

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Praise the Lord.

All The Lord’s name be praised!

Leader It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High,
All to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

—based on Psalm 92:1-2

OPENING PRAYER

SONGS OF PRAISE

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY / J. NEANDER

1. Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him,
for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear,
now to His temple draw near,
praise Him in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things
so wondrously reigneth;
shelters thee under His wings,
yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen
how all thy longings have been
granted in what He ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord,
who doth prosper thy work
and defend thee;
surely His goodness and mercy
here daily attend thee!
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with His love He befriend thee.

4. Praise to the Lord!
O, let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before Him.
Let the “Amen”
sound from His people again,
gladly for aye we adore Him.

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

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*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader Christian, what is your confession of sin?

All Have mercy on me, O God, in your faithful love, in your great tenderness wipe away my offences; wash me thoroughly from my guilt, purify me from my sin. For I am well aware of my offences, my sin is constantly in mind. Against you, you alone, I have sinned, I have done what you see to be wrong, that you may show your saving justice when you pass sentence, and your victory may appear when you give judgment, remember, I was born guilty, a sinner from the moment of conception. But you delight in sincerity of heart, and in secret you teach me wisdom. God, create in me a clean heart, renew within me a resolute spirit, do not thrust me away from your presence, do not take away from me your spirit of holiness. Give me back the joy of your salvation, sustain in me a generous spirit. Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will speak out your praise. Sacrifice gives you no pleasure, burnt offering you do not desire. Sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken, contrite heart you never scorn. This we pray in the name of our faithful Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. (silence)

WORDS OF COMFORT & PEACE

Leader Christians, lift up your heads! Hear the good news:

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

All Thanks be to God!

—based on 1 Tim. 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24

Leader The Lord loves to forgive his people. Therefore, let us rise and sing his praise.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

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.

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.

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.

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader May the peace of Christ be with you.

All And also with you!

Leader Therefore, let us greet one another.

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Leader Christians, what do you believe?

All According to God’s great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

—from 1 Peter 1:3-5; 18-19

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader O Triune God, we pray that the love that passes ceaselessly between the Father and the Son in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit may renew and deepen the life of each Christian and draw us all gathered here into your unending life. (Silence) Lord in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace, that we may honor one another and serve the common good. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Leader O God, whom we cannot love unless we love our neighbors, remove hate and prejudice from us and from all people, so that your children may be reconciled with those we fear, resent, or threaten, and may live together in your peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Leader Comfort and heal all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

Leader O God, in your loving purpose answer our prayers and fulfill our hopes. In all things for which we pray, give us the will to seek to bring them about, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 20:32-38; Mark 12:41-44 (NIV)

Acts 20:32-38

³² “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. ³⁵ In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ” ³⁶ When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. ³⁷ They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. ³⁸ What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

Mark 12:41-44

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. ⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

MORNING MESSAGE

John Stone

Sermon Title: “Grace of Giving”

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL UPDATE

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 ACCLAMATION

Leader Therefore we declare the great mystery of our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament

**All Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

Leader These are the gifts of God for you, the people of God.

SONG 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

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 May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Bless the Lord. —2 Corinthians 13:13

All **The Lord's name be praised! Amen!**

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



Women's Fall Kickoff Dessert Night | Sept 6, 8-10pm
Join us for desserts and treats to connect with the Women of Grace as we kick off for the fall! Email Abbey/Whitney at women@gracepasadena.org for details and address.



College / Young Adult Welcome Back BBQ Pool Party | September 8
Join the Finnermans at their home for a night of food and fellowship to welcome back our college students. Scan the QR code or visit <https://subspla.sh/g4dwjzc> to RSVP.



Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study | Sep 11-Nov 20
Join us for a 10-week study on the book of Esther Wednesday mornings 9:30-10:30 am beginning Sep 11. Scan the QR code or visit www.gracepasadena.org/womenofgrace to register.

UPCOMING & ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sep 15-Nov 23 | City Groups Fall Term | <https://gracepasadena.org/city-groups>

Oct 6-Nov 3 | New Members Class | ben@gracepasadena.org

Oct 20 | Save the Date! Fall Festival

Nov 28 | Save the Date! Friendsgiving with the Stones



Wednesday Evenings | Dinner at the Stones | <https://subspla.sh/rbz2w39/>



Thursday Evenings | Youth Group Hangouts | <https://gracepasadena.org/grace-youth>



Ongoing | Coffee with an Elder | <https://tally.so/r/w8K74r>



Sep 26 | Reimagining Work: Public Policy Event - The Center for Faith and Work in LA is hosting an event on Sep 26 from 7-9pm to discuss how public policy promotes the common good, for our flourishing and for the kingdom of God. Visit faithandworkla.com to register. Admission is \$40.

GIVING & BUDGET

	JAN-JUL 2024	AUG 2024
GIVING AS OF 8/29/2024	\$285,267	\$28,288
BUDGETED GIVING	307,650	46,200
DIFFERENCE	-22,383	-17,912
BUDGETED EXPENSE	\$459,864	\$59,222

For 2024, the budgeted contribution from reserves is \$140,408 (or 14% of reserves as of Jan 1)



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"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

MATTHEW 5:19

"The principal hindrance to the advancement of the kingdom of God is greed. It is the chief obstacle to heaven-sent revival. It seems that when the back of greed is broken, the human spirit soars into regions of unselfishness. I believe that it is safe to say there can be no continuous revival without 'hilarious' giving. And I fear no contradiction: wherever there is 'hilarious' giving there will soon be revival!"

O.S. HAWKINS

"A checkbook is a theological document, it will tell you who and what you worship."

BILLY GRAHAM

"The basic question is not how much of our money we should give to God, but how much of God's money we should keep for ourselves."

JIM GEORGE

"A lack of generosity refuses to acknowledge that your assets are not really yours, but God's."

TIMOTHY KELLER

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

ADVENT
CHRISTMAS
EPIPHANY
LENT
EASTER
PENTECOST
ORDINARY TIME

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.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

ORDINARY TIME