

Grace *Today*

John MacArthur

Pastor-Teacher

December 17, 2023

Vol. 28, No. 51

Bill Brandenstein

Minister of Music

Tonight

**Final Christmas
Concert**



Today at Grace

8 am

Coffee and Donuts
(Chapel Plaza)

9 and 11 am

Worship Services
Fellowship Groups
Children's Sunday School
Spanish Ministries

After Morning Services

Welcome Center
Member Center
Ministry Tables (Patio)

- Local Outreach
- Fundamentals of the Faith
- Missionary Calendar

Grace Books
Scholar's Desk
Steeple House Coffee

1 pm

Neighborhood Outreach
(H221–222)
Korean Outreach (H223–224)

5 pm

Prayer Meeting (H114)

6 pm

Christmas Concert

See back for building locations.

During the 11 am service, interpreting in ASL is available in the Worship Center. Foreign language livestreams for the 11 am service are available at gracechurch.org/live.

grace
community
church

Morning Worship Service — 9 and 11 am

O Come, All Ye Faithful Wade/Purvis-Sturz

Stephen Sturz, Organ Prelude • Wade/Purvis-Sturz

Call to Worship

Hymn 227 Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymn 239 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Hymn 222 Angels from the Realms of Glory

Congregation

Scripture Reading & Prayer

Festive Noels

Worship Choir • Krogstad

Hymn 259 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Congregation

Announcements & Offering

What Child Is This?

Carmella Wamhoff • Trad./Wilberg

MESSAGE

John MacArthur Preaching

Doxology Hymn

Hymn 247 Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her
Baby in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

And our eyes at last shall see Him
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child, so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

Organ Postlude • Trad./Willcocks

Evening Worship Service — 6 pm

Christmas Concert

Join us for the final evening of this year's concert series. Should Worship Center seating fill up, overflow seating will be located in the Family Center. Nursery will be available for children five and under. Livestream will also be available at gracechurch.org/live.

Festive Noels

Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel! Sing a joyous, radiant,
jubilant Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises to the Babe so dear.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

Noel, Noel, Noel!

Angels did say, "O shepherds, come and see,
Born in Bethlehem, A blessed Lamb for thee."
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel, Noel!
Sing we Noel, for Christ, the newborn King.
Christmas comes anew. O let us sing Noel!

Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella. Bring a torch, come
swiftly, and run.

Christ is born, tell the folk of the village Jesus is
sleeping in His cradle.

Ah, ah, beautiful is the mother; ah, ah, beautiful is
her Son.

Hasten now, good folk of the village, hasten now,
the Christ-Child to see.

You will find Him asleep in the manger. Quietly come,
and whisper softly.

Hush, hush. Peacefully now, He slumbers; hush, hush.
Peacefully now, He sleeps.

Oh, how joyfully, oh, how merrily, Christmas comes
with its grace divine!

Grace again is beaming, Noel, Noel. Christ, the
world redeeming.

Hail, ye Christians, hail the joyous Christmas time.

Sing Noel! Sing Noel, Noel! Christmas comes with
its life divine!

Angels high in glory chant the Christmas story.

Hail ye Christians,

Hail the joyous Christmas time!

Sing Noel, Noel, Noel!

Arranged and orchestrated by Bob Krogstad (2015).

TODAY

Missionary Calendar 2024

Next year's Missionary Calendar is available on the
Patio this morning. One per family, please.

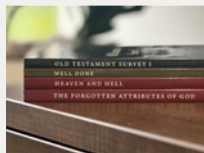
Institute for the Christian Life Book Series

Resources designed to help you
grow in your knowledge of God and His
Word, produced for the church by
The Master's Seminary.

"Indispensable tools accessible to
believers at all levels of spiritual
maturity." —John MacArthur

- *The Forgotten Attributes of God: God's Nature and Why It Matters* by Peter Sammons
- *Heaven and Hell: A Survey of the Biblical Doctrines of Personal Eschatology* by Kevin Zuber
- *Old Testament Survey 1: Genesis to Esther* by Nathan LeMaster
- *Well Done: A Strategy for Life Stewardship* by Reagan Rose

**Available today for
30% off retail**
when you purchase
the set of four
at Grace Books or
Scholar's Desk.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School

9 and 11 am

The Incarnation of the Son of God
John 6:6–18

Main Idea: Jesus became a man so that
people can know God.

Application: Understand that
Jesus became a man to show humans
God's glory.

Featured Hymn: *Hark! The Herald
Angels Sing* (Hymn 238)

Review: What was John the Baptist
a witness to?

Next Week: Review Sunday

Adventure Club

Due to the Christmas Concert this
evening, Adventure Club will not
be meeting. Nursery will be available
for children five and under.

A Heart for the Homebound

Congregational Care Ministries

Every year during the holidays we are reminded of how blessed we are to be able to gather together as the family of God here at Grace Church. Whether it be fellowshiping with one another in our corporate times of worship, attending our Fellowship Groups, participating in Men of the Word or Every Woman's Grace, or taking part in a Bible study, it seems that there is no shortage of opportunities to be together, especially during Christmas. However, although these marvelous blessings are true for most of us, it is also true that the Lord doesn't bless all His children in this same way.

While the majority of us are enriched by the sweet communion that flows from our physical presence with one another, others in our congregation find their richest communion with the Savior alone. Because most of us don't have any impediments that keep us from being regularly together, we

can sometimes forget that there are many others who, due to preventative circumstances such as health, age, or accident, are homebound for the holidays. They love the Lord, they love our church, and they are faithful to participate in our livestream ministry, but they are unable to be among us physically.

Though most of our homebound saints have family and friends that are allowed to visit them during this time of year, it is often the case that those they know and love are not believers. They are, therefore, not always able to experience the personal Christian fellowship that so many of us take for granted. Because of this, Christmas time is almost always a challenge. It is our desire that these precious members, though removed from the rhythms of weekly fellowship, are loved with the same kindred affection as those of us who are able to easily and frequently gather together.



To that end, we would like to invite all those who would like to participate in this congregational care ministry to send a Christmas card to our homebound saints. Simply make or write a card with your own creative touch to one or more of the members listed, making sure to write the name of the homebound saint in the center of the

card, and we can do the rest. Hand your cards in at the Office Center through December 31, and we'll deliver these special messages of encouragement through the holiday season. If you would like to send your Christmas card yourself, contact Pastor Rick McLean at 818-909-5519 for the relevant mailing address. ●



Christian & Sheryl Andresen

Serving in Germany since 1997

Pray for wisdom for the counseling and leadership relationships that the Lord has entrusted us to us. Pray also that Christian would be faithful in his responsibilities at home, to family, in the church, and at the European Bible Training Center.

| gracechurch.org/andresen

Faith Promise

Your Faith Promise giving is a great way to support our missionaries throughout the year.

| gracechurch.org/give

GIVING INFORMATION

Joyful Givers

All contributions for calendar year 2023 must be received by the church no later than our December 31 offering or postmarked no later than December 31, 2023. The church campus will be closed for the holidays from December 20, 2023 through January 1, 2024, excluding Sundays, when we are open for our worship services. Contributions received or postmarked after Sunday, December 31, 2023, will be recorded in 2024. The elders, pastors, and church staff thank each of you for faithfully and sacrificially giving to the Lord.

Upcoming at Grace

12/20-1/1 Christmas Holiday
(Campus closed, excluding Sundays)

1/13 Men's Conference

1/18 Elders Meeting

1/21 Communion

gracechurch.org/news

HIGHLIGHTS

Christmas Schedule

Please note, there is no elders meeting in December. The church campus, including Grace Books and Steeple House, will be closed December 20 through January 1, excluding Sundays. On these Sundays, December 24 and 31, there will be no evening service and the campus will be open until 3 pm. For questions about a specific ministry, contact your ministry leader.

One With Christ

One with Christ exists to strengthen widows as they walk worthy of their calling (Ephesians 4:1), seeing God's hand in their healing, and finding strength and hope in God's Word. This year we are going through *The Fruitful Life* by Jerry Bridges, considering the nine aspects of the fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23.

| Tomorrow, December 18, 9:30 am, CC130
gracechurch.org/one-with-christ

Premarital & Marriage Seminar

A prerequisite for engaged couples desiring to get married at Grace Church, this seminar is also helpful for those who are purposefully dating, as well as married couples interested in God's plan for a successful marriage.

Part 1 Friday, January 12, 7-9 pm & Saturday, January 13, 9 am-12 pm

Part 2 Friday, February 16, 7-9 pm & Saturday, February 17, 9 am-12 pm

Cost: \$35 per couple for church members and TMS/TMU students; \$65 per couple for non-members.

| Register: gracechurch.org/premarital,
818-909-5537

Giving to Winter Camps

You can bless a junior high or high school student by supporting their trip to camp this winter.

| Give: gracechurch.org/camps

Men's Conference 2024

There is a lot of confusion today about what it means to be a man. As the culture increasingly disparages manhood, dissenting voices grow louder and angrier, calling on men to defend their masculinity by breaking cultural taboos. But Scripture provides a more excellent way in its record of the man Jesus Christ. All men are invited to join us for a conference focused on the theme, "The Man: Jesus Christ," as we dispel the cultural confusion and look to Christ's humanity to define what it means to be a man.

Saturday, January 13

8:30 am–1:30 pm, Worship Center

Speaker: HB Charles, Jr.

| gracechurch.org/motw

Grace to You

Radio: *The Best of Christmas*

KKLA 99.5FM LA / M–F 6:30 am & 7:30 pm

KDAR 98.3FM Oxnard-Ventura / M–F 2 & 10 am; Sun 2 am

KABC 790AM LA / Sat 7:30 am

TV: "The Divine Credentials of the Christmas Child"

NRBTV Ch. 378 on DirecTV / Sun 6:30 pm

Visit our website for a full library of audio, video, and transcripts of Pastor John's sermons; "The Study Bible" and "Grace to You Sermons" mobile apps; and other resources.

| gty.org

But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Too little to be among the clans of Judah,
From you One will go forth for Me to be
ruler in Israel.

His goings forth are from everlasting,
From the ancient days.

— Micah 5:2



Christian Education

There are various options available for your student's K–12 education from Grace Church. As enrollment deadlines approach for the spring semester, consider if one of these options may be a good fit for your family:

- Grace Academy
- Classical Conversations
- Faith Christian School PSP
- Legacy Christian Academy

gracechurch.org/education

Job Openings

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

PT: Part-time; FT: Full-time

- Custodian, PT
- Dishwasher, PT
- Hospitality Coordinator, PT
- Nursery Supervisor, PT
- Security Patrol, PT
- Social Media/Marketing Creator, FT

For a full description of jobs and benefits, visit gracechurch.org/jobs.



Sunday Ministries

For a complete list of Sunday and midweek ministries, including those for men, women, and specific age groups, visit gracechurch.org/ministries.



9 am

Anchored T360
Pastors: Carl Hargrove, Bill Shannon

Cornerstone T370
Pastors: Nathan Busenitz, Mark Tatlock, Harry Walls

GraceLife Family Center
Pastors: Phil Johnson, Mike Riccardi

Steadfast T270
Pastor: Brian Biedebach

Xchange (Jr. High) T70 (Tower Basement)
Pastor: Jay Lennington

11 am

180 (High School) T70 (Tower Basement)
Pastor: Isaías Muñoz

Commissioned T270
Pastors: Rodney Andersen, Brad Klassen

Crossroads (College & Young Adult) Family Center
Pastor: Austin Duncan

Joint Heirs T360
Pastors: Tom Patton, John Street

Sojourners T370
Pastors: Abner Chou, Joe Zhakevich

9 and 11 am

Children's Ministry
For room locations, visit Children's Check-in.
Pastor: Jay Lennington


Developmentally Disabled CC130E
Pastor: Rick McLean

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

Spanish Worship Services Chapel
Pastors: Luis Contreras, Josiah Grauman

Campus Map

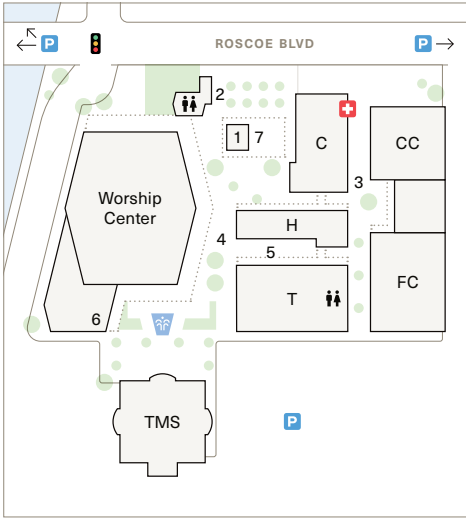
13248 Roscoe Blvd
Sun Valley, CA 91352
818-909-5500
gracechurch.org



Network:
Grace Church Wi-Fi
Password:
Proverbs3:5-6

Legend

- T Tower
 - H Heritage
 - CC Children's Center
 - FC Family Center
 - C Chapel
-
- 1 Welcome Center
 - 2 Member Center
 - 3 Children's Check-in
 - 4 Patio
 - 5 GraceWalk & Steeple House Coffee
 - 6 Grace Books
 - 7 Scholar's Desk



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.

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Family of Ministries

Grace to You
gtu.org

The Master's Seminary
tms.edu

The Master's University
masters.edu

The Master's Academy International
tmai.org

John MacArthur Trust
jmacarthurtrust.org

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