

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Do you hear? A voice cries in the wilderness:
All **“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight!”**
Leader As we worship today,
may welcome God’s redemption in our midst,
in our hearts, in our community,
and in all of creation.
All **Let us worship the Father,
the one who remembered his promises
and sent his Son, the King and Redeemer of the world!**
Leader Let us worship Jesus Christ,
the resurrected and ascended King who reigns forever!
All **Let us worship the Holy Spirit, the one who guards
our hearts, minds, and bodies until our King comes again!**

SONG OF RESPONSE & PRAISE

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS / G. WEISEL

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!
2. A helper just, He comes to thee;
his chariot is humility;
his kingly crown is holiness;
his scepter, kindness in distress!
3. O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes,
to whom this King in triumph comes!
4. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart!
The Word made flesh descends to dwell
with joy for you who His mercies tell.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Leader Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; the one who follows me
will not walk in darkness but have the light of life.”
We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. The
people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who
dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.
All **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

SONGS OF PRAISE

PREPARE THE WAY, O ZION / F. FRANZEN

1. Prepare the way, O Zion
Your Christ is drawing near
Let every hill and valley
A level way appear
Greet One who comes in glory
Foretold in sacred story
Oh blest is Christ that came
In God’s most holy name
2. He brings God’s rule, O Zion
He comes from heaven above
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love
Lift high your praise resounding
For grace and joy abounding
Oh, blest is Christ that came
In God’s most holy name
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion
Your Savior’s rule embrace
His tidings of salvation
Proclaim in every place
All lands will bow before Him
Their voices will adore Him
Oh blest is Christ that came
In God’s most holy name

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Lord, we have not kept watch for you.
We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns.
We have not waited to find your will for us.
We have not noticed the needs of the people around us.
We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us.
Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness.
Help us to wait to know your will.
Help us to look out for the needs of others.
Help us to work and watch for your coming.
Renew in us the joy of your salvation. **Amen.**

Silence for private confession.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

COME, O REDEEMER, COME / F. ORTEGA

1. Father, enthroned on high—“Holy, holy!”
Ancient eternal Light—hear our prayer.
REFRAIN
Come, O Redeemer, come; grant us mercy.
Come, O Redeemer, come; grant us peace.
2. Lord, save us from the dark of our striving,
faithless, troubled hearts weighed down.
3. Look now upon our need; Lord, be with us.
Heal us and make us free from our sin.

WORDS OF COMFORT & PEACE

Leader Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. In Jesus Christ, your
sins are pardoned and the penalty is paid. Believe and be at peace.
— based on Is. 40:1-2

Together **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 and Middle School students are invited to participate in their in-person
programs during the announcements and sermon. Please see the back page for more
information about these programs.

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Micah 5:1-6 (ESV)

¹ Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops;
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek.
² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.
³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.
⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.
⁵ And he shall be their peace.
When the Assyrian comes into our land
and treads in our palaces,
then we will raise against him seven shepherds
and eight princes of men;
⁶ they shall shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword,
and the land of Nimrod at its entrances;
and he shall deliver us from the Assyrian
when he comes into our land
and treads within our border.

Leader This is the word of the Lord
Together **Thanks be to God!**

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Brannin Pitre

Advent Series: *The Theology We Sing*
Sermon Title: *“Come, O Redeemer, Come.”*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people,
who trust in your love. Give us boldness in our worship; give us
joy in our service; give us hope in our waiting. Make us salt and
light, so that we may point the watching world to your faithful
love. For this, O Lord, we pray:
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Come to your world as King of the nations. Before you rulers will
stand in silence; hold the leaders of our world accountable. We
pray for an end to violence, destruction, and injustice; protect the
vulnerable, displaced, and homeless and cause them to flourish.
For this, O Lord, we pray:
All **Lord, hear our prayer.**
Leader Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter. Bring your redemp-
tion and restoration. Break into our lives, and the lives of those we
love, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free.
We pray for all in the healing professions; we thank you for their
work and we ask you to care for them. For 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. Participate as you feel comfortable.
CHILDREN: Children who are baptized, can profess faith in Jesus Christ in an age appropri-
ate manner, and have talked to a pastor or an elder may participate in communion.

COMMUNION & CLOSING SONGS

REMEMBER THE CLEANSING OF HIS PRECIOUS BLOOD / B. COLEMAN

Let us come together
To the table of the Lord
And break bread together
As the family of God

We remember, we remember
You brought us out of darkness
And gave us life

Let us come together
To the table of the Lord
And remember the cleansing
Of His precious blood

We remember, we remember
We remember the cleansing
Of His precious blood

HOLY GOD, HOLY & MIGHTY / F. ORTEGA

Holy God, Holy and Mighty
Holy immortal one
Have mercy, have mercy on us

BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader Stay alert, our King and Redeemer draws near! As we keep watch,
may the love of God enfold us, may the grace of God uphold us,
and may the power of God set us free to love and serve all God’s people.

All Come, Lord Jesus, come! Amen!

ABOUT ADVENT

Advent is a season of hopeful expectation and preparation; it’s the season the church anticipates the coming of Christ. We look forward to and prepare for the celebration of his birth in the little town of Bethlehem many years ago. We also look forward to and prepare for his future and final coming to judge the world and mend all things. During Advent, we prepare our hearts for the Lord, so that when he comes, he may find us watching and waiting. The color of the season is purple, which is associated with repentance and preparation.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT GRACE

Date	Series	Theme / Worship Notes
11/28	The Theology We Sing	Hope
12/5	The Theology We Sing	Love
12/12	The Theology We Sing	Joy
12/19	The Theology We Sing	Love / Family Service
12/24	Christmas Eve	Service at 4:30pm
12/26	Home Church in Small Groups	Liturgies available 12/19

- Worship resumes as usual on January 2, 2022.

LOCAL & GLOBAL PARTNERS OF THE MONTH

Please pray for our following partners and consider ways you could get involved. Contact the deacons or other leaders of the church to learn more at info@gracepasadena.org.

- Door of Hope, a local organization helping families break the cycles of homelessness.
- Fabien and Regina Girard, church planters in France.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

It is our great joy that you and your family are with us today! We want you to know that all children, no matter their age, are welcome in our worship service. We also offer the following:

- Throughout the service, we offer a wiggle room for little ones and parents or guardians. The wiggle room is located behind the children’s check-in table in the Community room. The entire service is streamed for parents and guardians.
- During the announcements and sermon, we offer two classes for children. The first, located in the Cliff Benedict room, is for toddlers ages 2-3. The second, located on the back patio, is for children age 4 to 5th grade. When dismissed, please meet leaders in the hallway on the east side. Pick-up will be in the same location. Don’t forget to check in your children at the children’s welcome table.
- Students in middle school are invited to participate in a youth Bible study during announcements and the sermon. Meet Ben in the hallway at the start of announcements.

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

	JAN-DEC ‘20	JAN-OCT ‘21	NOV ‘21¹
OFFERINGS & CONTRIBUTIONS _____	502,102	369,270	34,851
BUDGETED GIVING _____	468,00	360,000	36,000
DIFFERENCE _____	+34,102	+9,270	-1,149

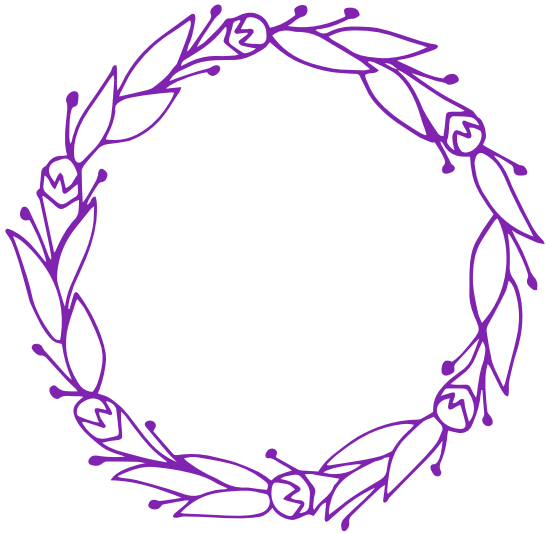
¹as of 11/19/21; figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors



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The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognize him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord.

HENRI NOUWEN | ¡Gracias!

Christian hope builds its foundation on the promise of the living God that the random chaos of the world will be revealed one day to have been led and shaped by the same hand that reached out to heal the sick and make the blind to see, to raise the dead and “to call into existence the things that do not exist” (Rom. 4:17). In the midst of our fears and sorrows, even in the hurricanes and the ice storms, we have this hope. This is what the church “whispers in darkness”: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

FLEMING RUTLDGE

ADVENT: THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING

God’s love is the most awesome thing about Him. It is not His justice, nor His majesty, nor even His blazing holiness, but the fact that He has made and keeps a covenant of personal commitment and love to His people.

SINCLAIR FERGUSON

THE 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 28, 2021