

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Who is this God who calls us to this hour of worship?
All God is the creator of all.
Leader The creator of birds and trees, wind and sea, and the stars?
All God is the creator of all things seen and unseen.
Leader Then let us worship God the Father,
God the Son,
and God the Holy Spirit –
the Triune God who graciously rules heaven and earth.
All Let us worship our God, the God of all things great and small.

SONG OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING / WORDS: ST. FRANCIS

1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
O, praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav’n along,
O, praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
3. And all Ye men of tender heart,
forgiving others take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care,
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
4. 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!

PRAYER OF PRAISE & ADORATION

All: O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
Everything we see reminds us of your power and glory
because you made everything out of nothing.
You made the sun and the moon,
you made the land and the sea,
you made the birds and the fish and all the animals,
and you made us to love you and take care of your creation.
We praise you for all your gifts
and for helping us take care of your world.
Thank you for your creativity and your love.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! **Amen.**

SONGS OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

HOW GREAT THOU ART / C. BOBERG

1. O Lord my God,
when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made; I see the stars,
I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout
the universe displayed.
2. And when I think, that God,
His Son not sparing,
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
that on the cross
my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.
3. When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation,
and take me home what joy
shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow,in humble adoration,
and there proclaim,
“My God, how great Thou art!”

CHORUS
Then sings my soul,
my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.

PROVIDE FOR ME / R. DELMORE

Maker of the heavens
Maker of the earth
I look up to the mountains
Where does my help come from?
It comes from You, it comes from You
It comes from You
My strength and my shield
You will save me in times of trouble
You will hold me in times of doubt
You will provide for me
Lover of my soul
You will provide for me

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: O God, the earth is full of your creatures;
in wisdom you have made us all,
and you have delivered us into one another’s care,
asking that we love one another as you first loved us.
But we have fostered discord rather than unity,
contempt rather than respect, ignorance rather than love.
Communities, peoples, creatures, lands, seas —
they have been torn and driven apart
by conflicting claims and thoughtless ambitions.
You know our works and our thoughts, Lord. Forgive us.
So do this day as you have promised:
Gather together all our tribes and tongues, and restore us to harmony.
Reconcile us in your spirit of peace,
and from new moon to new moon, and from sabbath to sabbath,
all creation shall worship your name. **Amen.**
(Silence is kept together.)

SONG OF ASSURANCE

PSALM 23 / MUSIC: R. & B. CHADWICK

The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down
in green pastures;
he leads me beside quiet waters;
he restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness
for His name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for You are with me;
your rod and staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me,
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and love
will follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the
LORD forever.

WORDS OF COMFORT & PEACE

Leader Hear the good news about our life in Jesus: There is therefore now no
condemnation for those who are in him. Hear the good news Jesus
offers to all creation: Through him the cries of creation will be an-
swered and it will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the
freedom of the glory of the children of God. — based on Rom. 8
All Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Holy God,
may we and your church throughout the world
be astonished anew by your grace, evident since creation,
so that we may repent our sins with open honesty;
may the world see the wonder of Christ, friend of sinners,
through us. For this, O Lord, we pray:
All Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader Righteous King,
while we long for the day when we reach
our true home when you come again,
we pray for the countries in which we sojourn:
help our leaders to reflect the image of Christ
in their pursuit of wisdom, justice, and truth.
For this, O Lord, we pray:
All Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader Relentless Savior,
we pray for those who feel their lives
are unredeemable and feel the weight of the world’s brokenness
in their own suffering and in their grief for wrong they have done;
raise your people up to be their faithful friends,
daily living out the truth of God’s love and mercy.
All Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

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: 16 N Marengo Ave Ste 609, Pasadena, CA 91101; or give via our app (iOS and Android) or website: www.gracepasadena.org/give.*

SCRIPTURE READING

see insert

MORNING MESSAGE

Brannin Pitre

“Realms & Rulers”
Sermon Series: Genesis

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 appropri-ate 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

GOD’S TABLE / B. COLEMAN

We will come to God’s table
And there remember God’s mercy

We will come to God’s table
And there remember the cross

We will come to God’s table
And there remember God’s family

We will come to the table of the Lord

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER / MUSIC: F. ORTEGA

Glory be to the Father,
Glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Holy Ghost! (2x)

As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be:
world without end, world without end;
Amen, amen!

THE BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the source of all goodness and growth, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon you, his children, that you may use them to his glory and the welfare of all peoples. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God! Amen!

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

ADVENT	We observe a season of Ordinary Time from Pentecost Sunday until the start of Advent. From the Latin “ordus” 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	

THE GRACE PASADENA APP

Use the app to listen to sermons, access an audio Bible, view and register for upcoming events (including City Groups), set up giving and more! Use the QR codes below.



For Android Phones



For iOS Phones

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **9/10: Today** - Sign up for a City Group and enjoy lunch together on the patio after the service. All City Groups begin this week. Email citygroups@gracepasadena.org.
- **9/10: Tonight** - College students are invited to a Faith & Film night (7-10pm). See Pastor Ben.
- **9/13:** The Wednesday Morning Women’s Study (9:30-10:30am) begins! Contact women@gracepasadena.org for more info or register through our app.
- **9/15:** Women’s Fall Kickoff Dessert Night from 8-10pm. Email women@gracepasadena.org for details & address.
- **9/17:** Adult Discipleship Seminars! This fall, we’ll explore the different genres of Scripture and how knowing the genres can deepen our understanding of God’s words to us and its beauty. Seminars meet on 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, and 10/22. We’ll meet at 8:45am in the Cliff Benedict Room. See Pastor Marc.
- **9/22:** Youth Group Field Day at Victory Park from 7-10pm. See Pastor Ben.

If you are in any kind of need, please email mercy@gracepasadena.org or talk to a deacon or other leader of Grace. You are not alone; we are here to help!

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-AUG ‘23*	SEP ‘23*
OFFERINGS & CONTRIBUTIONS _____	\$304,199	\$3,815
BUDGETED GIVING _____	337,000	44,000
DIFFERENCE _____	-32,801	-40,185

* as of 9/7/2023; figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors



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“After the one extravagant gesture of creation in the first place, the universe has continued to deal exclusively in extravagances, flinging intricacies and colossi down aeons of emptiness, heaping profusions on prolificacies with ever-fresh vigor. The whole show has been on fire from the word go. I come down to the water to cool my eyes. But everywhere I look I see fire; that which isn’t flint is tinder, and the whole world sparks and flames.”

ANNIE DILLARD | *PILGRIM AT TINKER CREEK*

“I would rather be what God chose to make me than the most glorious creature that I could think of; for to have been thought about, born in God’s thought, and then made by God, is the dearest, grandest, and most precious thing in all thinking.”

GEORGE MACDONALD

“There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice.”

JOHN CALVIN | *SERMON NUMBER 10 ON I COR.*

“Healing is impossible in loneliness; it is the opposite of loneliness. Conviviality is healing. To be healed we must come with all the other creatures to the feast of Creation.”

WENDELL BERRY | *THE ART OF THE COMMONPLACE*

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
ORDINARY TIME