

GRACE

SOUTH BAY



NOVEMBER 19, 2023
SUNDAY

Sunday November 19, 2023

Sermon Series - 1 Peter: Stand Firm

Following Jesus opens your eyes to the truth that this world is not your home. The tension of living in a non-home place is only intensified by a culture that is often at odds with a faithful life and worldview. Peter writes to encourage and challenge the Christian churches of Asia Minor (present-day Turkey and Greece) to see that we should not be pouring all our energy and resources into the avoidance of suffering. Though we might not be in a position of persecution, the sufferings Peter addresses are the same kind of sufferings that Christians in all places and all times face when they seek to live for Christ and witness for the gospel in a dark and dying world. The call to persevere is buoyed by the reminder of being united to a suffering Savior, and the inheritance and new life his sufferings purchased for us.

Grace exists to

Gather the convinced and unconvinced into community

Grow together as Jesus does His work of forgiving and renewing

Go out to live for a story bigger than ourselves

Fill out our Connect Card

Thanks for visiting Grace! We would love to know a little more about you. The QR code to the right will take you to our online connect card.

There you can fill out your name and email address, check any of the boxes that apply and ask any questions you might have. We'll do our best to answer them and help you get more connected at Grace.



Reflection

The following Reflection Quotes are provided to catalyze thought, and are therefore not always representative of the views of Grace Church.

For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;
you take me out of the net they have hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.
Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

Psalm 31:3-5

Violence as a way of achieving racial justice is both impractical and immoral. It is impractical because it is a descending spiral ending in destruction for all. The old law of an eye for an eye leaves everybody blind. It is immoral because it seeks to humiliate the opponent rather than win his understanding; it seeks to annihilate rather than to convert.

Martin Luther King Jr., Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story

In a universe of electrons and selfish genes, blind physical forces and genetic replication, some people are going to get hurt, other people are going to get lucky, and you won't find any rhyme or reason in it, nor any justice. The universe that we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil, no good, nothing but pitiless indifference.

Richard Dawkins, River out of Eden

All gods who receive homage are cruel. All gods dispense suffering without reason. Otherwise they would not be worshipped. Through indiscriminate suffering men know fear and fear is the most divine emotion. It is the stones for altars and the beginning of wisdom. Half gods are worshipped in wine and flowers. Real gods require blood.

Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God

Gather Praise

Prelude

Words of Preparation

*Call to Worship

Psalm 29:1-4, 10-11

L: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**P: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

L: The voice of the Lord is over the waters,

**P: the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over many waters.**

L: The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

**P: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.**

L: May the Lord give strength to his people!

P: May the Lord bless his people with peace!

*Prayer of Approach

*Gathering Song

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong.
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove.
His Name shall stand forever,
That Name to us is Love.

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"L" indicates the portion read by the worship leader

"P" indicates the portion read by the people

* congregation stand, if able

*Song of Praise

God of Wonders

Lord of all creation,
Of water earth and sky,
The heavens are Your tabernacle;
Glory to the Lord on high.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
You are holy, holy;
The universe declares Your majesty,
You are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth.

Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light.
When I stumble in the darkness,
I will call Your name by night.

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth

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Scripture Reading

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Prayer of Confession

All: Our Lord and our God,

We confess that we have allowed the the allure of the world to captivate our hearts. We have chased after the desires of the flesh, seeking temporary pleasures that do not honor you. We have been enticed by materialism, the superficial attractions, and the fleeting pursuits the world offers.

Forgive us, Father, for the times when we have placed our affections on worldly things rather than on you. We repent of our misplaced priorities and the times we have neglected to seek your will above all else.

Grant us the strength to resist the temptations of the world and to fix our gaze upon You. Help us to find joy and contentment in You alone, recognizing that the things of this world are passing away. May our hearts be aligned with Your will, and may our lives reflect the eternal values of Your kingdom.

In the name of Jesus, who overcame the world, we humbly pray. Amen.

Grow Renewal and Response

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 1:12-14

[Give] thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

At this time kids are dismissed to GraceKids classes

*Song of Response

Refiner's Fire

Purify my heart
Let me be as gold
And precious silver
Purify my heart
Let me be as gold
Pure gold

Refiner's fire
My heart's one desire
Is to be holy
Set apart for you Lord
I choose to be holy
Set apart for you my master
Ready to do your will

Purify my heart
Cleanse me from within
And make me holy
Purify my heart
Cleanse me from my sin
Deep within

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AT A GLANCE

Teach Me Tutoring - Saturdays

Women's Christmas Lunch - Dec 3

Congregational Meeting - Dec 3

Christmas Eve Service - Dec 24 at 5pm

SERMON TEXT

1 Peter 4:12-19

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And

"If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Suffering Reframed

Rev. Bob Crossland

Have questions about this sermon you'd like to hear answered on our weekly sermon Q&A podcast?
Ask them at <https://gracesouthbay.com/podcastquestions>

***Song of Reflection**

We Are Not Overcome

Flesh will fail, and bones will break;
thieves will steal, the earth will shake.
Night will fall, the light will fade;
The Lord will give and take away:

Because of His great love,
we are not overcome!
Because of His great love,
we are not overcome!

Put no trust in the earth,
in the sod you stand upon.
Flowers fade into dust;
The Lord will make a place for us:

Have no fear for your life;
turn your cheek! turn your cheek!
Bear the yoke of love and death;
The Lord will give all life and breath:

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Prayers of the People

Concluded with the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

**All: Our Father, who is in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Kids will return from GraceKids classes

Grow Feasting at the Table

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Words of Institution

Communion Acclamation

L: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

P: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

L: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

P: Therefore let us keep the feast.

L: These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Feed on them in your hearts by faith, and with thanksgiving.

Songs of Communion

Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right

Whate'er my God ordains is right

His holy will abideth

I will be still whate'er He does

And follow where He guideth

He is my God, though dark my road

He holds me that I shall not fall

And so to Him I leave it all (2x)

Whate'er my God ordains is right

He never will deceive me

He leads me by the proper path

I know He will not leave me

I take, content, what He has sent

His hand can turn my griefs away

And patiently I wait His day (2x)

Whate'er my God ordains is right

Though now this cup in drinking

May bitter seem to my faint heart

I take it all, unshrinking

My God is true, each morn anew

Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart

And pain and sorrow shall depart (2x)

Whate'er my God ordains is right

Here shall my stand be taken

Though sorrow, need, or death be mine

Yet I am not forsaken

My Father's care is round me there

He holds me that I shall not fall

And so to Him I leave it all (2x)

Words: Samuel Rodigast, 1675

Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878)

Music: Matt Merker, Keith Getty

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*Song of Sending

How Firm A Foundation

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you, I only design
Your dross to consume, and your gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

*Words: John Rippon, 1787; alt. Music: Traditional American melody.
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Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

L: The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and
be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and
give you peace.

P: Amen.

*Charge

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

P: Thanks be to God!

Following the Worship Service

We have snacks and coffee every Sunday following
the service. Stick around and meet a new friend!

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Sunday AM Volunteers

Piano George Condit *Bass* Esther Lee

Guitar Evers Ding

Vocals Jesse Hraban, Katherine Reeber

Audio Jack Calderone, Steven Reeber

Slides Paul McWilliams

Prayer Matt Cabot, Susan Stenman

Communion Chris Royer

Hospitality Rich Ghioffi

Cover Image

Suffering, Paula Heffel, 2011

About Grace

Pastors

Rev. Steven Chitty steven@gracesouthbay.com

Rev. Bob Crossland bob@gracesouthbay.com

Director of Women's Ministry and Congregational Care

Jen Stegmann jen@gracesouthbay.com

Elders

Matt Cabot, Ryan Carlson, Ed Chen, Tony Evans,
Randy Jones, Justin Lee, Matt Tiscareno

Women's Care Team

Katie Chen, Sarah Cheng, Leslie Harkin,
Esther Lee, Laura Tiscareno, Sharyn Voss

If you would like to connect with the Care Team
email womenscareteam@gracesouthbay.com or
speak with one of the team members.

Mercy and Missions

Financial/Practical Needs (Diaconate)

Rev. Steven Chitty steven@gracesouthbay.com

GraceGlobal

Rev. Steven Chitty steven@gracesouthbay.com

Sunday Ministries

Jen Stegmann jen@gracesouthbay.com

Ministry Assistant

Rochelle McAdams

GraceKids and Teens

Nursery & Toddler Facilitator

Erin Crossland erincrossland@gmail.com

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Elementary Coordinators

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gracekidselementary@gracesouthbay.com

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Xavier Reyes xavier@gracesouthbay.com

Sermon Podcast

Online gracesouthbay.com/sermons
gracesouthbay.com/podcast (Q&A Podcast)

iTunes <https://apple.com/2BqqrIN>

Spotify <https://spoti.fi/2UHHygc>

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Church office

Grace South Bay
1670 Moorpark Ave.
San Jose, CA 95128

Women's Care Team *Our pastors and elders have invited this team of women to augment the shepherding ministry of the Session through the Director of Women's Ministry, Jen Stegmann. This team provides an additional layer of care specifically focused on the needs of women here at Grace. These team members are equipped as trusted confidants of our church leadership, attend Session meetings, and communicate regularly with Jen.*

Biblical References *Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version ©2001*

Community Groups, Affinity Groups, and Ministries

Community Groups are places of care and community where we live the Christian life together. Most groups are discussing the sermon, some share a meal, check one out today!

<u>Location</u>	<u>Leader(s)</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Santa Clara Alternating Monday evenings Sundays after church	Matt Tiscareno Timon Smith, Benjamin Chen	matthewtiscareno@gmail.com timonsmith@gmail.com
Campbell/Willow Glen Alternating Thursdays @ 6:30p	Xavier Reyes / Jen Stegmann	xavier@gracesouthbay.com jen@gracesouthbay.com
South San Jose Thursday evenings	Dom and Bex Ballinger	dominic.ballinger@gmail.com
Los Gatos Alternating Wednesday evenings 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons	Jamie and Joey Tiller Kip Jones	jamietiller1@gmail.com kipjones@comcast.net
Sunnyvale Alternating Sundays after church	Scott and Emilie Holzer	scott.holzer@gmail.com
Online Alternating Thursday evenings	Daniel and Sarah Cheng	dcheng116@gmail.com

Affinity Groups gather around common interests to dig deeper together

Women's Bible Study Sexual Wholeness	Jen Stegmann Bob Crossland	jen@gracesouthbay.com bob@gracesouthbay.com
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Other Ministries

Women's Ministry Prayer Ministry Creative Arts Ministry	Jen Stegmann Matt Tiscareno Katie Chen & Katherine Reeber	jen@gracesouthbay.com matthewtiscareno@gmail.com kt_chen@mac.com katherine.reeber@gmail.com
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Affiliation Grace South Bay is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) and with a group of churches that partner to form new congregations in major cities throughout the world. If you are moving and need recommendations for churches, please speak with one of our pastors.

Kids and Teens

Fancy Schmancy Christmas Party - Dec 9

All GraceTeens are invited to join in the fun on Dec 9th from 6pm - 9pm. Its a great time to dress up and celebrate together. More information to come.

GraceTeens Recurring Events

Youth Group

Join us from 5-7pm at the church tonight for dinner, song, teaching, and games. We will not be meeting: 11/26, 12/10-1/7, and 2/11.

Monday Night Boys' Study

6-8pm at Xavier's place in Campbell
No meetings: 11/27,12/10-1/8, 2/5

Monday Night Girls Study

Our Monday night girls group for both JH/HS girls meets in Campbell from 6:30-8pm at Erika Antivo's home. If you have any questions, contact her at erika.antivo@gmail.com.

Compassion Events

Teach Me Tutoring - Saturday mornings

Consider volunteering as a tutor this fall and help us to be present in our community. This is a great chance to encourage, learn from, and befriend the Hispanic families within our neighborhood simply through tutoring their children. More information and scheduling to come. Contact Xavier Reyes to find out more.

Creative Arts Ministry

CAM Fall Book Study - Tuesday evenings

This fall, the Creative Arts Ministry book study is exploring a series of shorter readings around the theme *Work, Rest, Play*. Between readings, we'll take time to respond creatively together. We meet on Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9 at Katie Chen's home. All are welcome to join, for one reading or for all three! Register at tinyurl.com/CAMFallstudy or email Katherine (katherine.reeber@gmail.com) or Katie (kt_chen@mac.com) for more information.

Adult Bible Studies

Women's Studies

Women's Studies will resume in the spring

Men's Studies

Sonship - will start back up in the spring

Wed 1145am on zoom - Thur 730pm at Steven's

You can sign up for these studies and all Grace events at gracesouthbay.churchcenter.com/registrations

Announcement Highlights November 19, 2023

Golf-n-Lunch - Tuesday Nov 21s

If you're around next week and looking for some competition and lunch - join us at TopGolf from noon - 2pm. No kids please. We'll cover your golf, but not your lunch. We only have space for 11 so sign up today - <https://gracesouthbay.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2036681>

Informational Meeting - Sunday Dec 3

On Sunday December 3, worship will begin at 8:30am to make time for our bi-annual congregational informational meeting. Everyone is welcome to stay after the service and hear an update on ministries, goals, finances, and encouragements.

Bocce Ball - Ladies, Jan 12; Men, Feb 4

Believe it or not, our annual Bocce Ball evenings are just around the corner! We'll meet at Campo Di Bocce in Los Gatos for some food, drinks, and friendly competition. This is a great event to invite your non-Grace friends to. Ladies' event will be on Jan 12 and Men's event will be on Feb 4. Sign-ups coming soon.

Men's Weekend Away - Feb 16

Men, mark your calendar for our second annual weekend getaway. Join a small group of guys overnight for some good food, fellowship, and a few adventures. More info and a sign-up coming soon.

Women's Christmas Lunch - Sunday Dec 3, 11:30am

Join us this Christmas season as we share a catered meal together and hear a short devotional to orient our hearts and our minds to gospel truth during this busy, yet Christ-focused season. We will meet at the home of Jen Soper. Cost is \$10/person to offset catering fee. Invite a friend, neighbor, or co-worker to join in the holiday celebration! Sign up at tinyurl.com/GraceWomenChristmas

Prayer Fellowship - Next Sunday Nov 26

Our Prayer Team gathers monthly to pray for our church and our community, and to discuss how we can practice and promote prayer at Grace South Bay. We meet at 10:35am in the Youth Room (B6 upstairs). For more information, please contact Matt Tiscareno (matthewtiscareno@gmail.com).