

GRACE TODAY

Vol. 20 No. 1

January 3, 2016

John MacArthur
PASTOR-TEACHER

Clayton Erb / Minister of Music

Welcome to the Lord's day
worship service at Grace Church.

We are truly blessed to be here
this morning as we open God's
Word together, sing His praises,
and enjoy a time of fellowship
in His presence.

Be sure to take advantage of
the many fellowship and ministry
opportunities available to
our church family today and
throughout the week.



grace
community
church

8:30 & 10:30* am

Symphony I: Final • Viene • Stephen Sturz, Organist
Hymn 127 Look, Ye Saints! The Sight Is Glorious • Congregation
Hymn 129 Crown Him with Many Crowns
Fairest Lord Jesus • Trad./Maddux-Rice • String Orchestra, Woodwinds, Piano
God So Loved the World • Stainer/Bock • Worship Choir
Hymn 272 The Power of the Cross • Congregation
He Knows My Name • Walker/Rice • Michael Mahoney

JOHN MACARTHUR PREACHING

Doxology Hymn • Congregation
Let the Whole Creation Cry • Organ Postlude

6:00 pm

There Is a Fountain • Traditional/Brentwood • Instrumental Prelude
Songs of Praise • Congregation
Baptism • Mark Zhakevich
Breathe on Me, Breath of God • Jackson • Offertory
MESSAGE: **THE SUPREMACY OF THE SAVIOR**
Justin Harris • Colossians 1:15–20
To God Be the Glory • Doane/Sturz • Organ Postlude

* Interpreting for the deaf is provided during the 10:30 a.m. service. Arabic and Korean translation for the 10:30 a.m. service is available at gracechurch.org/live. A limited number of headsets are available at the front desk for simultaneous translation.

Instrumental Praise

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son:
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav’n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Words from an anonymous German hymn (1677); music from a German folk tune (1842)

Doxology Hymn

Hymn 380 My Jesus, I Love Thee

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine—
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou:
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ’tis now.

Campus Ministries

THE WELCOME CENTER hosts a reception for visitors following each Sunday-morning service. Enjoy refreshments and find helpful people with answers to any questions you have about our church. You'll also receive one of Pastor MacArthur'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 north side of the Heritage Building, across from the Welcome Center.

Today's Membership Class
101 • 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. • T66 (basement)

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

The following lesson was taught **today** in Sunday School (Preschool through Juniors)



MESSAGE **God Judges Sodom and Gomorrah**

PASSAGE **Genesis 18:16–19:29**

PRINCIPLE **God hates and judges sin**

HYMN OF THE MONTH **"All Creatures of Our God and King"**

ASK YOUR CHILD **Why was God going to punish the people of Sodom and Gomorrah?**

APPLY **By turning from sin**

THIS WEEK **As a family, read Genesis 18:16–19:29**

NEXT WEEK **Genesis 21:1–14**

On GraceWalk

- **Fundamentals of the Faith**
- **Local Outreach**

On the Patio

- **Juniors Winter Camp**
- **Logos Institute**
- **Shepherds' Conference**
- **Spanish Ministries**
(by the Chapel)

Bookstore

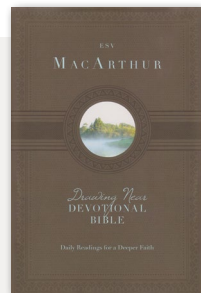
The Bookstore is open after each service and during the week. It is located on the south side of the Worship Center.

HIGHLIGHT

THE MACARTHUR DRAWING NEAR DEVOTIONAL BIBLE

Daily Readings for a Deeper Faith

**Available today for 30% off
retail price**



Grace to You

RADIO gty.org/radio

The Portrait of a New Life

- 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

TELEVISION gty.org/television

You Are What You Think

- NRB Network CHANNEL 378 ON DIRECTV Sunday 6:30 pm

ONLINE gty.org

- Sunday sermons
- Audio archive: John MacArthur's pulpit ministry
- Resource library: books, study guides, videos, Q&As

All audio is available for free listening or downloading.

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

ROOTED BUILT UP ESTABLISHED



A forest of redwood trees found along the Pacific Coast contains the world's largest natural skyscrapers. These towering trees can grow as tall as 370 feet, easily surpassing the height of the Statue of Liberty, Big Ben, and even a football field set on end. But what's more amazing about these massive trees is what we can't see. A giant redwood is tied to the ground by roots that can spread 100 feet out from the trunk; roots that sometimes occupy an acre of land around the tree; and roots that daily provide hundreds of gallons of water that the tree needs in order to survive. The redwood's sustenance and growth is entirely dependent on the effective function of its roots.

The redwood tree is a fitting illustration for the theme verse of this year's Shepherds' Conference,

"Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude" (Colossians 2:6-7).

The church in Colossae was tempted to stray from their foundation in Christ by embracing human philosophy and tradition. To ensure the Colossians did not stray away from the essentials, the apostle reminds them—and us—that they had "received Christ Jesus the Lord" (2:6). This is the only place in Paul's writing that the verb "received" has a personal object, the implication being that the Colossians had not only received knowledge about Christ, but they had received Christ Himself as their Lord and Savior. We who have believed the gospel have also received Christ.

For it is in Christ that believers have already "been firmly rooted" (2:7). It is in Christ that we

have found redemption and the forgiveness of sins (1:13-14). We are sustained by Christ since "in Him all things hold together" (1:15-18). In Christ we were reconciled to the Father (1:21-22). In Christ we find all treasures of wisdom and knowledge (2:2-3). In Christ our hearts have been transformed (2:11). In Christ we are complete (2:10). And when Christ returns it is in His glory that our glory will be revealed (3:3-4). Clearly, the believer's sustenance and growth is dependent on being properly and firmly rooted in Christ. For the believer to be built up in Him and be established in his faith, he has to constantly look to and rely on Jesus as the source. Indeed, why would we want to be rooted in anything but Christ?

Redwoods provide another metaphor in the way they thrive in thick groves, where the roots can intertwine and even fuse together. This gives them strength to withstand high winds, raging floods, and other forces of nature. Since we are all united to one another in Christ, let's remind each other in whom we are rooted. We hope you'll take the opportunity at the upcoming Shepherds' Conference to encourage the attendees in their ministry of proclaiming Jesus as the foundation of every believer as they "proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ" (1:28).



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This year's conference will return to a three-day, Wednesday-Friday schedule (March 9-11), and we need 500 volunteers to serve during that week. For more information or to register, visit **gracechurch.org/volunteer** or stop by the patio table.

As you plan to serve, remember...

The deadline for volunteer sign-ups is
Sunday, January 24.

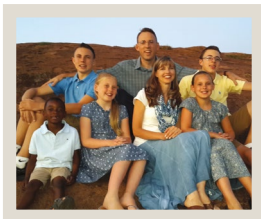
There will be a mandatory meeting for all volunteers on **Sunday, January 24**, in the Family Center.

Monthly Missions Meeting

Hosted by the Elders' Council Handling Outreach (ECHO)

Tuesday, January 5 • 7 p.m. • T260s

Join us to hear updates from our missionaries and local outreach ministries, pray for their needs, and learn how you can be involved. This month's speaker is Tim Cantrell, missionary to South Africa.



Grace Around the World

The **James** Family

Joel & Ruty, Rebeqah, Daniel

Serving in **South Africa** since 1995

Prayer / Praise

- Praise God for His many blessings during our twenty-one years in Pretoria, especially the gracious way Christ has built up our congregation, Grace Fellowship.
- Pray for the seminary campus that we are organizing at Grace Fellowship so that we will be able to do even more in preparing shepherds to serve southern Africa.



Ethnic Outreach

Here in Los Angeles, the nations truly have come to us. In addition to our thriving Spanish Ministry, Grace Church also has Bible studies that reach out to the Arabic, Filipino, Italian, Korean, Russian, and Thai communities that offer teaching and fellowship in those languages.

For information about the times and locations of our ethnic ministries, please contact the leaders at the email addresses below. If you are interested in an ethnic outreach group that is not listed here, contact the local outreach office at 818-909-5721.

Arabic Outreach • arabicfellowship@gracechurch.org

Filipino Outreach • filipinofellowship@gracechurch.org

Italian Outreach • italianfellowship@gracechurch.org

Korean Outreach • koreanfellowship@gracechurch.org

Russian Outreach • russianfellowship@gracechurch.org

Thai Outreach • thaifellowship@gracechurch.org

Faith Promise

Remember, your Faith Promise giving is a great way to support our missionaries throughout the year.

Local Outreach Spotlight

Volleyball Outreach

Mondays • 5:30 p.m. • Family Center

Every Monday night the Family Center is open to those in the surrounding community who enjoy playing volleyball. Play lasts until 7:30 p.m., with a halftime break for a gospel presentation. This is a great opportunity for our church family to model how to compete in a Christlike manner and personally engage our friends with the gospel.

Juniors Winter Camp

January 8–10 • Forest Home

To register or for more information, visit the patio table this morning or gracechurch.org/childrens.

High School Winter Camp

January 16–18 • Forest Home

For details or to register, visit gracechurch.org/oneighty.

Hope Bible Study

Mondays • 7:00 p.m. • T274–275

Hope Bible Study is a transitional ministry that labors to encourage those who have been beset by life-dominating sin, such as drugs and alcohol, with the hope of Christ, the changing power of His Word, and the fellowship of His Church. If you or someone you know could benefit from this ministry, please email hopegcc@gmail.com or call the 818-909-5721.

Attend a Fellowship Group

Adult fellowship groups exist to glorify God by studying His Word, practically applying that truth to daily life, and providing God's people with opportunities for worship, ministry, and building relationships with each other. Times and locations of fellowship groups are listed on the back page of Grace Today.

Grace Church Connection

Keep current with what's new around Grace Church each month. To subscribe to our monthly email update, visit gracechurch.org/news.

Titus 2 Tuesday

This month's topic: "Preferring One Another"

January 12 • 7 p.m.

Studies meet in Canyon Country, Encino, Glendale, Northridge, Shadow Hills, Simi Valley, and Valencia. Women of all ages are invited for a time of discussion and fellowship. For specific meeting locations and RSVP information, visit gracechurch.org/women.

Job Opportunity

Accounting Clerk. The Grace Church Accounting Department has a part-time opening for an accounting clerk (approximately 20 hours per week). Requirements include experience in the field of accounting or bookkeeping; excellent organizational, analytical, and multi-tasking skills; the ability to work in a fast-paced environment; customer service background; and proficiency with Microsoft Office. Experience with general ledger software is also helpful. Applicants for employment 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.

Good Neighbors

As a courtesy to our neighbors, please avoid parking in front of the houses surrounding Grace Church. Instead, use one of the designated parking lots. If street parking is unavoidable, we urge you to be especially attentive to and considerate of our neighbors' comfort and property.

8:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
Visit the Welcome Center
for room locations.
Pastor: Mike Johnston

Cornerstone

(All ages) T371
Pastors: Nathan Busenitz,
Justin Harris, Mark Tatlock

Doulos (Young families &
singles) T361
Pastor: Carl Hargrove

FaithBuilders (All ages) T261
Pastor: Bill Shannon

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

Junior High (Grades 7–8)
T73 (Basement)
Pastor: Jay Lennington

Mentally Disabled
CC130 (east)
Pastor: Rick McLean

**Spanish Adult Sunday
School** H221-222
Teachers: Josiah Grauman,
Angel Cardoza

Spanish Worship Service
Chapel
Pastors: Henry Tolopilo,
Michael Mahoney

10:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
Visit the Welcome Center
for room locations.
Pastor: Mike Johnston

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

High School (Grades 9–12)
T73 (Basement)
Pastor: Josh Petras

Joint Heirs (All ages) T261
Pastors: Tom Patton, John Street

Mainstream (All ages) T361
Pastor: Rich Gregory

Mentally Disabled
CC130 (east)
Pastor: Rick McLean

Sojourners (All ages) T371
Pastor: William Varner

**Spanish Adult Sunday
School** H221–222
Teachers: Ruben Pidal,
Isaias Godoy

Spanish Worship Service
Chapel
Pastors: Henry Tolopilo,
Michael Mahoney

12:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Outreach
T273

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Night Prayer Group
Grace Grill
(next to the Children's Center)

6:00 p.m.

Discovery (Grades 1–6)
Family Center

Discovery Kids (Ages 3–5)
CC134-136

Visit our website at

GRACECHURCH.ORG

Fridays 7:30 p.m.

The Guild (Single adults)
T361
Pastor: Don Carr

Mondays 9:00 a.m.

Monday Morning Prayer Group
Welcome Center

Building Abbreviation Key

T = Tower

H = Heritage

CC = Children's Center

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Administration
818-909-5500

Children
818-909-5631

Logos Institute
818-909-5562

Membership
818-909-5644

Men
818-909-5537

Outreach
818-909-5700

**Pastoral Care &
Counseling**
818-909-5537

Prayer
818-909-5519

Spanish
818-909-5722

Special Ministries
818-909-5519

Student
818-909-5593

Women
818-909-5521

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

**13248 Roscoe Blvd.
Sun Valley, CA 91352**

*Our mission is to glorify God
and extend His kingdom by
living and proclaiming
His truth in the world.*

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