from this church or any minister. If you are baptized and can call yourself a Christian, come to the table.*

DIRECTIONS: *When instructed, please come forward to receive Communion. Receive the bread and juice from the servers. Pre-packaged elements, which are gluten-free are available in the line closest to the stage. Participate as you feel comfortable.*

CHILDREN: *Children who are baptized, can profess faith in Jesus Christ in an age appropriate manner, and have talked to a pastor or an elder may participate in communion.*

COMMUNION PRAYERS FOR REFLECTION

For those searching: *Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Give me not only understanding, but also an experience of your love and presence. Amen.*

For faith and belief: *Lord Jesus, I am weak and sinful, but you call me beloved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death and offering forgiveness and renewal. I hear you calling, and so I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord. Amen.*

For those struggling with sin: *Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, to ask for help, and to follow you faithfully in life. Amen.*

SONGS OF RESPONSE & CELEBRATION

THE BLESSING / K. JOBES; C. CARNES

The Lord bless you and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace
Amen, Amen, Amen,
May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children and their children

DOXOLOGY / T. KEN

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.
Amen

THE BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Go in peace, remember who you are, and love and serve the world as God loves you.

All Thanks be to God! Amen!

May His presence go before you
And behind you and beside you
All around you and within you
He is with you he is with you
In the morning in the evening
In your coming and your going
In your weeping and rejoicing
He is for you He is for you

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **8/6:** College students are invited to a night of fellowship and s’mores. See Pastor Ben for questions or to RSVP.
- **8/13:** New to Grace? Interested in membership? Pastor Brannin will be leading our “Intro to Grace” class after the service at the church office. Lunch will be provided. Email info@gracepasadena.org with questions or to RSVP.
- **8/15:** Join others to view Tim Keller’s memorial service at 11:30am at the church office. The office will be open starting at 11am. (You can also find more information or watch from you own location by visiting: <https://timothykeller.com/service>)
- **8/20:** Calling all current and potential city group leaders and hosts! You’re invited to a brief info session about the upcoming year of groups. The meeting will start 15 minutes after the service at the church office. See Ben for more details.

Scan the QR code below for more details, other announcements and contact information!



GRACE PASADENA’S VISION STATEMENT

Grace Pasadena exists to **Experience** & **Extend** the life-giving grace of God

- **As** we grow in the knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ
- **In** every sphere of life
- **For** our neighborhoods, city and the world

GRACE PASADENA’S CORE VALUES

God-Centered Worship – We seek to be transformed in worship as we experience the wonder of God and respond appropriately

Gospel-Driven Identity – We seek a personal experience of the gospel that both humbles us, and assures us that we are more deeply valued and loved by God than we can possibly imagine

Outward-Facing Community – We seek the betterment of our city as we extend God’s grace by loving our neighbors as ourselves

Kingdom-Minded Movement – We seek to extend the Kingdom of Jesus Christ by creating community and global partnerships that can reach and serve those in need

GIVING & BUDGET

	JAN-JUN ‘23*	JUL ‘23*
OFFERINGS & CONTRIBUTIONS _____	\$214,667	\$30,266
BUDGETED GIVING _____	249,000	44,000
DIFFERENCE _____	-34,333	-13,734

* as of 7/28/2023; figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

ADVENT	We observe a season of Ordinary Time from Pentecost Sunday until the start of Advent. From the Latin “ <i>ordus</i> ” we look to the Spirit to re-order our lives according to the love of Jesus Christ. As the season of the Spirit, we especially remember the lives and actions of Jesus’ followers. We think about how the first Christians lived their lives, and how we should live ours today. This season of Ordinary Time takes up half the year and it doesn’t offer big exciting festivals such as Christmas or Easter. It is a season in which we learn to recognize the presence of God in the day-to-day. The color of the season is green, symbolizing new life.
CHRISTMAS	
EPIPHANY	
LENT	
EASTER	
PENTECOST	
ORDINARY TIME	



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“It is beyond doubt that Jesus highly esteemed the Old Testament and constantly submitted to it as to an authoritative revelation. He taught that the Scriptures bore a witness to Him, just as He bore a witness to them. Because they are the words of God, Jesus assumed their complete reliability, in whole and to the smallest part.”

JAMES BOICE | *FOUNDATIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH*

“We’ve already seen how sin began when God’s command was reduced to a question [Gen. 3:1]. At that moment the most deadly spiritual force was covertly smuggled into the world: the assumption that God’s Word is subject to human judgment.”

DAVID PLATT | *COUNTER CULTURE*

“Our claim is that God has revealed Himself by speaking; that this divine (or God-breathed) speech has been written down and preserved in Scripture; and that Scripture is, in fact, God’s Word written, which therefore is true and reliable and has divine authority over men.”

JOHN STOTT

“[If] preachers wish to preach with divine authority, they must proclaim this message of the inspired Scriptures, for the Scriptures alone have divine authority. If preachers wish to preach with divine authority, they must submit themselves and echo the Word of God. Preachers are literally to be ministers of the Word.”

SIDNEY GREIDANUS

JULY 30, 2023
ORDINARY TIME