

Grace *Today*

February 22, 2026

Vol. 31, No. 8



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
 - Shepherds Conference
- Prayer Cards

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

We preach Christ,
continuing the legacy of
Pastor John MacArthur
(served 1969–2025).

70
grace
community
church

Morning Worship Service — 9 and 11 am

Bill Brandenstein, Minister of Music

Prelude in C minor

Stephen Sturz, organ • Mendelssohn

Hymn 1 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Congregation

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

String quintet, woodwinds, piano • Lowry/Rice

Scripture Reading & Prayer

Blessed Is the Man

Worship Choir • Marshall/Rice

Hymn 368 Speak, O Lord

Congregation

Announcements & Offering

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Grace Chung • Gabriel/Rice

MESSAGE

Simple Gifts

Phil Johnson • Psalm 128

Praise Him

Organ postlude • Bach/Steele

Evening Worship Service — 6 pm

Prelude

Songs of Praise

Chris Burnett

Baptism

Announcements & Offering

MESSAGE

The Sufficiency of Our Salvation in Christ, Part 2

Mike Riccardi • Colossians 2:13–15

Right Hand of Fellowship

Postlude

ANTHEM

Blessed Is the Man

Blessed, blessed is the man,
Blessed is the man who walks not in the
counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the way of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
in the law of the Lord.
And on His law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree, is like a tree planted
by streams of water.

He is like a tree, is like a tree planted
by streams of water.

Words based on Psalm 1. Music by Jane M. Marshall.

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

NEW RELEASE

Born Again

by John MacArthur

Only the radical transformation wrought by God in regeneration can impart spiritual life to the spiritually dead. Pastor John MacArthur shows how John 3 illuminates what it means to be born again to true faith in the living God.

Available today for
40% off retail
at Grace Books and
the Scholar's Desk.



GRACE KIDS

Sunday School

9 and 11 am

Review Sunday

1 Samuel 1–24

Main Idea: God brings up the humble
but casts down the proud.

Application: Pray for God to help you
be humble.

Featured Hymn: *May the Mind of
Christ, My Savior* (Hymn 377)

Review: How was David different
from Saul?

Next Week: 2 Samuel 1:1–2:7

Adventure Club

6 pm

Lesson 18: Redemption

Memory Verse: Mark 10:45

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

What are Deacons?

Every year at Grace, we have the privilege and joy of recognizing new deacons and renominating those who are able to continue serving. To do this, our elders prayerfully consider members who are practically and faithfully serving our church body. Nomination as a deacon is not an appointment to a new ministry or additional responsibilities, but rather a recognition of devoted ministry as an active servant-leader.

The New Testament uses three primary words that refer to deacons: *diakonos*, which means “servant”; *diakonia*, which means “service”; and *diakoneō*, which means “to serve.” While all believers are to be characterized by service, some are appointed by leadership to the role of deacon (cf. Acts 6:2–6, Romans 12:7). And in 1 Timothy 3, there is a specific discussion of the office of deacon (vv. 8–10, 12).

From Timothy, we learn that deacons are equally qualified with elders in terms of character and spiritual life, but they are not required like elders to be able to teach. Elders oversee the work of those who serve

the Lord, and deacons come alongside the elders to assist in that work in a crucial, supporting role. The qualifications for deacons can be divided into two categories: personal character and spiritual character. These qualifications for servant-leadership apply to both deacons and deaconesses (cf. 1 Timothy 3:11).

Personal Character

He must be a man of dignity. The Greek term translated “dignity” means “worthy of respect, stately, dignified.” It denotes a seriousness of mind and character. A deacon must be worthy of respect and serious-minded, not treating serious things lightly.

He must not be double-tongued. He is always consistent and righteous in what he says. He is not someone who says one thing to one person and something else to another. He knows how to bridle his tongue and is not a malicious gossip.

He must not be addicted to much wine. He is to be characterized by clear thinking and self-control.

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not fond of dishonest gain, but holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And these men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.

—1 Timothy 3:8–10

He must not be fond of gain. His goals in life are not to be monetary. 1 Timothy 6:9 says that a pervasive desire for financial gain corrupts a man.

Spiritual Character

He must be doctrinally sound. 1 Timothy 3:9 says that he must hold “to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.” “The faith” refers to the whole of Christian truth. A “clear conscience” is the result of obeying the truth. He must hold to the faith and apply the truth in his life.

He must be active in spiritual service. Verse 10 says, “Let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons.” The verb translated “be tested” speaks of an ongoing test, not a single test or probationary period. The test is an ongoing general assessment by the church of his service to Christ. Before being affirmed as a deacon, he must prove himself to be faithful in serving the Lord.

He must be morally pure. His life is to be “beyond reproach” (v.10). Verse 12 echoes the standard of moral purity,

saying, “Let deacons be husbands of only one wife.” A deacon must be totally consecrated and devoted to his wife.

He must lead a godly family. Verse 12 also says that he must be a good manager of his children and household. The proving ground for leadership is how a man manages his children and home, and the way that a man cares for his children and home is an excellent indicator of his ability to care for God’s church.

Although specific personal and spiritual qualifications must be met by those in the offices of elder and deacon, that does not mean the standard is any lower for anyone else in the congregation. Every believer should seek to have this kind of godly character—whether he is a recognized, office-holding believer or simply a servant in the body of Christ.

This article is adapted from The Master’s Plan for the Church by John F. MacArthur Jr. Copyright 1991, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Moody Press. Used by permission.

Pray for Our Missionaries

Pray for our missionaries as they endeavor to make disciples of all nations, to the glory of God

| gracechurch.org/outreach1

Faith Promise

Last week you generously gave **\$15,707**. 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, March 1, 1 pm
H222-224
Info: Jong Yi, 818-634-5987

Upcoming at Grace

- 3/4-6 Shepherds Conference
 - 3/15 Communion
 - 3/19 Elders Meeting
 - 3/22 Right Hand of Fellowship
 - 3/28 Day of Prayer
- gracechurch.org/calendar

HIGHLIGHTS

Songs for the Battle

Men of the Word invites men to join us for an evening of worship led by Philip Webb. The focus of our time together will be on the Christian man's use of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs in times of difficulty.

Join us for refreshments and fellowship on the Patio, followed by singing, instruction, and discussion with Philip. No registration needed.

| Wednesday, February 25, 6-8 pm
gracechurch.org/motw/news

Membership Classes

If you're interested in becoming part of our church family, a new cycle of Membership Matters classes begins next Sunday. Our three membership classes are designed to introduce you to Grace Church, covering topics like "Distinguishing GCC from Other Churches" (101), "Why Membership Is Biblical" (102), and "How to Be an Effective Member at GCC" (103). For more information on the membership process, visit the Member Center any Sunday after either morning service.

| Beginning next Sunday, March 1, 11 am
TMS Library (West)
gracechurch.org/membership

Grace Evangelism

As a ten-week, interactive course, Grace Evangelism is designed to equip believers with a clear, understandable, and faithful gospel message. Learn the vital components of the gospel and the implications of a God-centered message, and receive practical application and guidance for how to proclaim the gospel faithfully.

| Beginning March 8, 9 and 11 am
Sign up: gracechurch.org/evangelism

Day of Prayer

Join us for a day dedicated to prayer on Saturday, March 28 from 6 am to 6 pm, at any point throughout the day. Every hour, elders will open with Scripture reading and prayer, and invite you to pray for the specific needs of one another, our ministries, and the world. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet elders and fellow believers, trusting in the Lord together through prayer. To commit to pray at a specific time, or to submit your own prayer requests, visit the Patio table today or gracechurch.org/dayofprayer. Prayer request cards can also be turned in throughout the week to the church office.

Saturday, March 28, 6 am–6 pm
T70 (Tower Basement)
gracechurch.org/dayofprayer

The Master's Academy International

2026 International Symposium

Imperishable: The Necessity of Expository Preaching Among the Nations

This year's symposium will consider the necessity of expository preaching in the life of the church and its mission to the nations.

Keynote speakers Mark Tatlock, H.B. Charles Jr., David Robles, and Alex Kolomiitsev will examine how God's imperishable Word is faithfully proclaimed through careful study and clear exposition and how ministries are grounded in the authority of Scripture.

Tuesday, March 3, 9 am–5:30 pm
Santa Clarita
Register: tmai.org/symposium

Volunteers Needed

To volunteer, you must be a member of Grace Community Church or a student of The Master's University or Seminary. Approved volunteers receive complimentary registration to attend the symposium during times they are not serving, along with a registration code for one guest.

Sign up: tmai.events/volunteer
Information: events@tmai.org

Orchestra Openings

If you play a string, woodwind, or brass instrument proficiently, can sight read, and would love to use your gift for the Lord, we have openings in the Grace Church orchestra. Please contact music@gracechurch.org for more information.

Grace to You

Radio: *Elements of True Prayer*

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 Unparalleled Humility of Jesus"

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.

| gtty.org

Job Openings

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
- Property Accountant, PT
- Security Director, FT

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

The Master's University

- Assistant Athletic Trainer, FT

For a full description of jobs and to apply, visit masters.edu/jobs.

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.



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

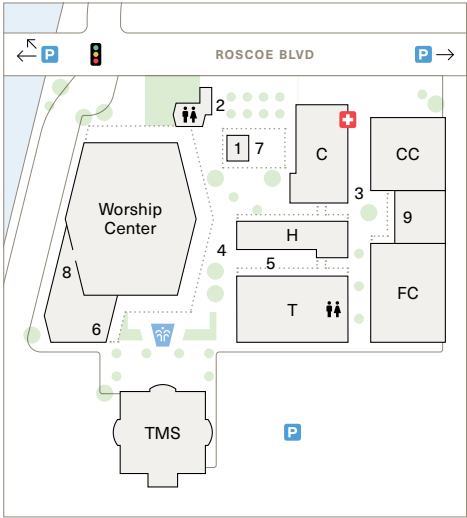
13248 Roscoe Blvd
Sun Valley, CA 91352
818-909-5500
gracechurch.org

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)



Pastor John MacArthur was pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church for 56 years (1969–2025). His weekly verse-by-verse exposition of God's Word firmly rooted our church family in truth. Grace Church continues that legacy, seeking to glorify God by proclaiming the gospel.

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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