



Order of Worship
September 12, 2021
[Livestream 10:30 am](#)



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Live stream Worship 10:30 AM
Find Grace Church Seattle's
page on [YouTube](#)

Limited Nursery

6 months to 36 months
Registration required

Nursing Room

(Nursing moms only)
Back of sanctuary,
west side.

Family Room

Upstairs Chapel
Livestream viewing

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Heejoo Bruce, 2021

"If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world."

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Lewis' quote from *Mere Christianity* points to an inner discontent every human heart senses from time to time. In the silence of reflection, or in the fleeting realizations amidst a hurried state, there is a beckoning towards something peaceful, meaningful and full.

We simply desire more than we presently experience, and our hearts hear the call:

There is more.

Prior to a systematic understanding of doctrine or a vast lexicon of theology and spirituality, every person knows "the call" and either reaches out to embrace the whisper beyond our lived experience or resists the call, burying it under the weight of our obligations, ambitions and immediate desires.

The choice to respond to the call is a common phenomenon in the Bible. From the very beginning, this "call and response" is seen when God calls out the Void and it responds in obedience—yielding every created thing by His powerful commands. We then see promises offered to Humanity in the Garden and our First Parents are given an opportunity to embrace these call or to doubt it.

Moreover, the call/ response or promise/faith dynamic plays itself out for generations until it seems like all of Humanity has scattered turned their back on God.

It is then that we are presented with Abraham and Sarah; two people with that same common yearning, who hear that same call before there was a full systematic understanding of doctrine or a robust lexicon for who this "YHWH" is—and they embrace His will for their lives. They and their children are invited to embrace the One who calls order from chaos, fruitfulness out of barrenness, dreams in midst of heartbreak, and life out of certain death.

Our next series focuses on the call/response, promise/faith themes in Genesis 12-50, beginning with Abraham and ending with Joseph—and all passages pointing to a redemptive reality we know intimately in Christ, but only in whispers and shadows in the original texts. In these Scriptures, we get to likewise heed the Voice of the One who calls us out of our comforts—out of all that we know—to a life of faith and obedience. "For here we have no enduring City, but we seek the city that is to come (Hebrews 13:14)."

Come journey with us!

REFLECTION QUOTES

"One loss that results from the absence of lament is the loss of genuine covenant interaction because the [worshiper] has become voiceless or has a voice that is permitted to speak [to God] only praise and doxology...in political categories, the greater party is surrounded by subjects who are always 'yes men and women' from whom 'never is heard a discouraging word'. Since such a celebrative, consenting silence does not square with reality, covenant minus lament is finally a practice of denial, cover-up and pretense...."

–Walter Brueggemann, "The Costly Loss of Lament"

A heart on the run keeps a hand on the gun
You can't trust anyone
I was so sure what I needed was more
Tried to shoot out the sun
Days when we raged, we flew off the page
Such damage was done
But I made it through, 'cause somebody knew
I was meant for someone

–Jason Isbell, "Cover Me Up" from the album *Southeastern*

"But here's the thing: pretty good people do not need Jesus. He came for the lost. He came for the broken. In his love for us he came to usher us into his foundness and wholeness."

– Tish Harrison Warren, *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Ordinary Life*

WELCOME**PRELUDE****Stand if able****CALL TO WORSHIP***Psalm 100 (NIV)*

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.**

Know that the Lord is God.

**It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his
pasture.**Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.**For the Lord is good and his love endures
forever;
his faithfulness continues through all
generations.****All People That On Earth Do Dwell**All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the LORD with cheerful voice.
Serve him with joy, his praises tell,
come now before him and rejoice!Know that the LORD is God indeed;
he formed us all without our aid.
We are the flock he surely feeds,
the sheep who by his hand were made.O enter then his gates with joy,
within his courts his praise proclaim!
Let thankful songs your tongues employ.
O bless and magnify his name!Because the LORD our God is good,
his mercy is forever sure.
His faithfulness at all times stood
and shall from age to age endure.The Lord our God is good!
The Lord our God is good!
The Lord our God is good!
The Lord our God is good!

The small symbols you will see throughout these pages correspond to a "Key to Liturgy" [available here](#) or printed and found in the lobby.



Our worship begins each week with a call to worship. We are gathered here today because God, our Creator, desires to have a relationship with us. Whether we realize it or not, he is the one calling us to himself—today and every day.

William Kethe
Tune: "Old Hundredth"

LECTIO SACRA*Romans 4:18-25 (NIV)*

[18] Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." [19] Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. [20] Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, [21] being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. [22] This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." [23] The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, [24] but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. [25] He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

INTERLUDE

"Lectio Sacra" means "sacred reading." It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the bible read during worship services. The assumption behind this practice is that we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's word.

Musical interludes are included in our service in order to provide space for reflection and worship.

CONFESSION OF SIN*From A New Zealand Prayer Book*

**Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.**

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming
fire of judgment.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
in your likeness and image,
through Jesus Christ,
the light of the world.**



Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world

Oh, have mercy on us
Oh, have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world

Oh, have mercy on us
Oh, have mercy on us

Grant us peace, Lord
Grant us peace, Lord



RECEIVING OF GRACE

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith,
**we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

PRAYING THE PSALMS

Psalm 32 (NIV)

Praying through the Psalms each week teaches us how to pray, using the prayer book of ancient Israel. As we pray, there will be pauses for reflection.

Blessed is the one
 whose transgressions are forgiven,
 whose sins are covered.

**Blessed is the one
 whose sin the Lord does not count against them
 and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

When I kept silent,
 my bones wasted away
 through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night
 your hand was heavy on me;
 my strength was sapped
 as in the heat of summer.**

**Then I acknowledged my sin to you
 and did not cover up my iniquity.
 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."
 And you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you
 while you may be found;
 surely the rising of the mighty waters
 will not reach them.

**You are my hiding place;
 you will protect me from trouble
 and surround me with songs of deliverance.**

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
 I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Do not be like the horse or the mule,
 which have no understanding
 but must be controlled by bit and bridle
 or they will not come to you.

**Many are the woes of the wicked,
 but the Lord's unfailing love
 surrounds the one who trusts in him.**

**Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous;
 sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

Stand if able

Psalm 46

1. God is our re - fuge, our strength and our shield, an
 2. Na - tions in up - roar, men's king - doms, they fall; he
 3. Come, let us see what the Lord he has done, the

e - ver pre - sent help.
 speaks and the earth melts a way. The
 ru - ins he brings to the earth. He

We will not fear though the earth
 worst we im - a - gine, the stro -
 makes wars to cease to the ends

— gives way, and moun - tains crash in - to the sea. (to Verse 2,
 - est of storms; our for - tress, it will still re - main.
 of the earth; he shat - ters the bow and the spear.

There is a r - ver who's streams will make glad the
 There is a ri - ver who's streams will make glad the

ci - ty of our most High King. God is with - in her, and
 ci - ty of our most High King. God is with - in her, and

she will not fail, he helps her at break of the day. "Be
 she will not fail. List - en and hear the Lord say:

— still, and know that I am God." (Sing 4x at end)

Seated

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share with us your visit and prayer requests.

PASSING THE PEACE

As recipients of God's grace, we gladly receive peace from him. In response to his grace, we also extend that grace to one another. Traditionally, Christians have greeted one another during this time in the service with the phrase, "May the peace of Christ be with you" and receive back the greeting "And also with you."

GOSPEL LESSON

God's Honest & Broken Friends

Genesis 15:1-6 (NIV)

Rev. John Haralson

Sermons can be streamed and downloaded at graceseattle.org/resources.

SERMON TEXT

{1} After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward.”

[2] But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” [3] And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

[4] Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” [5] He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

[6] Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

OFFERING

To give to the Grace General Fund, you can give several ways:

- To give via text message, text GODISLOVE to 206.859.9405.
(This will take you to our on-line giving page)
- To give via the Grace app, look up “Grace Church Seattle” on the App Store or Google Play and click the giving tab within the app.
- Give via Venmo (Give to @graceseattle.org; all transactions are private)
- Give via PayPal (Give to bookkeeper@graceseattle.org)
- To gift stock, contact our bookkeeper@graceseattle.org
- Mail to check to:
Grace Church Seattle
400 E Pine St, #215
Seattle, WA 98122

To give to the Serving the City Fund or Deacons Fund, you can give several ways:

- For text, online, and app giving, specify “Serving the City” “Deacons Fund” in the “Fund” field.
- For all other giving, Indicate “Serving the City” or “Deacons Fund” in the memo or comments field.

MUSICAL OFFERING



Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer 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, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.



Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, we await the New City

While dwelling in the Old

We long for the Heavenly place

Whose architect and builder is God.

Lord Jesus, while we look for this Kingdom

May we hasten it by being a prayerful and obedient people,

Priests and ministers of your Gospel

May we conquer not with the sword,

But with the weapons of Truth and Love Taught to us in your Word.

We pray that your Kingdom come now, Crying out,

Come, Lord Jesus!

For our city embroiled in domestic and gun violence,

Come, Lord Jesus!

For the sexualization and exploitation of our youth,

Come, Lord Jesus!

For the chronic homelessness in our midst,

Come, Lord Jesus!

For the protection of our forests and waterways,

Come, Lord Jesus!

For equal weights and measures in the courtroom, hospital room and
classroom,

Come, Lord Jesus!

We pray for peace in your Church

And for you to come and receive your global inheritance,

Come, Lord Jesus!

Together, we pray the prayer our Lord taught us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done;

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

the power and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.



THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Introduction to the Lord's Table

The Words of Institution

Prayer for Receiving Communion

Lord Jesus, your perfect life, death, and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Receiving Communion

We will come forward by rows, starting at the front and alternating sides to ensure distancing in the center aisle. As you come forward, please maintain distance with your neighbor.

Communion Elements:

Cup: Wine or Grape Juice

Challah Bread: Contains wheat, egg, milk, instant yeast (Many thanks to Danielle Taniguchi for freshly baking challah bread each week!)

Rice Crackers: Organic Brown Rice Flour, Organic White Rice Flour

Prefilled, factory-sealed communion elements also available:

Communion wafer ingredients: wheat flour, water, vegetable shortening (soybean oil, cottonseed oil).

Gluten-free wafer ingredients: flour mix (garbanzo bean, tapioca, sorghum, fava beans, potato starch), water, canola oil, salt.

Isaac Wardell
& Robert Heiskell
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We will feast in the house of Zion

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up.

Chorus

In the dark of night before the dawn,
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning, o how long
O God of Jacob be my strength

Chorus

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom.



BENEDICTION **Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:14)**

Jess Alldredge
© 2012 Grace Church
Seattle

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen
Amen. Amen. Amen



SENDING

Let us go forth and serve the world
as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

SUNDAYS

Sunday Worship 10:30AM. Join us for in-person worship or join us via [livestream](#) on YouTube on Grace Church Seattle's page. **Please note, starting Oct 3, our worship service time will change to 10:15AM.**

Grace Kids. Children's worship guide available every week in the foyer. Limited Nursery (6 months to 36 months) available for parents who [Pre-register for Nursery](#) each week. A mother's nursing room is available in the back of the sanctuary on the west side. Family room is also provided in the Upstairs Chapel with a Livestream viewing. Christian Formation Classes will begin October 3 at 9:00AM. For more information, email Miss Linn, linn@graceseattle.org.

Youth. Grace is partnering with Central Community Church, Icon Church and St. Joseph's for a monthly youth gathering every 3rd Thursday at 6pm. Thursday, September 16 will be the last summer meeting. Beginning on Monday, October 4, 6:00 PM to 7:45 PM, 10 week Alpha course will begin! YCG classes start Sunday, October 3 during our Christian Formation Hour at 9AM. Questions, please email Pastor Jason at jason@graceseattle.org.

Pastoral Care. Please contact us if you have needs or if you have resources you would like to offer our community. We can be reached here (pastoralcare@graceseattle.org).

CONNECT

Connect Groups. We have a wide variety of groups: Community Groups, Bible Studies, Prayer Groups, Men's Groups, and Women's Groups. To find a group, or if you are interested in starting one, please contact our Director of Community Formation, Jamie Afshari jamie@graceseattle.org.

SERVE

Congregation. There are many ways to serve in the congregation. Please contact [Alyssa Werner](#) or go to our [website](#) for more information.

City. Grace partners with a number of great organizations in the city. To find out more, please contact [Pastor Jason](#) or go to our [website](#).

GIVE

You can give financially to Grace many ways.

- Our General Fund, which goes to support the mission and worship of our congregation
- Our Deacons Fund, which goes to help those in our congregation and community who are facing unexpected financial need
- Our Serving the City Fund, which goes directly to our efforts to serve the hurting and marginalized in our city

For more information, please go to graceseattle.org/giving

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church wide party: Sunday, September 26 after the worship service to celebrate the beginning of the ministry year. Amy's Merkato Eritrean & Ethiopian Restaurant is catering lunch for us. We welcome back Jess and Danielle to our staff, thank Alyssa for her faithful and invaluable service this summer, welcome and say goodbye to other members of the PCT returning from or moving toward sabbatical.

Sunday Volunteers Needed! With the return to in-person worship, we need people willing to help with communion, ushering, check-in, and reading. Please contact Danielle at danielle@graceseattle.org to sign up!

Grace Kids Registration/Survey: If you have an infant through 5th grader, please fill out our [Grace Kids Form](#) to help us prepare for the ministry year. To receive a link, email linn@graceseattle.org.

Grace Kids Volunteer Training: The launch of Grace Kids this fall requires adult volunteers. In an effort to keep all our children safe, there is a required training for all volunteers who work with children at Grace. The next training is September 19 at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall downstairs - Coffee provided! Contact Linn at linn@graceseattle.org to register or for more information.

Community and Connect Group Leaders Training: If you are a connect/small group leader, host of a group, or a member and considering becoming a leader or host, please mark your calendar for a weekend training-palooza October 1-2 (Friday night start 6PM, Saturday morning start 8:30 AM.) Meals provided along with important training topics on leading and hosting groups. We will meet at Epiphany Parish Church in Madrona: 1805 38th Avenue. Please RSVP to Jamie at jamie@graceseattle.org. If you will need childcare, please reach out!

Listening Prayer Groups:

"By beginning with the revealed word of God, lectio divina (listening prayer) continues the conversation that God has begun. We first pay attention to his approach to us and focus on our receptivity. Scripture becomes a means for God to feed, heal, and love us. We open ourselves to God's presence and respond with our hearts." -Stephen J. Binz - Conversing with God in Scripture.

A Listening prayer group is a small group that meets monthly with the intention of building community around the word of God. During this time together we will listen to God's word read out loud. We will have an opportunity for individual silence and reflection on the scripture, and then conclude our time together, sharing the gifts that God has given in our silence with him. Please contact Shelly Morse at Shelly@graceseattle.org by September 26th to join. Group Listening Prayer will begin in October.

Youth Central/Alpha: Grace is partnering with Central Community Church, Icon Church and St. Joseph Church. Our last summer gathering is Thursday, September 16, 6PM. AND beginning October 4, 6-7:45 PM, a 10 week class for 6-12th graders called Alpha begins! Please email Pastor Jason at jason@graceseattle.org with questions.

GraceLife Distribution List: GraceLife (gracelifeseattle@googlegroups.com) is an email group designed to foster spontaneous generosity and hospitality among anyone and everyone who regularly attends Grace. The distribution list allows anyone who signs up to send out an email to the larger group. It's designed to let others know about a party you'd like to invite others to join, a game night you'd like to host, a request to borrow something, a post to give goods away, a need you'd like to ask for help from the larger group, etc. Email Danielle at danielle@graceseattle.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9/12 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Worship Service 10:30AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

9/19 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Worship Service 10:30AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

9/26 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Worship Service 10:30AM
(In-Person and Livestream)
Church wide Fall party in parking lot

10/3 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Christian Formation 9AM
Worship Service 10:15AM
(In-Person and Livestream)

Emergency Plan

In the unlikely event of an emergency or evacuation, all children attending a Grace Kids Class will be escorted immediately from their classrooms to the farthest edge of the front lawn, at the corner of E. Aloha St. and 13th Ave. E., where they can be reunited with their parents or guardians.

STAFF

Rev. John Haralson, Pastor john@graceseattle.org
Rev. Jason Davison, Associate Pastor jason@graceseattle.org
Jamie Afshari, Director of Community Formation jamie@graceseattle.org
Jess Alldredge, Worship Arts Director *on sabbatical*
Alyssa Werner, Music Leader & Coordinator alyssa@graceseattle.org
Linn Haralson, Grace Kids Director linn@graceseattle.org
Danielle Taniguchi, Administrator Danielle@graceseattle.org
Noni Wilson, Bookkeeper bookkeeper@graceseattle.org

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Jason Davison, YCG jason@graceseattle.org
Rebecca Ifland, Meals Ministry rebecca@graceseattle.org
Brian & Jessica Youtzy, Connection Center bjyoutzy@gmail.com
Jo Taniguchi, Premarital Mentoring taniguchijo@gmail.com

ELDERS

Nate Andrews nate@graceseattle.org
Drew Billups drew@graceseattle.org
Dan Huie dan@graceseattle.org
Darik Taniguchi darik@graceseattle.org

DEACONS

Heather Andrews *on sabbatical*
Sara Billups sara@graceseattle.org
Eric Hadden eric@graceseattle.org
Renee Huie renee@graceseattle.org
Rebecca Ifland rebecca@graceseattle.org
Tamarack Randall *on sabbatical*

REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP (RUF)

Rev. David Birnie david.birnie@ruf.org

MAKING DISCIPLES. SERVING THE CITY.

Grace Church Seattle is a worshipping community in Capitol Hill, Seattle rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and transformative.

Worship Location 1300 E Aloha St, Seattle, WA 98102

and Livestream on Youtube

Office Location 400 E Pine, Suite 215 Seattle, WA 98122

graceseattle.org
office@graceseattle.org
pastoralcare@graceseattle.org