

GRACE TODAY

— Vol. 25 No. 44 —

October 31, 2021

John MacArthur
PASTOR-TEACHER

Bill Brandenstein / Minister of Music



9:00 & 11:00* am

Fugue in G Minor • Dupré • Stephen Sturz, Organist

Hymn 136 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing • Congregation

Hymn 143 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

My Eternal King • Marshall • Worship Choir

Be Still, My Soul • Sibelius/Erb-Rice • Kory Welch

Hymn 53 A Mighty Fortress is Our God • Congregation

MESSAGE: **CONTENTMENT IN A WORLD OF DISCONTENTMENT**

John MacArthur • Philippians 4:1–19

Doxology Hymn

My Hope Is in the Lord • Clayton/Sturz • Organ Postlude

6:00 pm

Instrumental Prelude

Songs of Praise • Congregation

Baptism

Q&A WITH JOHN MACARTHUR

Postlude

Anthem

My Eternal King

My God, I love Thee; Not because I hope for heav'n thereby,
Nor yet because who love Thee not Must die eternally.

Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst't me Upon the cross embrace;
For me didst't bear the nails and spear, And manifold disgrace;

Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ, Should I not love Thee well?
Not for the hope of winning heav'n, Or of escaping hell;

Not with the hope of gaining aught, Not seeking a reward;
But as Thyself hast loved me, O everloving Lord!

E'en so I love Thee, and will love, And in Thy praise will sing;
Solely because Thou art my God, And my Eternal King!

Lyrics from an anonymous 17th century Latin poem; music by Jane M. Marshall.

Doxology Hymn

Hymn 86 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

* Interpreting in American Sign Language (ASL) is provided during the 11:00 am service.
Arabic, Italian, Korean, and Russian livestream translations are available
at gracechurch.org/live.

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 east side of the Upper Room, north of the Welcome Center.

Next Membership Class • November 7
101 • 9:00 & 11:00 am • TMS Library (West)

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.

On the Patio

- **Spanish Ministry**
(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.

REFORMATION DAY SPECIAL

WHY THE REFORMATION STILL MATTERS (AUDIO BOOK CD)

by Michael Reeves and Tim Chester

"Straightforwardly explains the vital importance of the Reformation, summarizes its message, and shows its ongoing relevance." —Sinclair Ferguson

Available today for \$5.



Grace to You

RADIO gty.org/radio

The Real Meaning of Christmas

- 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
- KABC 790 AM LOS ANGELES Sat 7:30 am

TELEVISION gty.org/television

“Sanctification: The Believer’s Transformation, Part 2”

- NRBTv CHANNEL 378 ON DIRECTV Sunday 6:30 pm

ONLINE gty.org

- John MacArthur’s sermons: audio, video, and transcripts
- Resource library: blog, devotionals, articles, Q&As, and more
- Mobile apps: “The Study Bible” and “Grace to You Sermons”

Generations of Grace Children’s Sunday School



MESSAGE **God Makes a Promise to Abram**

PASSAGE **Genesis 11:27–12:9**

PRINCIPLE God keeps His promises.

FEATURED HYMN “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound” (*Hymns of Grace* No. 89)

ASK YOUR CHILD What did God promise Abram?

APPLY By believing in God’s Word.

THIS WEEK As a family, read Genesis 11:27–12:9.

NEXT WEEK Genesis 16–18

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

WANTED: THE HOPELESS

LOCAL OUTREACH MINISTRIES



By God's amazing grace, the truth of His Word has sounded forth from Grace Community Church throughout five decades of faithful preaching. And we thank God that the sanctifying power of His Word is producing men and women of integrity who hunger and thirst for righteousness (Matthew 5:6)—those who seek to put away the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life (1 John 2:16), and to put on righteousness and holiness as they follow Christ. This is a magnificent blessing for which we enthusiastically praise God.

Regrettably, however, this reality can sometimes leave us struggling with sin under the impression that we're alone in our fight against the flesh. We begin to think that everyone around us has "got it together." We suppose that if our friends knew the kinds of

sins we battle against, they wouldn't be our friends for very long. We forget, as a famous preacher once said, that

"the church is not a gallery for the exhibition of eminent Christians, but a school for the education of imperfect ones."

So rather than exposing our sins, confessing them to one another, and seeking the accountability and encouragement of other believers, our shame causes us to retreat and further isolate ourselves. Before long, we can begin to despair of ever walking in freedom before the Lord.

That sense of hopelessness in the fight against the flesh is why Hope Bible Study (HBS) exists. Led by Max Megee and Nathan Geisbrecht, HBS is a transitional ministry

that labors to encourage those who have been beset by life-dominating sins (such as enslavement to drugs, alcohol, pornography, gambling, etc.) with the hope of Christ, the sanctifying power of His Word, and the fellowship of His Church. The ministry seeks to provide a distinct sensitivity—the gentle love of our Savior and the compassion of His people—to those wearied by the battle against sin.

This tenderness does not come at the expense of truth, however. HBS specifically addresses biblical truths as they relate to life-dominating sins and restoration, yet provides an environment that allows sharing of past and current struggles without being ostracized. We are aware that victory over sin requires daily encouragement to protect against being hardened by sin's deceitfulness (Hebrews 3:12–13). For this reason, we will not forsake gathering together, but will come alongside one another to spur each other on to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24–25).

If you are beginning to feel hopeless in the battle against your sin, and if that pattern of sinful behavior has begun to dominate your life, the first step toward spiritual health is

to make your sin known (James 5:16). The body of believers who surround you cannot minister to you effectively if they don't know how to help. Max and Nathan would be glad to meet with you and discuss how you can confront your sin head-on. You can contact them by emailing hopegcc@gmail.com, or by calling the Local Outreach office at 818-909-5721. Please also feel free to join them for Bible study every Monday at 7:00 pm in H221-222.

For those of you in our church family who don't find yourself in this situation, do know that you play an important part in this ministry as well. The first thing you can do to ensure that your brothers and sisters (and you yourself!) do not get to a place of hopelessness is to lovingly hold each other accountable. Commit to working together for each other's holiness, so that sin is dealt with and is not allowed to compound into hopelessness and enslavement. Secondly, if you know another believer who is struggling with life-dominating sin, commit yourself to lovingly support, encourage, and even disciple them. The ministry of admonition is not to be relegated to the "expert" counselors, but is the responsibility and privilege of all believers. Finally, for

those of you who would be interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Max and Nathan.

As our pastor has said,

"The church grows spiritually in direct proportion to how well it deals with the sin within it."

May all of us at Grace Church be committed to true church growth, as the body of Christ continues to spur one another on to an ever-increasing love for Jesus Christ, strengthening one another's hands in the fight of faith against our sin.

To learn more about Hope Bible Study, contact Local Outreach at 818-909-5721.

Hope
BIBLE STUDY

Monday Evenings
7:00 pm • H221-222

● New Members

Grace Church welcomed another group of new members with the Right Hand of Fellowship. Each of these individuals completed the membership class in fulfillment of Grace Church's membership requirements.

The following new members received the Right Hand of Fellowship in OCTOBER.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Andrew Ahn | • Matthew Loussinian |
| • Miguel Alvarez | • Karlie Mccue |
| • Frank Bischof | • Kelly & Jan McGuire |
| • Kirk Breitenbach | • Kaelyn Mekhdjian |
| • Joshua Bretz | • Jennifer Morgan |
| • Joseph Brooks | • Josh Nunez |
| • Thomas Brozenec | • Esther Ocegueda |
| • Claudia Calderon | • Elijah Orellana |
| • Jaclyn Chiu | • Maudy Padilla |
| • Travis Cole | • Anna Paulding |
| • Seth Dick | • Niobe Peralta |
| • Abigail Dick | • Trinity Peralta |
| • Sarah Dickerson | • Dary Perez |
| • Charity Donato | • Kailee Price |
| • Julia Dougherty | • Maria Pritchard |
| • Sean Doyle | • Tom Prymak |
| • Jasper Edbrooke | • Alan Ramirez |
| • Shirley Egyed | • Angie Ramirez |
| • Esther Foo | • Henry Reyes |
| • Benjamin & Kendra French | • Brennon Ritter |
| • Augusto Galvez | • Corina Ritter |
| • Scott & Denise Ganser | • Eusevio & Griselda Sanchez |
| • Patty Godina | • Jasmin Sanchez |
| • Joshua Gonzales | • Joel Schluessler |
| • Miguel Gonzalez | • Kyrie Sheridan |
| • Annalisa Hamilton | • Michael Spencer |
| • Melody Ignacio | • Aida Ivonne Taura |
| • Jonathan Johnson | • Ryan Van Someran |
| • Susi Johnson | • Gordon Van Someren |
| • Hannah Ko | • Josue & Cristina Villatoro |
| • Jonathan Lin | • Allen Wang |
| • Lauren Loussinian | • Andrew & Emery Wilkerson |

Grace Around the World

The **Shryock** Family

Aaron & Susan, Rachel

Serving in the **United States** since **2020**



Prayer / Praise

- Pray for Aaron as he trains others and develops courses in Bible translation.
- Praise the Lord for His abundant grace as we have settled into life in Orlando.

For more information, visit gracechurch.org/shryock.

Faith Promise

Last week you generously gave **\$32,695**. Thank you for your ongoing support of our missionaries and their ministries around the world.

Local Outreach Spotlight

Open Arms Pregnancy Clinic

Nurse Needed

The Open Arms Pregnancy Clinic is seeking a registered nurse or advanced practice provider. Qualified candidates must have a current license and strong computer proficiency. Help us help others choose life.

Contact Debi at debi@openarmspregnancy.com.

Daylight Saving

Daylight Saving Time ends November 7. Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

Joint Heirs Men and Boys Leadership Retreat

The Importance of Biblical Male Leadership in the Church and Home

December 3-5 • Ironwood Christian Camp

Speaker: Phil Johnson

All men from Grace Church, junior high to adult, are welcome to attend. For more information or to register, visit gracechurch.org/jointheirs.

Grace Equip

Theology 102: Knowing God

November 1-December 13 (Mondays) • 6:30-8:30 pm

Conflict Resolution: Pursuing Peace in Your Relationships

November 2-23 (Tuesdays) • 6:30-8:30 pm

All courses are offered in person at Grace Church and online via Zoom.

For information or to register, visit gracechurch.org/equip.

With the Lord

George Ward Drainer III recently went to be with the Lord. Please remember his family in your prayers. There will be a service in his honor on Saturday, November 6, at 4:00 pm in the Chapel.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones. —Psalm 116:15

Grace Media App Now Available

Grace Media (formerly Generations of Grace Streaming) is your one-stop mobile and TV app on all streaming platforms (Apple, Android, Roku, and FireTV) for Grace Church video content—from originals like Adventures with Ranger Joe, Hymnology, and Minute with MacArthur to ministry-related content such as sermons, baptism testimonies, our Parenting for Life class, and recent worship services. In addition, the Grace Media app now features a dedicated livestream of our Sunday worship services. More video content, such as Men of the Word and EWG lessons, will be available in the coming weeks.

For more information, visit gracemedia.app.

Christmas Concert

December 16-19

**Worship Choir • Symphonic Orchestra • Vocal Solos & Ensembles
Handbell Choir • Children's Choir**

Tickets will be available **online** at gracechurch.org/concert beginning November 15. Please visit our website for more information or contact concert@gracechurch.org with any questions.

Childcare will be available for children five years old and younger.

One with Christ **Monday, November 1 • 9:30 am • CC130s**

Bible study primarily for women who have lost their husbands through death or divorce.

Job Opportunities

For current job openings at Grace Community Church, please visit gracechurch.org/opportunitysheet.

9:00 am

Anchored (All ages) T360s
Pastors: Carl Hargrove,
Bill Shannon

Children's Ministry

Visit the Welcome Center for
room locations.
Pastor: Jay Lennington

Cornerstone (All ages) T370s

Pastors: Nathan Busenitz,
Hohn Cho, Mark Tatlock,
Harry Walls

Developmentally Disabled

CC130s
Pastor: Rick McLean

GraceLife (All ages)

Family Center
Pastors: Phil Johnson,
Mike Riccardi

Jr. High (Grades 7-8)

T70s (Basement)
Pastor: Jay Lennington

Spanish Adult Sunday School

GraceWalk
Pastor: Josiah Grauman

Spanish Worship Service

Chapel
Pastors: Henry Tolopilo,
Josiah Grauman

Steadfast (All ages)

T260s
Pastor: Brian Biedebach

11:00 am**Children's Ministry**

Visit the Welcome Center for room
locations.
Pastor: Jay Lennington

Commissioned (All ages) T360s

Pastors: Rodney Andersen,
Brad Klassen

Crossroads

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

Developmentally Disabled

CC130s
Pastor: Rick McLean

High School (Grades 9-12)

T70s (Basement)
Pastor: Josh Petras

Joint Heirs (All ages) T260s

Pastors: Tom Patton, John Street

Sojourners (All ages)

T370s
Pastors: Abner Chou,
Joe Zhakevich

Spanish Adult Sunday School

GraceWalk
Pastor: Josiah Grauman

Spanish Worship Service

Chapel
Pastors: Henry Tolopilo,
Josiah Grauman

1:00 pm**Neighborhood Outreach**

H223-224

5:00 pm**Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting**

Upper Room

6:00 pm**Adventure Club**

Family Center (Grades 4-6)
Chapel (Grades 1-3)
CC130s (Ages 3-5)

MINISTRY DIRECTORY**Administration**

818-909-5500

Children

818-909-5631

Grace Equip

818-909-5674

Membership

818-909-5644

Men

818-909-5537

Outreach

818-909-5700

Pastoral Care & Counseling

818-909-5537

Prayer

818-909-5519

Mondays 9:00 am**Monday Morning Prayer Group**

Welcome Center

Fridays 7:00 pm**Foundation** (Young professionals)

Family Center
Pastor: Mark Zhakevich

Building Abbreviation Key

T = Tower H = Heritage
CC = Children's Center



For more information about Sunday fellowships
scan the QR code or visit
gracechurch.org/about/sunday-fellowships.

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

Visit our website at

GRACECHURCH.ORG

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

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