

GRACE TODAY

Vol. 27 No. 50

December 11, 2022

John MacArthur

PASTOR-TEACHER

Bill Brandenstein / Minister of Music



9:00 & 11:00* am

What Child Is This? · Trad./Johnson · Stephen Sturz, Organ Prelude

Angels from the Realms of Glory · Smart/Sturz

Hymn 218 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel · Congregation

O Come, All Ye Faithful · Wade/Wasson-Rice · Brass Ensemble

Sing Noël, Sing Hallelujah · Smith-Hamilton · Worship Choir

Hymn 226 Good Christian Men, Rejoice · Congregation

Birthday of a King · Neidlinger-Marsh · Phil Webb

MESSAGE: **THE BELIEVER'S ARMOR**

John MacArthur • Ephesians 6:14–17

Communion

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella · Trad./Hudson · Stephen Sturz, Organ Postlude

6:00 pm**Instrumental Prelude**

Carol Sing · Phil Webb

Baptism

MESSAGE: **WHY JESUS CAME: TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST**

Isaías Muñoz • Luke 19:1–10

Postlude**Anthem****Sing Noël, Sing Hallelujah**

Sing Noël! Sing Noël! Sing Noël! Sing Noël! Sing Noël! Sing Noël!

Sing we all Noël! Sing we all Noël! Sing, O sing, O sing we all Noël!

Sing we all Noël! Sing Noël!

Come behold this Child in the manger, gift of the Father's great love.
Angels look down as His glory surrounds them, starlight from heaven above.

Sing Noël, sing Hallelujah, God with us now come to dwell.

Sing Noël, lift high His praises, Christ, our Emmanuel. Christ, our Emmanuel.

Lift up your heads all who wander in darkness, shine for your light has come.
Down through the ages, though sin's battle rages, Christ, our Messiah has won.

Sing Noël! Sing Hallelujah! Come adore on bended knee.

Sing Noël, lift high His praises, Christ come to set us all free.

Christ come to set us all free!

Let every daughter and son of the Father rise on this Christmas morn.

With heaven voicing all praise and rejoicing, Christ, our Redeemer is born.

Sing Noël! Sing Hallelujah! All creation great and small,

Sing Noël, lift high His praises. Christ come to save us all.

Sing Noël! Sing Hallelujah! All creation great and small,

Sing Noël, lift high His praises. Christ come to save us all.

Christ come to save us all!

Lyrics by David Hamilton; music by Michael W. Smith. © 2007 Word Music, LLC/SmittyFly Music (admin. by Word Music, LLC)/Gratia Music (admin. by The Loving Company). UBP. CCLI Lic. 32723.

* During the 11:00 am service, interpreting in American Sign Language (ASL) is available in the Worship Center and livestream translations in Arabic, Korean, Mandarin, and Russian are available at gracechurch.org/live. During the 6:00 pm service, livestream translation is available in Spanish.

Campus Ministries

THE WELCOME CENTER hosts a reception for visitors following each Sunday morning service. There, you will find helpful people with answers to any questions you have about our church. You'll also receive one of Pastor John's books as a thank-you for being with us today.

THE MEMBER CENTER has information about membership and baptism. It is located on the east side of the Upper Room, north of the Welcome Center.

Next Membership Class • January 8, 2023
101 • 9:00 & 11:00 am • TMS Library (West)

THE PRAYER ROOM is staffed with counselors ready to offer pastoral care. It is open after every service and is adjacent to the Worship Center.

Generations of Grace Children's Sunday School



MESSAGE God Announces the Messiah's Birth

PASSAGE Matthew 1:18–25; Luke 1:26–38

PRINCIPLE Jesus is Savior and Lord and deserves all our worship.

FEATURED HYMN “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” (*Hymns of Grace* No. 238)
What is important about the names Immanuel, Savior, and Son of the Most High?

ASK YOUR CHILD

APPLY By obeying Jesus Christ as Lord and God.

THIS WEEK As a family, read Matthew 1:18–25 and Luke 1:26–38.

NEXT WEEK Luke 2:1–20

Adapted from the **Generations of Grace Family Devotional**, available at *Grace Books*.

GraceWalk

- Fundamentals of the Faith
- Local Outreach
- Missionary in Training

On the Patio

- Missionary Calendars

Grace Books

Grace Books is open after each service and during the week. It is located on the south side of the Worship Center.

The Believer's Armor

by John MacArthur

The Christian life is warfare—spiritual warfare—and your enemy is real, powerful, and cunning. You can't afford to be ignorant of Satan's schemes, but you don't have to be afraid. God has given you the intel, the weapons, the protection, and the marching orders you need to triumph. This study guide includes questions at the end of each section to help facilitate deeper study, discussion, and application—making it an ideal resource for either personal or group study.



Available today for 20% off retail. Take an additional 10% off all books and receive free gift wrapping for all bookstore purchases.

Grace to You

RADIO gty.org/radio

The Birth of the King

- KKLA 99.5 FM LOS ANGELES M–F 6:30 am & 7:30 pm
- KDAR 98.3 FM OXNARD-VENTURA M–F 2:00 & 10:00 am; Sun 2:00 am
- KABC 790 AM LOS ANGELES Sat 7:30 am

TELEVISION gty.org/television

“A Jewish Priest Testifies to the Messiah”

- NRBTV CHANNEL 378 ON DIRECTV Sunday 6:30 pm

ONLINE gty.org

- John MacArthur's sermons: audio, video, and transcripts
- Resource library: blog, devotionals, articles, Q&As, and more
- Mobile apps: “The Study Bible” and “Grace to You Sermons”

A Proactive Investment in Missions

There is a path in supporting missions that leads far beyond the ordinary and necessary path of financial support—a path far less traveled, but worth every step. This path is that of genuine friendship with our missionary families, marked by awareness of God’s work through them, thoughtful encouragement given to them, and fervent prayer for them. Despite the many miles between us and our missionaries, we must be faithful to cultivate hearts of kinship and love that draw us closer together with our missionaries and assist the work of gospel ministry across the world.

So, what is the first step on this path? Consider a part of the world for which you may have an affinity or burden, and find a missionary who serves in that country or select one supported by your Bible study or Fellowship Group. Take some time to learn about the culture and spiritual diversity that exists in that particular region, as this will inform your prayers for the missionary’s life and fruitfulness in that distinct part of the world.

You can also reach out to our International Outreach Department and ask to be included on the distribution list for your missionary’s monthly newsletter.

These newsletters will provide a bird’s eye view of their ministry and share their latest prayer requests.

To support a family still more, reach out to them. Correspondence goes a long way in encouraging our missionaries. Take the opportunity to send a Christmas card through our website or visit the missionary’s webpage to contact their ministry directly.

In addition to these personal means of support, there are numerous outreach events hosted regularly here at church that provide opportunities to connect further with our missionary families. Grace Ministries International hosts **Grace Global**, a quarterly event where we interview visiting and outgoing missionaries, and also take an extended time to pray for all of our missionaries. Each month during the Sunday evening service, we feature a segment called **Grace Around the World** where a missionary is able to give a report on their ministry. The women of our church have the unique opportunity to be a part of

Mindset for Missions, a ministry affiliated with Every Woman's Grace that meets on Wednesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 pm to listen to missionary interviews and discuss the latest happenings from the field.

Above all else, prayer is the perfect complement to the work and service of our missionaries. Like wind in a sail, prayer supports, edifies, and uplifts our missionary families, reminding them that back home, kindred hearts love them and are lifting their ministries before the throne of God. Whether you pray through the specific requests on their newsletter or pray in general for needs to be met, souls to be saved, and lives to be changed through the preaching of Christ and His Word, it truly honors the Lord and strengthens our love for missions when our prayers accompany the work of our missionaries.

To help you in this effort to connect with and uplift our missionaries, Grace Ministries International publishes a calendar each year. This calendar is

designed to serve as a regular reminder of our families serving the Lord overseas and to help you familiarize yourself with them. Each month, the calendar features photos and information from a number of missionary families, along with a QR code linked to videos that introduce you to these families and help you learn about the progress the Lord is accomplishing through their ministries. Beginning today, our 2023 calendar will be available at stations throughout our church campus. As we begin a new year, we pray you will take the time to creatively connect with one of our missionary families and that the Lord will use this simple tool to ignite a passion in your heart both for our missionary families and the work of God all over the world through missions.

- **To send a Christmas card, visit gracechurch.org/cis.**
- **To learn more about our individual missionary families, visit gracechurch.org/outreach.**

2023 Missionary Calendar

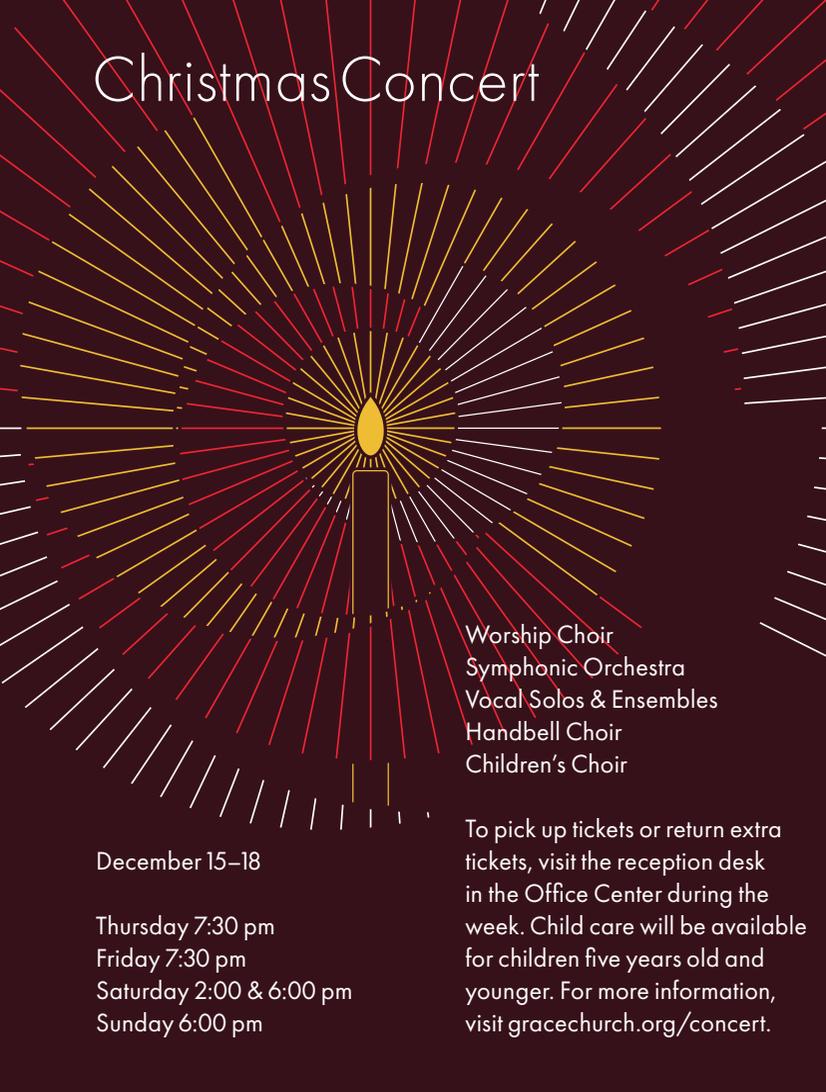
Visit the Patio tables to pick up a calendar today.

JANUARY 2023

To see a video greeting from this month's missionaries, scan the QR code or visit gracechurch.org/cis.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	And their agents prosper the gospel, and multitudes are won already, so that we could not hold an another man's household but with a sword. "This is the best harvest of which we see, and they will have no need of our aid!" - Matthew 24			

Christmas Concert



Worship Choir
Symphonic Orchestra
Vocal Solos & Ensembles
Handbell Choir
Children's Choir

December 15–18

Thursday 7:30 pm

Friday 7:30 pm

Saturday 2:00 & 6:00 pm

Sunday 6:00 pm

To pick up tickets or return extra tickets, visit the reception desk in the Office Center during the week. Child care will be available for children five years old and younger. For more information, visit gracechurch.org/concert.

Faith Promise

Last week you generously gave **\$35,788**. Thank you for your ongoing support of our missionaries and their ministries around the world.

Joyful Givers

2022 Tax Information

All contributions for calendar year 2022 must be received by the church no later than our December 25 offering or postmarked no later than December 31, 2022. The church campus will be closed for the holidays December 21–23, 2022, December 26–30, 2022, and January 2, 2023. Contributions received or postmarked after Saturday, December 31, 2022, will be recorded in 2023. The elders, pastors, and church staff thank each of you for faithfully and sacrificially giving to the Lord.

Committing Our New Missionaries to the Lord

Come by the Missionary in Training Patio table this morning and meet David & Channing Chow, who are preparing for ministry in the Philippines.



Russian Outreach Bible Study

Today - 12:30 pm - CC230

Join us as we fellowship and pray about how to reach the Russian community in Los Angeles with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

A Heart for the Homebound

Every December, we send cards to our dear homebound saints as a reminder of our care for them. Join us by making or writing a card of your own to one or more of these members, and we can do the rest. Simply hand in your cards to the Office Center this Sunday through December 20, and we will deliver these messages by Christmas. For a list of homebound members, contact Rick McLean at 818-909-5519.

Adventure Club Schedule Change

Due to the Christmas Concert and holidays, Adventure Club will not be meeting December 18, December 25, and January 1.

Job Opportunities

Applicants for employment to Grace Church must be, if employed, biblically qualified as a deacon or deaconess and be a member of Grace Church. For more information or to request an application, contact Human Resources at hr@gracechurch.org or 818-909-5672.

Audio-Visual Technician The Audio-Visual Department has a part-time opening (up to 20 hrs/wk) for an audio-visual technician. This position involves planning, setting up, and providing technical support for the ministry events that occur across the church campus every day of the week. This includes live sound reinforcement, laptop/video connections, zoom calls, and basic audio/video recording. Must pay attention to detail and be able to troubleshoot under pressure while providing excellent customer service and interaction with church staff and attendees. Must be available to work mornings to mid-afternoons, Monday through Friday.

Custodian The Custodial Department has part-time openings (20–29 hrs/wk) for custodians who will enjoy working in a team environment and serving the church in practical ways. Position requires ability to be detail-oriented and thrive in a fast-paced environment. Job duties include setup and teardown of rooms for church events as well as various cleaning tasks. Applicants must be able to lift up to 30 pounds.

Additional Positions *PT: Part-time, FT: Full-time*

Event Server (PT)

GMI Accountant (FT)

Graphic Designer (FT/PT)

HR Generalist (FT)

Kitchen Staff (PT)

Nurse (FT)

Security Patrol (PT)

For a complete list of job openings at **Grace Community Church, Grace to You, The Master's University and Seminary, and The Master's Academy International**, visit gracechurch.org/jobs.



9:00 am

Anchored (All ages) T360
Pastors: Carl Hargrove,
Bill Shannon

Cornerstone (All ages) T370
Pastors: Nathan Busenitz,
Mark Tatlock, Harry Walls

GraceLife (All ages)
Family Center
Pastors: Phil Johnson,
Mike Riccardi

Jr. High (Grades 7-8)
T70 (Basement)
Pastor: Jay Lennington

Steadfast (All ages) T270
Pastor: Brian Biedebach

Both 9:00 & 11:00 am

Spanish Worship Services
Chapel
Pastors: Luis Contreras,
Josiah Grauman

Spanish Adult Sunday School
TMS Library
Pastors: Luis Contreras,
Josiah Grauman

11:00 am

Commissioned (All ages) T270
Pastors: Rodney Andersen,
Brad Klassen

Crossroads
(College & young adults)
Family Center
Pastor: Austin Duncan

High School (Grades 9-12)
T70 (Basement)
Pastor: Isaías Muñoz

Joint Heirs (All ages) T360
Pastors: Tom Patton, John Street

Sojourners (All ages) T370
Pastors: Abner Chou,
Joe Zhakevich

Children's Ministry
Visit the Welcome Center for
room locations.
Pastor: Jay Lennington

Developmentally Disabled
CC130E
Pastor: Rick McLean

1:00 pm

Neighborhood Outreach
H221-222

5:00 pm

Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting
H114

6:00 pm

Adventure Club
Family Center (Grades 4-6)
Chapel (Grades 1-3)
CC230 (Ages 3-5)

Mondays 9:00 am

Monday Morning Prayer Group
Welcome Center

Fridays 7:00 pm

Foundation (Young professionals)
Tower Basement
Pastor: Mark Zhakevich

Building Abbreviation Key
T = Tower H = Heritage
CC = Children's Center

Ministry Directory

Administration
818-909-5500

Children
818-909-5631

Grace Equip
818-909-5674

International Outreach
818-909-5503

Local Outreach
818-909-5721

Membership
818-909-5644

Men
818-909-5581

Pastoral Care & Counseling
818-909-5581

Prayer
818-909-5519

Spanish
818-909-5722

Special Ministries
818-909-5519

Student
818-909-5593

Women
818-909-5521

For more information about Sunday fellowships scan the QR code or visit gracechurch.org/about/sunday-fellowships.



GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

13248 Roscoe Boulevard
Sun Valley, CA 91352

[GRACECHURCH.ORG](http://gracechurch.org)

Our mission is to glorify God by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, for the salvation of the lost and edification of the church.

Grace Today is published weekly by Grace Community Church. © 2022 by Grace Community Church. Scripture, unless otherwise noted, is taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, © The Lockman Foundation 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995. Used by permission.