

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Together **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,  
who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit,  
who crowns you with love and mercy,  
who satisfies you with good  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.**

Leader Who are we that we should be called sons and daughters of God?

Together **See what kind of love the Father has given to us in Jesus Christ,  
that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are!**

— from Ps. 103; 1 Jn. 3:1

SONG OF RESPONSE & PRAISE

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 ADORATION

God our Father, we praise you!  
We call on you like little children because we know  
that you love us with steadfast love.  
Jesus Christ, we praise you!  
You have lifted us up from death to life  
and lavished on us every spiritual blessing.  
Holy Spirit, we praise you!  
You have sealed in our hearts the grace of Jesus Christ  
and secured our identities as sons and daughters of God.  
O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit how majestic is your name in all the earth! **Amen.**

SONGS OF RESPONSE & PRAISE

BUILD MY LIFE/ BARRET, REDMAN, ETC.

1. Worthy of every song  
We could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise  
We could ever bring  
Worthy of every breath  
We could ever breathe  
We live for You

2. Jesus, the Name above  
Every other name  
Jesus, the only One  
Who could ever save  
Worthy of every breath  
We could ever breathe  
We live for You

**Chorus**  
*Holy, there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder  
Show me who You are and fill me  
With Your heart and lead me  
In Your love to those around me*

**Bridge**  
*I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken*

WHO YOU SAY I AM / B. FIELDING & R. MORGAN

1. Who am I that the highest King  
would welcome me?  
I was lost but He brought me in  
Oh His love for me, oh His love for me

**Chorus 1**  
*Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I’m a child of God, yes I am*

2. Free at last, He has ransomed me  
His grace runs deep  
While I was a slave to sin  
Jesus died for me  
Yes He died for me

**Chorus 2**  
*Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I’m a child of God, yes I am  
In my Father’s house  
There’s a place for me  
I’m a child of God, yes I am*

**Bridge**  
*I am chosen, Not forsaken  
I am who You say I am  
You are for me, Not against me  
I am who You say I am*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,  
we confess how often we forget our identity as your people.  
You have called us into your family and made us your church  
to love our lonely and confused world as Jesus Christ loved us.  
Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active,  
isolated than involved, callous than compassionate,  
obstinate than obedient, legalistic than merciful.  
Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.  
Remove the obstacles preventing us  
from knowing and extending your love;  
awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit;  
give us fresh ears to hear your voice calling us your beloved.  
This we pray in Jesus’ powerful name. **Amen.**

Silence for private confession.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

HOW GREAT THOU ART / C. BOBERG

1. O Lord my God,  
when I in awesome wonder,  
consider all the worlds  
Thy hands have made;  
I see the stars,  
I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout  
the universe displayed.

**Chorus**  
*Then sings my soul,  
my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art,  
how great Thou art. (2x)*

2. And when I think,  
that God, His Son not sparing,  
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross  
my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

3. When Christ shall come  
with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home what joy  
shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim,  
“My God, how great Thou art!”

MINISTRY MOMENT

An update and testimony from our friends Regina and Fabian Gerard, now church  
planting missionaries in France.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you!**

*\* Children age 3 through 5th grade are invited to participate in the in-person program  
during the announcements and sermon. Parents and guardians, please walk with your  
child/children to the hallway on the east side to meet the leaders. Pickup will be in the  
same location after the sermon.*

GREETINGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND OUR 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 make an online payment via our website: [www.gracepasadena.org/give](http://www.gracepasadena.org/give).

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 8 (ESV)

To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of David.

1 O Lord, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants,  
you have established strength because of your foes,  
to still the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

4 what is man that you are mindful of him,  
and the son of man that you care for him?

5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings  
and crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under his feet,

7 all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

9 O Lord, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader This is the Word of the Lord

Together **Thanks be to God!**

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Brannin Pitre

Sermon Series: *Seeing and Believing Jesus in the Psalms and Proverbs*  
Sermon Title: *“Finding Our True Identity”*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Having heard the Good News of God’s redemption in Jesus Christ, let us pray  
with confidence for ourselves, our church, neighbors, and world.

Leader Lord of our chaos, our broken world spirals out of control.  
Sometimes it seems all we see is hurt, loss, division and despair.  
Give us eyes to see your presence and compassion in the broken  
places. Give us courage to move into the chaos, walking in your  
peace, justice, love, and humility. In you, all things hold together.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Lord of our fears, we pray for our brothers and sisters in deep  
waters: refugees, the poor, the weak, the lonely, the suffering. We  
pray for the people of Afghanistan and Haiti, all in harm’s way of  
fires in the west coast and floods in the east, all who are alone  
and overwhelmed in hospitals. As you were to the disciples, be  
immediately near to them. By your Spirit, we are no longer slaves  
to fear. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Lord of our salvation, you give your church gifts and make them  
grow: though our faith is small as a mustard seed, make it grow  
to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom. We pray for  
Regina and Fabian, we pray for this congregation, and we pray for  
the churches of this city. Triune God, make us one as you are one  
so that the world may glorify you. 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, which is individually pre-packaged; take the elements back to your seats and partake of them there. Participation is not mandatory. 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 & CLOSING SONGS

*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

*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*

BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader

The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works. The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. May your eyes always be fixed on Jesus Christ, the one who emptied himself and took the form of a servant, so that you may be lifted up! Go in peace to love as God loves us.

— based on Phil 2:7; Ps. 145:13-14

All

Thanks be to God! Amen!

ORDINARY TIME

The longest of the liturgical seasons, Ordinary Time stretches from Pentecost to the start of Advent. Following Pentecost, this season is often referred to as the season of the Holy Spirit. In this season, we turn our attention to the Holy Spirit’s work to re-order and re-new all things by the love of God in Jesus Christ. In other words, we pay attention to the unfolding of God’s story of love in Jesus Christ in our lives, church and world. Jesus has ascended, but he is close and his story is not over. It continues in us! This is how Phillip Reimers in explains it in *Seeking God’s Face*:

“In Ordinary Time, we fully take in the gospel, allowing it to take shape in our daily living, making connections between Jesus’ story and our lives. ‘Ordinary’ doesn’t mean boring or second-rate but simply ‘everyday.’ The Christian faith is not an otherworldly faith; it’s about this creation, your life, these days. Ordinary Time gives us the space to consider all the implications of God’s salvation in Jesus Christ for our day by day, week-in, week-out lives.”

The color for Ordinary Time is green, symbolizing new life and flourishing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please visit our website for the latest announcements. Scan the QR code to go to our site!



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

	<u>IAN-DEC ‘20</u>	<u>IAN-JUL ‘21</u>	<u>AUG ‘21¹</u>
OFFERINGS & CONTRIBUTIONS _____	<b>502,102</b>	<b>256,145</b>	<b>31,590</b>
BUDGETED GIVING _____	<b>468,00</b>	<b>252,000</b>	<b>36,000</b>
DIFFERENCE _____	<b>+34,102</b>	<b>+4,145</b>	<b>-4,410</b>

¹as of 8/27/2021; figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors



The particular expression of love that the world should see when it looks at Jesus’ church is the evident overcoming of divisions. It is the evidence that contraries have been reconciled. It is the expression of love that belies a normally fragile and unstable unity. It is the outworking of an abnormal love, one not based on mutual attraction. The common denominator in Christian love is that Jesus gave himself for us.

**IRWYN INCE, JR.** | *THE BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY*

Our common identity as Christians is given most explicitly in baptism. If there is any need to distinguish “Christian” from its secularized usage as someone who is not a communist, not an atheist, not a Buddhist, my preference is to use “company of the baptized,” or “baptismal identity,” or “baptized Christian.” Baptism marks us as the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is not an identity that we achieve on our own or a mark of superiority to others.

**EUGENE PETERSON** | *THE JESUS WAY*

ORDINARY TIME  
AUGUST 29, 2021



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