

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.  
All Christ dwells among us and is one with us.  
Leader Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.  
All He seeks the rejected and welcomes the weary.  
Leader Come now, all who thirst,  
All and drink the water of life.  
Leader Come now, all who hunger,  
All and be filled with good things.  
Leader Come now, all who seek,  
All and be warmed by the fire of love.  
Leader Come! God is calling!

SONG OF PRAISE & RESPONSE

AMAZING GRACE / J. NEWTON

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.  
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved!  
How precious did that grace appear,  
the hour I first believed.  
3. Through many dangers,  
toils and snares  
I have already come!  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.  
4. When we've been there  
ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we've first begun!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

All: Gracious God, you are the Good Shepherd!  
In love You seek us out, open wide the doors,  
and welcome us into Your presence, saints and sinners alike.  
When we wander from your presence,  
you chase after us and bring us back to you.  
You spread a table before us, filled with the richest fare,  
a feast of love and mercy for the body and soul.  
We come with joy to meet You here,  
to eat and drink at Your table, to taste and see Your goodness,  
to celebrate Your grace and mercy in our lives.  
Glory be to you and you alone! Amen. – based on Psalm 23  
Silence is kept together.

COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING / R. ROBINSON

1. Come Thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of Thy redeeming love!  
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by Thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed His precious blood

3. Oh to grace how great a debtor,  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, oh take and seal it;  
seal it for Thy courts above

HOLY FOREVER / C. TOMLIN

1. A thousand generations  
falling down in worship  
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb  
And all who've gone before us  
and all who will believe  
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb  
Your name is the highest  
Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions  
All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Merciful God, in you we have found our inheritance  
and received much more than we have ever deserved.  
However, we often squandered that inheritance,  
choosing to spoil it rather than share it with others.  
Forgive us for our selfish moments  
and the times we set our sights on our own desires instead of the needs of others.  
By your Spirit, redirect our gaze that we might live righteous lives pleasing to you.  
Greet us and embrace us as the long-suffering and forgiving father  
greeted and embraced his prodigal son.  
Welcome us home for we long to live in safety of your presence.  
This we pray in name of the One whom we adore, Jesus Christ. Amen.  
Silence is kept together.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

RECKLESS LOVE / C. ASBURY

1. Before I spoke a word  
You were singing over me  
You have been so so good to me  
Before I took a breath  
You breathed Your life in me  
You have been so so kind to me  
CHORUS  
Oh the overwhelming never-ending  
reckless love of God, oh  
it chases me down fights til I'm found  
leaves the ninety-nine  
I couldn't earn it and I don't deserve it  
still You give Yourself away  
Oh the overwhelming never-ending  
reckless love of God

CHORUS  
And the angels cry, Holy  
All creation cries, Holy  
You are lifted high, Holy, Holy forever  
Hear your people sing, Holy  
To the King of Kings, Holy  
You will always be, Holy, Holy forever  
2. If you've been forgiven  
and if you've been redeemed  
Sing the song forever to the Lamb  
If you walk in freedom  
and if you bear His name  
Sing the song forever to the Lamb  
We'll sing the song forever and amen

2. When I was Your foe  
still Your love fought for me  
You have been so so good to me  
When I felt no worth  
You paid it all for me  
You have been so so kind to me  
BRIDGE  
There's no shadow You won't light up  
Mountain You won't climb up —  
Coming after me  
There's no wall You won't kick down  
Lie You won't tear down —  
Coming after me

WORDS OF COMFORT & ASSURANCE

Leader Fear not, hear these good words and believe: God is gracious! God  
sees you; God forgives you; God calls you his beloved; God clothes  
you in his love. You once were lost, but now you are found! Let us  
rejoice and be glad!  
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. Middle School  
students are also invited to join Pastor Ben for Sunday School.

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

Luke 15:11-32 (ESV)

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them  
said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And  
he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son  
gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squan-  
dered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a  
severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went  
and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his  
fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate,  
and no one gave him anything.  
<sup>17</sup> “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants  
have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go  
to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and be-  
fore you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your  
hired servants.”’ <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a  
long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him  
and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven  
and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said  
to his servants,[d] ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring  
on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let  
us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost,  
and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.  
<sup>25</sup> “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the  
house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and  
asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come,  
and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back  
safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and  
entreated him,<sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served  
you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat,  
that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who  
has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’  
<sup>31</sup> And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.  
<sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is  
alive; he was lost, and is found.’

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.  
All Thanks be to God!

MORNING MESSAGE

Brannin Pitre

“The Searching Father””  
Sermon Series: When All You Want Isn’t Enough

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With confidence, let us offer our prayers for ourselves, our church, city, and world  
to God with one heart and voice:

Leader Father, you sent your Son to find the lost, bring good news to the  
poor, give sight to the blind, grant freedom to the captives, and  
offer salvation to all your people: anoint us with your Spirit and  
rouse us to love in his name. For this, O Lord, we pray:  
All Lord, hear our prayer.  
Leader Send us to bring help to the poor and freedom to the oppressed.  
Send us to those who mourn, to bring joy and gladness instead of  
grief. For this, O Lord, we pray:  
All Lord, hear our prayer.  
Leader Send us to tell the world the good news of your healing love. Send  
us to proclaim that the time is here for you to save your people. For  
this, O Lord, we pray:  
All Lord, hear our prayer.

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.

SONG OF RESPONSE & CELEBRATION

DOXOLOGY / T. KEN

Praise God,  
from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Amen

THE BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader	In your journeys to and fro God direct you; in your happiness and pleasure God bless you; in care, anxiety, or trouble God sustain you; in peril and in danger God protect you. The grace of God be with you all, now and always.
All	<b>Thanks be to God! Amen!</b>

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **2/10:** Monthly Women’s Bible Study @ 6PM
- **2/12:** Super Cereal Bowl Family Event @ 9:15AM
- **2/22:** Ash Wednesday Service. Details TBD.
- **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>\$546,803</b>	<b>\$132,759</b>	<b>\$20,944</b>
BUDGETED GIVING _____	<b>501,000</b>	<b>78,000</b>	--
DIFFERENCE _____	<b>+45,803</b>	<b>+54,759</b>	--

*\*as of 1/27/2022; figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors; 2023 budget will be finalized and posted in the next few weeks*



There is a difference between believing that God is holy and gracious, and having a new sense on the heart of the loveliness and beauty of that holiness and grace. The difference between believing that God is gracious and tasting that God is gracious is as different as having a rational belief that honey is sweet and having the actual sense of its sweetness.

TIMOTHY J. KELLER | *THE PRODIGAL GOD*

For most of my life I have struggled to find God, to know God, to love God. I have tried hard to follow the guidelines of the spiritual life—pray always, work for others, read the Scriptures—and to avoid the many temptations to dissipate myself. I have failed many times but always tried again, even when I was close to despair.

Now I wonder whether I have sufficiently realized that during all this time God has been trying to find me, to know me, and to love me. The question is not “How am I to find God?” but “How am I to let myself be found by him?” The question is not “How am I to know God?” but “How am I to let myself be known by God?” And, finally, the question is not “How am I to love God?” but “How am I to let myself be loved by God?” God is looking into the distance for me, trying to find me, and longing to bring me home.

HENRI J.M. NOUWEN |

*THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON*

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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4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
JANUARY 29, 2023