

Grace *Today*

John MacArthur

Pastor-Teacher

August 31, 2025

Vol. 30, No. 35

Bill Brandenstein

Minister of Music



grace
community
church

Featured
An Update from
Our Elders

Today at Grace

9 and 11 am

Worship Services
Fellowship Groups
Grace Kids
Spanish Ministries

After Morning Services

Welcome Center
Member Center
Grace Books
Scholar's Desk
Steeple House Coffee

On the Patio

- Fundamentals of the Faith
- Local Outreach

1 pm

Neighborhood Outreach
(Tower Basement)

5 pm

Prayer Meeting (H114)

6 pm

Evening Service
Adventure Club

See back for building locations.

During the 11 am service,
interpreting in ASL is
available in the Worship Center.
Foreign language live-
streams for the 11 am and
6 pm services are available at
gracechurch.org/live.

grace
community
church

Morning Worship Service — 9 and 11 am

Michael Bohr, Director

Concerto I: Allegro

Stephen Sturz, Organ Prelude • Handel

Call to Worship

Hymn 180 *And Can It Be?*

Hymn 181 *His Robes for Mine*

Congregation

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Strings & Woodwinds Ensemble, Piano • Peace/Maddux-Rice

Scripture Reading & Prayer

Praise the Lord

Worship Choir • Handel/Hopson

Hymn 374 *My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness*

Congregation

Announcements & Offering

Your Faithfulness to Me

Jonathan Nah • Nah/Grassi

MESSAGE

So Close Yet So Far

Nathan Busenitz • Mark 6:1–6

Now Thank We All Our God

Organ Postlude • Crüger/Thompson

Evening Worship Service — 6 pm

Prelude

Songs of Praise

Chris Burnett

Announcements & Offering

Missionary Send-Off

MESSAGE

Live Fearlessly!

Carl Hargrove • Isaiah 41:10

Right Hand of Fellowship

Postlude

ANTHEM

Praise the Lord

Praise the Lord. Let songs of joy break forth,
Let songs of joy break forth.
Sing alleluia, praise His name forevermore.

Praise the Lord. Let songs of joy break forth,
Let songs of joy break forth.
Sing alleluia, praise His name forevermore.

Praise Him, the King who reigns o'er all,
the King who reigns o'er all.
Rejoice, let all within us praise His name.
Praise Him, the King who reigns o'er all,
the King who reigns o'er all.
Sing alleluia, praise His name forevermore.

Shout, sing, let songs of joy break forth,
let songs of joy break forth.
Praise the Lord. Let songs of joy break forth,
Let songs of joy break forth.
Sing alleluia, praise His name forevermore.

Shout, sing, let songs of joy break forth, sing alleluia,
Sing for joy, sing alleluia, sing for joy.
Rejoice, O praise His holy name forevermore.

Words & music by George F. Handel; arranged by Hal H. Hopson;
from the oratorio *Judas Maccabeus*.

TODAY

New Here?

Following each Sunday morning service:

- **The Welcome Center** hosts a reception for visitors.
- **The Member Center** has information about membership and baptism.
- **The Prayer Room**, located adjacent to the Worship Center, is staffed with counselors ready to talk and pray with you, following both the morning and evening services.

See back for locations.

FEATURED BOOK

Remaining Faithful in Ministry

by John MacArthur

This book is a call to endurance in ministry, encouraging believers to stand strong and not lose heart, regardless of what God sends their way.

Available today
for **\$5** off retail at
Grace Books and
the Scholar's Desk.



GRACE KIDS

Sunday School

9 and 11 am

Promotion Sunday (AM Only)

Main Idea: God is faithful to His people.

Application: Rejoice in God's love and blessings.

Featured Hymn: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (Hymn 104)

Review: How has God always cared for the Israelites?

Next Week: Deuteronomy 4

Adventure Club

6 pm

Summer with the Savior:

A Study of the Gospel of Luke

Lesson 10: Jesus the Triumphant Savior

Memory Verse: Luke 24:46–47

For Sunday School and Adventure Club room locations, visit Children's Check-In.
gracechurch.org/gracekids

An UPDATE *from* OUR ELDERS

In Matthew 16:18, the Lord Jesus declared that He would build His church, and the gates of hell and death would not prevail against it. That promise has held true for the past 2,000 years. It will remain true until our Lord returns to take His people home. As those who fix their eyes on Christ, our steadfast hope, both now and for the future, is found only in Him.

With Pastor John's homegoing, we have entered a season of transition at Grace Community Church. Pastor John not only prepared us well for this through his faithful preaching, example, and counsel, but the Lord has also assembled a team of elders to shepherd our church through this time.

The elders are grateful for your many expressions of love, support, and prayer. We have also been praying for you as we all process the loss of our pastor. We are thankful for your ongoing love for Christ and service in the church.

The elders have met several times since July, and will continue to meet regularly as we prayerfully make decisions to honor the Lord during this important time in our church's life.

We have also approved a plan for this interim period between the leadership of John MacArthur and the future selection of our next senior pastor. During this intervening time, we will be leaning on our church's deep bench of gifted preachers to fill the pulpit. These men are the fruit of Pastor John's discipleship ministry and represent a continuation of his legacy.

Additionally, the elders have implemented a plan to manage the day-to-day operations of the church and affirmed the leaders of that effort:

Nathan Busenitz has assumed the role of Staff Pastor charged with leading, managing, and shepherding the pastoral staff; leading staff meetings; coordinating pulpit assignments; and performing other duties as needed. He started in this role earlier this year and adds these responsibilities to his ongoing ministry through the seminary and Cornerstone Fellowship Group.

Mark Zhakevich will remain as the Administrative Pastor overseeing the business, financial, and administrative functions of the church. He has served in this role for several years and is assist-



ed by the faithful and talented staff of the church. He will also continue to teach in the seminary and share in the leadership of Cornerstone Fellowship Group and Foundation Bible Study.

The Executive Committee of the elders consists of the corporate officers and will represent all the elders to provide long-term planning, support, and counsel as needed for the Staff and Administrative Pastors: Chris Hamilton (Chairman), George Crawford (Vice-Chairman), Brad Klassen (Secretary), and John Bates (Treasurer). The corporate officers are appointed by the elders at the beginning of each calendar year.

This plan will be under the ongoing oversight of all the elders. Please pray for the elders as we endeavor to serve and shepherd well. If you have any questions, please contact the elders involved in min-

istries where you fellowship or serve. In the coming months, we will provide updates, including a more in-depth profile of the men who serve on our elder team.

We are grateful to the Lord for the privilege of serving at GCC, and we are confident in the Lord for the future of this precious church. The Lord has blessed this congregation beyond measure—particularly through the life and ministry of Pastor John. Though we mourn his absence, we find comfort in knowing that Christ continues to build His church.

Armed with that confidence, we press on in the hope of Ephesians 3:20–21, “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or understand, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.” ●



The Dickerson Family

Tom & Gina, Titus, Naomi

Serving in Africa since 2025

Pray for continued adjustment to life in Malawi. Please also pray for deepening friendships with our new church family.

| gracechurch.org/dickerson

Faith Promise

Last week you generously gave **\$10,363**. Thank you for your ongoing support of our missionaries.

| gracechurch.org/fp

LOCAL OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

Korean Outreach Bible Study

The Korean Outreach Bible Study seeks to provide fellowship for Korean-speaking members of Grace Church, as well as to reach out to the Korean community in Los Angeles. Korean Outreach meets every first and third Sunday for fellowship, prayer, worship, and Bible study.

| Next Sunday, September 7,
12:30 pm, H222-224
Info: Jong Yi, 818-634-5987

Upcoming at Grace

- 9/1 Labor Day (Campus Closed)
- 9/3 Every Woman's Grace
& Men of the Word Begin
- 9/11-13 Spanish Expositors Conference
- 9/18 Elders Meeting
- 9/21 Communion

gracechurch.org/calendar

HIGHLIGHTS

Short-Term Ministries Highlight

Team Madagascar

Pray for our Madagascar team, which is serving through September 8. Team Madagascar is facilitating an evangelistic concert in a rural church and serving at two camps for teenagers and young adults.

Team Members: Abby Laguna, Hannah Dick, Hope Glenn, James Campos, Jedidiah & Anne Johnson, Stephanus Tedja, Timothy Chan

| For more information or to support a team, visit gracechurch.org/stm.

Every Woman's Grace

This year, EWG will study the New Testament books of 1 Corinthians and James. Our study will encourage us to assess where we stand before Christ and be strengthened and equipped to serve the Lord more effectively in the church while waiting for Christ's return. EWG begins this Wednesday, September 3.

| Wednesdays, 10 am and 7 pm, Family Center
Register: gracechurch.org/ewg

Men of the Word

This year, Men of the Word will embark on a study of the letter of 1 John and the light it sheds on the doctrine of assurance. Men of all ages are invited to join us. No registration is necessary to attend.

To welcome both new and regular attendees, we invite you to come early this Wednesday, September 3, at 6 pm, to enjoy fellowship and refreshments on the Patio.

| Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, Worship Center
gracechurch.org/motw

Adventure Club

A new year for Adventure Club begins next Sunday evening—focusing on man, sin, and salvation. This exciting children's program teaches theology in a fun, accessible way. We invite all children from three years old through sixth grade to join us!

Sundays, 6 pm
gracechurch.org/adventureclub

Job Opening

PT: Part-time; FT: Full-time

Grace Church

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.

- Nursery Supervisor, PT

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

Grace to You

Radio: *Myths About Salvation*

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 Promise of Peace in a Worried World”

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

gty.org

With the Lord

Armen Bahadarian and Francine Davis are now in the presence of the Lord. We will have a memorial service in Armen's honor this Thursday, September 4, at 4:30 pm in the Worship Center. We will have a memorial service in Francine's honor this Saturday, September 6, at 1 pm in the Worship Center. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Thank you for faithfully partnering in the ministry of our church as an act of worship to our Lord. Give during any of today's services or at gracechurch.org/giving.



Ministry Highlight

Special Ministries

Scripture makes it clear that we are to love and serve those with special needs. In Leviticus 19:14, God tells His people to care for those with disabilities, and He gives us examples throughout Scripture of what obeying this command looks like. For more than 40 years, the mission of Special Ministries at Grace Church has been to evangelize and disciple the disabled (Matthew 28:18–20). We strive to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to participate fully in church life, whether this means presenting truth in an accessible way, or facilitating corporate worship.

If you're looking for a ministry opportunity, please prayerfully consider serving alongside us. Your life will be enriched by serving our church family in this way, and God will be glorified.

gracechurch.org/special

Service Opportunities

Facilities Team

Volunteers are needed for watering plants and groundskeeping on campus. Experience is helpful, but not necessary.

Maintenance Team

Volunteers are needed for light ongoing maintenance and campus repairs. Responsibilities vary; current tasks include replacing HVAC filters and light bulbs, as well as retouching trim and molding on campus. Experience is helpful, but not necessary.

To apply, contact Morgan Hughes at mhughes@gracechurch.org.

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**
Pastor: Carl Hargrove
- Cornerstone T370**
Pastors: Nathan Busenitz, Mark Tatlock, Mark Zhakevich
- GraceLife Family Center**
Pastors: Phil Johnson, Mike Riccardi
- Steadfast T270**
Pastors: Brian Biedebach, Brian Milam
- Xchange (Middle School) 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 Adults) Family Center**
- Joint Heirs T360**
Pastors: Tom Patton, John Street
- Sojourners T370**
Pastors: Abner Chou, Joe Zhakevich

9 and 11 am

- Grace Kids**
For room locations, visit *Children's Check-in*.
Pastor: Jay Lennington
- Developmentally Disabled CC130E**
Pastor: Rick McLean
- Spanish Adult Sunday School T260**
Pastor: Josiah Grauman
- Spanish Worship Services Chapel**
Pastors: Josiah Grauman, Rubén Pidal, Tom Rios

Campus Map

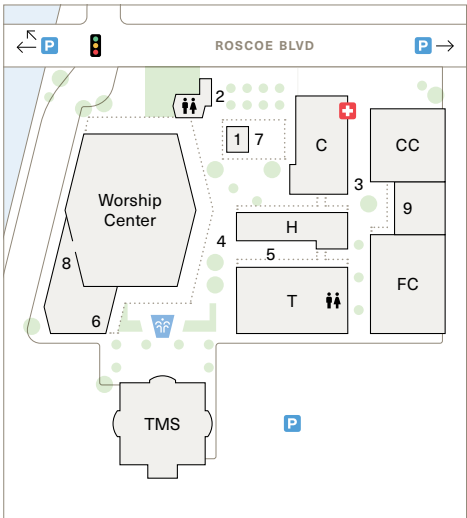
13248 Roscoe Blvd
Sun Valley, CA 91352
818-909-5500
gracechurch.org

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

Please note that today's worship services are being livestreamed and recorded. In addition, your likeness may be recorded or photographed while on campus. Your presence on campus constitutes your permission to Grace Community Church to use images or video of your likeness.

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
8 Prayer Room
9 Well-Baby Cry Room
- PM Location:
Welcome Center (1)



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.

Family of Ministries

- Grace to You**
gti.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

Grace Today is published weekly by Grace Community Church. Copyright © 2025 by Grace Community Church. Scripture, unless otherwise noted, is taken from the Legacy Standard Bible® (LSB®), Copyright © 2021 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. All rights reserved.