

Grace *Today*

August 30, 2026

Vol. 31, No. 35

Featured

Blessing Our
Missionary Families



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

- Christmas in September
- 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 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

Nathan Busenitz, Pastor-Teacher
Bill Brandenstein, Minister of Music

Prelude in C Minor

Stephen Sturz, Organ Prelude • Mendelssohn

Hymn 373 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

Hymn 104 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Congregation

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Shanee Kennedy, clarinet; Ed Lan, piano • Trad./Rice

Scripture Reading & Prayer

What God Ordains Is Always Good

Worship Choir; Emily DiGiusto, soloist • Bauder

Hymn 17 *O Father, You Are Sovereign*

Congregation

Announcements & Offering

My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness

Grace Chung • Getty-Townend/Krogstad

MESSAGE

The Heart that God Hears

Nathan Busenitz • Mark 11:22–26

Praise Him

Organ Postlude • Bach/Steele

Evening Worship Service — 6 pm

Prelude

Songs of Praise

Chris Burnett

Announcements & Offering

MESSAGE

What About the Rapture?

Abner Chou • Selected Scriptures

Right Hand of Fellowship

Postlude

ANTHEM

What God Ordains Is Always Good

What God ordains is always good,
His will is just and holy;
And though the path be wrought with thorns,
I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed in ev'ry need
Knows well how He will shield me;
To Him then I will yield me. (Repeat)

What God ordains is always good:
He is my Friend and Father;
He suffers naught to do me harm,
Tho' many storms may gather.
Now I may know both joy and woe,
Someday I shall see clearly
That He hath loved me dearly. (Repeat)

What God ordains is always good:
Though I the cup am drinking
Which savors now of bitterness,
I take it without shrinking.
For after grief God gives relief,
My heart with comfort filling,
And all my sorrow stilling. (Repeat)

What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Tho' sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.

I fear no harm, for with His arm
He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.
(Repeat)

What God ordains is always good. Amen.

Words by Samuel Rodigast, 1675. Translation: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Music by Josh Bauder, 2013.

TODAY

New Here?

Visit the **Welcome Center** for more information about the ministries of our church. If you would like to learn more about membership and baptism, visit the **Member Center**.

See back for locations.

FEATURED BOOK

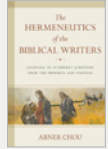
The Hermeneutics of the Biblical Writers

by **Abner Chou**

Learn to interpret the Bible from the biblical writers themselves—including how the New Testament uses the Old Testament.

"This is a book that should be in the hands of every Christian who takes God's Word seriously."
—John MacArthur

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



GRACE KIDS

Sunday School

9 and 11 am

Promotion Sunday (Bible Overview)

Review and Preview

Main Idea: God promised a Savior in the Old Testament.

Application: Believe in Jesus as the promised Savior.

Featured Hymn: *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* (Hymn 26)

Review: Why do we need a Savior?

Next Week: Luke 1:26–38; 2:1–20

Adventure Club

6 pm

Promotion Sunday

Curriculum Preview

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

Blessing Our *Missionary Families*

Every September, our church starts thinking about Christmas. It might seem early, but it's how we intentionally care for our missionaries, many of whom spend the holidays in circumstances unlike anything most of us will ever experience.

For believers, Christmas is a time to reflect on the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, but for many of us it is also a season with a slower pace of life and more quality time with family—time that's often shaped by cherished traditions built over many years.

For missionaries, Christmas can look quite different. The moment they move to their country of service, their traditions and family time begin to change. Their first Christmases abroad are spent forging new relationships and building new traditions from scratch, often across a language barrier, far from everything familiar. In places where Christmas is celebrated, the missionary family must also learn the Christmas traditions of their host country.

Over time, missionary families adapt to their new culture. The loneliness that can be sharp in those early years fades into the background—though it never fully disappears. Even years later,

it can linger in memories of how the Christmas season used to look. Yet, their experience testifies again and again that while family may be far away, the Lord provides abundant blessings on the field.

One of the blessings our missionaries eagerly anticipate each year is “Christmas in September.” CIS is our annual campaign to care for our missionaries through two tangible expressions of love: Christmas cards filled with encouragement and financial gifts as a token of the church's support.

Picture a missionary family on Christmas morning, thousands of miles from us, gathered around as they read cards from members of Grace Community Church. Often these cards are hung on the refrigerator or the wall as reminders of our partnership with them in gospel ministry. Our financial gifts support them still further. For some families, a gift means presents under the tree for their kids. For others, it provides a few days away as a family to rest before ministry resumes in January. One family used their gift toward a dining room table so they could open their home and practice hospitality with church members and unbelieving



*Visit our
table on the Patio
to encourage
and support our
missionaries
this Christmas.*

friends God had placed around them. Whether through a card on the fridge or a table full of guests discussing biblical truth, our expressions of care have a great impact on our missionaries' lives and ministries.

Each year, we try to get an "early" start to Christmas because we want to be best positioned to care for our families overseas during a season when our encouragement and support are especially timely. As we reflect on the sacrifices made by those who serve Christ abroad, please prayerfully consider how you might participate in these two ways this Christmas season:

1. Sending a Christmas Card:

- Visit gracechurch.org/sendacard to write a personalized card online, with the option of including a photo of your family.
- Visit the Christmas in September table on GraceWalk on any Sunday from August 30 through September 27, and pick up a physical card to write to a missionary family.

2. Giving a Financial Gift:

- You may drop off your gift at the Patio table or give online at gracechurch.org/cis.



The Ravoahangy Family

*Faly & Lily, Daniel, Samuel,
Emmanuelle, Gabrielle, Rachel*

Missionaries since 2017 Serving in Madagascar

Pray for Daniel and his need for full rest, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, and for clarity regarding his studies. Pray for the Lord to renew and refresh Lily. Please also pray that the Lord would grant Faly wisdom for the decisions he needs to make regarding the balance of ministry and family life in this uniquely difficult season of life.

| gracechurch.org/ravoahangy

Faith Promise

Last week you generously gave **\$7,563**. Thank you for your ongoing support of our missionaries.

| gracechurch.org/fp

LOCAL OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

Russian-Speaking Outreach Bible Study

If you speak or understand Russian, know someone who does, or have a heart to see Russian-speaking people saved, join us as we pray about how to reach the Russian-speaking community in Los Angeles with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Next Sunday, September 6, 1 pm,
CC230
gracechurch.org/russian-outreach

Upcoming at Grace

- 9/2 Every Woman's Grace
& Men of the Word Begin
- 9/7 Labor Day (Campus Closed)
- 9/11-12 Spanish Expositors Conference
- 10/16 Sam Britten Memorial

gracechurch.org/calendar

HIGHLIGHTS

Grace Kids Promotion Sunday

Today is Promotion Sunday for Sunday School and Adventure Club. Check your child in at the new classroom listed on their nametag. For more information, visit the Trolley next to the Children's Center.

Grace Equip Course

Introduction to Biblical Counseling

Learn biblical principles for change, counseling, and handling crisis situations.

Instructors: Carl Hargrove, John Street, and Grace Church elders

**Tuesdays, September 1–November 24,
6:30–8:30 pm**

| Register: gracechurch.org/equip

Men of the Word

This year, Men of the Word will study *Ekklesia: The Doctrine of the Church*.

Begins Wednesday, September 2

| 6 pm fellowship; 7–9 pm study, Worship Center
gracechurch.org/motw

Every Woman's Grace

This year, EWG will study *Life in the Church* through 2 Corinthians and 1 and 2 Timothy.

Begins Wednesday, September 2

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

With the Lord

Rudy Otero is now in the presence of the Lord. There will be a memorial service in his honor on Thursday, September 3, at 4 pm in the Chapel.

Precious in the sight of Yahweh is the death of His holy ones. —Psalm 116:15

TONIGHT, 6PM

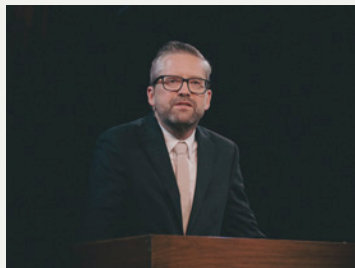
What About the Rapture?

Abner Chou

Sunday evening series:

HOW *the* STORY ENDS

God's Plan for the Future



We are honored to
celebrate the appointment of

Nathan Busenitz

as our new senior pastor. Please
join us in praying for him as
he shepherds our congregation
and for his family as he
transitions into this new role.

Titus Two

All women are invited to join us as we begin
a new year of Titus Two, studying the *Life
and Times in Church History: Why Church
History Matters to Us as Women Today*.

Tuesdays, beginning September 8, 7 pm
For locations, email titus2@gracechurch.org.
gracechurch.org/t2t

Grace to You

Radio: *Our Great Salvation*

KKLA 99.5 FM LA / M-F 6:30 am & 7:30 pm
KDAR 98.3 FM Oxnard-Ventura / M-F 2 & 10 am; Sun 2 am
KABC 790 AM LA / Sat 7:30 am

TV: "Can We Know What the Scripture Means?"

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

gty.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.*

- Barista, PT
- Dishwasher, PT
- Nursery Supervisor, PT
- Security Patrol, PT

For a full description of jobs and benefits,

[visit gracechurch.org/jobs](http://gracechurch.org/jobs).



Open House with Missionary Ellen Parker

Join us for a time of
fellowship and ministry

updates from Ellen Parker, a missionary
serving in Mexico City. A light lunch will be
provided, while supplies last.

Sunday, September 13, 1 pm, T370
gracechurch.org/parker

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: 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: Adam Bossom

11 am

- 180 (High School) T70 (Tower Basement)**
Pastor: Isaías Muñoz
- Commissioned T270**
Pastors: Rodney Andersen, Brad Klassen
- Crossroads (College & Young Adults) Family Center**
Pastor: Steve Crawford
- 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: Trent Mabs
- 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

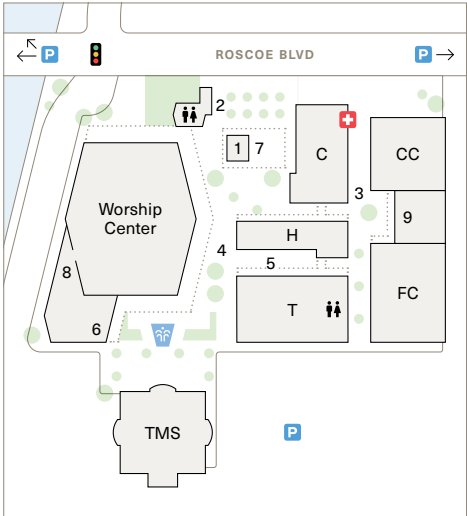
13248 Roscoe Blvd
Sun Valley, CA 91352
818-909-5500
gracechurch.org

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.

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.

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