

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Arise, shine, for your light has come!  
All The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.  
Leader Let us praise the Lord together.  
All The sun shall no longer be our light by day,  
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on us,  
Leader for the Lord will be our light,  
and our God will be our glory.  
All The Lord will be our everlasting light,  
and our days of sorrow will end.  
Leader Come, let us sing to our light and salvation  
and the joy of every longing heart! —based on Isaiah 60

SONG OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD / M. LUTHER

1. A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper He, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
his craft and power are great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not His equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right Man on our side,  
the Man of God’s own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth His name,  
from age to age the same;  
and He must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils  
filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo, his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill;  
God’s truth abideth still,  
his kingdom is forever!

PRAYER OF PRAISE & ADORATION

All: Everlasting God,  
we praise you for you brought the nations to your light  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
Fill the world with your glory,  
and show yourself to all the nations,  
through him who is the true light  
and the bright morning star,  
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

SONGS OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING / WORDS: ST. FRANCIS

1. All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
O, praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heav’n along,  
O, praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
ye lights of evening, find a voice  
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. And all Ye men of tender heart,  
forgiving others take your part,  
O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and on Him cast your care,  
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship Him in humbleness,  
O, praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father,  
praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, three in one!  
O, praise Him! O, praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

JESUS’ NAME / R. DELMORE

So beautiful, no name is higher  
So wonderful, is Jesus’ name  
Is Jesus’ name

And every knee will bow  
In heaven and the earth  
And every eye will see  
The measure of Your worth  
There is no one like You  
Risen Son of God

Holy is Your name  
Holy is Your name

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty and merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned  
against you and one another  
in both our actions and our inactions.  
We recognize that in Jesus Christ our light has come,  
yet often we choose to walk in shadows and ignore the light.  
Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us  
the veil of darkness that shrouds our lives.  
Illumined by your Word and sacrament,  
may we rise to the radiance of Christ’s glory. Amen.

Silence is kept together

SONG OF ASSURANCE

GRACE TO YOU AND PEACE / MUSIC: F. ORTEGA

Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father

And the Lord Jesus Christ  
And the Lord Jesus Christ  
And the Lord Jesus Christ

WORDS OF COMFORT & ASSURANCE

Leader This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you,  
that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.  
If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness,  
we lie and do not practice the truth.  
But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. —from 1 Jn 1:5-7

All Thanks be to God!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader May the peace of the Lord be always with you.  
Together And also with you!

*\* Children ages 2 to 5th grade are invited to participate in our children’s program during the sermon; children return for Communion. For more information about our Children’s Ministry, please see our director, Caroline, or email her at families@gracepasadena.org.*

GREETINGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

*\*During the offertory, we consider all that we have and all that God may be asking us to give. Please take this time to ask God how you might give of your financial gifts, personal time and even vocational calling. There are different ways to give. You may mail your offering to our office address: 16 N Marengo Ave Ste 609, Pasadena, CA 91101; or give via our website: www.gracepasadena.org/give.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; 3:10-14 (ESV)

<sup>2:1</sup> I said in my heart, “Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself.” But behold, this also was vanity. <sup>2</sup> I said of laughter, “It is mad,” and of pleasure, “What use is it?” <sup>3</sup> I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. <sup>4</sup> I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. <sup>5</sup> I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. <sup>6</sup> I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. <sup>7</sup> I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup> I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man.

<sup>9</sup> So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. <sup>10</sup> And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. <sup>11</sup> Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

<sup>3:10</sup> I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. <sup>11</sup> He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man’s heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. <sup>12</sup> I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; <sup>13</sup> also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God’s gift to man. <sup>14</sup> I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

MORNING MESSAGE

Brannin Pitre

“Chasing After Pleasure”  
Sermon Series: When All You Want Isn’t Enough

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Triune God, teach us to see you in the beauty of the world. Awaken our praise and thanks for all that you have made. Teach us to be good stewards of your world and to bring forth more beauty through our work. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Let your love be stronger than the anger and sorrow in the world. Give peace to your church, peace between countries, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. Fill all things with your love, and restore all things to wholeness. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Come near to everyone who is in trouble or afraid, cold or hungry, or anyone who doesn’t know what to do. Show them your help and your love. Show your church how to be your hands and feet in the world. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader In silence, continue to offer your desires, thanksgivings, and laments to our God. (silence) For all this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

COMMUNION

**GUIDELINES:** The sacrament of Communion is also called the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist. It is the family meal for those who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. The invitation is from Jesus Christ alone, not from this church or any minister. If you are baptized and can call yourself a Christian, come to the table.

**DIRECTIONS:** When instructed, please come forward to receive Communion. Receive the bread and juice from the servers. Pre-packaged elements, which are gluten-free are available in the line closest to the stage. Participate as you feel comfortable.

**CHILDREN:** Children who are baptized, can profess faith in Jesus Christ in an age appropriate manner, and have talked to a pastor or an elder may participate in communion.

COMMUNION PRAYERS FOR REFLECTION

**For those searching:** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Give me not only understanding, but also an experience of your love and presence. Amen.

**For faith and belief:** Lord Jesus, I am weak and sinful, but you call me beloved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death and offering forgiveness and renewal. I hear you calling, and so I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord. Amen.

**For those struggling with sin:** Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, to ask for help, and to follow you faithfully in life. Amen.

SONGS OF RESPONSE & CELEBRATION

GOD’S TABLE / B. COLEMAN

We will come to God’s table  
And there remember God’s mercy

We will come to God’s table  
And there remember the cross

We will come to God’s table  
And there remember God’s family

We will come to the table of the Lord

AARON’S BLESSING / MUSIC: F. ORTEGA

May the Lord bless you and keep you  
**May the Lord bless you and keep you**  
May the Lord make His face to shine on you  
**May the Lord make His face to shine on you**

And be gracious to you

**And be gracious to you**

May the Lord lift His countenance on you

**May the Lord lift His countenance on you**

May the Lord lift His countenance on you

**May the Lord lift His countenance on you**

**May He keep you in perfect peace**

**May He keep you in perfect peace**

THE BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you,  
that your lives may be a light to the world;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **Week of 1/22:** City Groups Resume
- **1/22:** Faith-Work Collective for Science & Technology, time TBD.
- **2/22:** Ash Wednesday Service @ 7PM
- **2/24 - 2/25 :** Men’s Retreat. Contact Pastor Marc for details.

Scan the QR code below for more details, other announcements and contact information!



GRACE PASADENA’S VISION STATEMENT

Grace Pasadena exists to **Experience** & **Extend** the life-giving grace of God

- **As** we grow in the knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ
- **In** every sphere of life
- **For** our neighborhoods, city and the world

GRACE PASADENA’S CORE VALUES

**God-Centered Worship** – We seek to be transformed in worship as we experience the wonder of God and respond appropriately

**Gospel-Driven Identity** – We seek a personal experience of the gospel that both humbles us, and assures us that we are more deeply valued and loved by God than we can possibly imagine

**Outward-Facing Community** – We seek the betterment of our city as we extend God’s grace by loving our neighbors as ourselves

**Kingdom-Minded Movement** – We seek to extend the Kingdom of Jesus Christ by creating community and global partnerships that can reach and serve those in need

GIVING & BUDGET

	IAN-DEC ‘22	DEC ‘22*	IAN ‘23*
OFFERINGS & CONTRIBUTIONS _____	<b>\$514,753.48</b>	<b>\$100,708.93</b>	<b>\$1,150</b>
BUDGETED GIVING _____	<b>501,000</b>	<b>78,000.93</b>	--
DIFFERENCE _____	<b>+13,753.48</b>	<b>+22,708</b>	--

\* Please note that current figures do not reflect all gifts received in December 2022. Final giving numbers and the 2023 budget will be posted in the next few weeks. Current figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors



“It is because we know happiness that we want to be happy, and since nothing is more certain than our wanting to be happy (*beatum esse velle*), our notion of happiness guides us in determining the respective goods that then become objects of our desires.”

HANNAH ARENDT | *LOVE AND SAINT AUGUSTINE*

“Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.”

AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO | *CONFESSIONS*

“Things are sweeter when they’re lost. I know — because once I wanted something and got it. It was the only thing I ever wanted badly, Dot, and when I got it, it turned to dust in my hand.”

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD | *THE BEAUTIFUL AND DAMNED*

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

ADVENT  
CHRISTMAS  
**EPIPHANY**  
LENT  
EASTER  
PENTECOST  
ORDINARY TIME

Epiphany follows Christ’s birth and points us out from that moment to the world. The Magi traveled from afar to worship Jesus, and their eyes were opened to who God is and what he is doing. The Light is dawning in the darkness, drawing in all peoples. As Philip Reinders says: “Epiphany calls us to live God’s mission, announcing the good news of Christ’s arrival to every culture and to those who live across the street, bearing the light of Jesus to the nations and to those who share a home with us. We, the church, are sent out as the manifestation of Jesus to a watching world.” May we, with eyes wide open, see and celebrate the fact that Jesus is the light of the world—and of our lives too.



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1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
JANUARY 8, 2023