

# Welcome To Grace Brethren Church

11005 Foster Rd.  
Norwalk, CA 90650  
(562) 863-7322

**.. and His name shall be called Wonderful,  
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.**

**Isaiah 9:6b**

A Christmas event poster for Grace Norwalk. The top features a close-up of green pine branches with red ornaments and white snow. Below this, the word "CHRISTMAS" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Underneath "CHRISTMAS" is the phrase "a time of..." in a smaller, white, lowercase font. A red horizontal line separates this from the dates "DEC 4 | 11 | 18 | 25", which are displayed in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below the dates is the text "sundays at 10a" in a smaller, white, lowercase font. Another red horizontal line follows. At the bottom, the text "GRACE NORWALK" is centered in white, sans-serif capital letters. Below that, the phrase "MAKE IT A FAMILY EVENT" is written in white, sans-serif capital letters. Two stylized white Christmas trees are positioned on either side of the bottom text.

CHRISTMAS  
*a time of...*

DEC 4 | 11 | 18 | 25  
*sundays at 10a*

GRACE NORWALK

MAKE IT A FAMILY EVENT

[www.GraceLive.com](http://www.GraceLive.com)  
[info@gracelive.com](mailto:info@gracelive.com)

December 11, 2022

# Today at Grace

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Bible Classes: 9:00am

Grace Gathering [Courtyard]: 9:40am

Grace Worship Service: 10:00am

Special Church Meeting: 11:45am

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## TEACHING SERIES:



**“Christmas a Time of Hope”**

**Pastor Oscar Chavez**

**Weekly Theme Passage**

**Luke 1:67-75**

**We welcome our guests today and if you are new to Grace Norwalk and looking for a way to connect, text the word “CONNECT” to 562.444.1211 and we will text you occasional updates and events at GRACE. We are so glad you are here with us today.**

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## OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you would like offering envelopes please text the words “Offering envelopes” to **562.444.1211** or write “Offering Envelopes” on the connect card in front of you.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Don Lansing	Sun	Dec 11
Don Klements	Mon	Dec 12
Mike Williams	Wed	Dec 14

## Happy Anniversary

Don & Phyllis Fisher	Sun	Dec 11
Carlos & Clansy Cabrera	Thu	Dec 15

## EVENTS THIS WEEK @ GRACE

Special Church Meeting [2023 Budget]	Sun	Dec 11	11:45am
Women's Bible Study	Mon	Dec 12	7:00pm
Women of Grace Christmas Potluck	Tue	Dec 13	6:00pm
Ironmen Bible Study (Rm C103)	Tue	Dec 13	6:30pm
Gonzalez Small Group (Gonzalez Home)	Tue	Dec 13	7:00pm
Bible Studies, Grace Students & Grace Kids	Wed	Dec 14	6:30pm
Worship Practice	Thu	Dec 15	6:30pm
Heights of Grace	Sat	Dec 17	9:30am

## COMING EVENTS

Christmas in the Courtyard	Sun	Dec 25	10:00am
Christmas Worship Service	Sun	Dec 25	10:45am



### **10:00 am Christmas in the Courtyard**

[photo booth, coffee, hot cocoa,  
breakfast bites, kid crafts & fellowship]

### **10:45 am Christmas Worship Service**

[a special service for the whole family]

### **Socks Collection**

Women of Grace invite the church to help fill the box in the church lobby with heavy socks of all sizes during the next two months, for the Mission Commission to hand out.

## IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS TIME

That's the title of one of my favorite Christmas songs . . .

Everywhere that I go people are looking up,  
 People are sharing love  
 See the look in their eyes, something is shining bright  
 Is it the time that's right? Seems to be such a joyful occasion  
 Every face has a smile And it's starting to feel like my favorite time of the year  
 And it's almost Christmas time  
 The time of the year that's so full of cheer  
 Yes, it's almost Christmas time  
 And I'm glad that it's finally here

I hope the Christmas season is a time of love, joy, smiles, and cheer for you!  
 But for many people, Christmas time is anything but these things. Many people are alone  
 and keenly aware of their loneliness. For others, Christmas time is a time of incredible  
 stress. The expectations are HUGE . . . decorating, gift buying, meal preparations, and  
 everything else make this month the worst 30 days of the year.

There's opportunity here for ministry to others. Help and encouragement to the lonely  
 and the stressed. Pay attention to others around you. Stay in tune to the Holy Spirit as He  
 may prompt you to act in a way to help another. And how about yourself? What can you  
 do to de-stress these next two weeks before the big day?

As we learned last Sunday, God wishes for you to find peace in the midst of the chaos of  
 the season. Take time to quietly relax with the scriptures reminding yourself of the  
 significance of the season . . . why we celebrate and who we celebrate. I love to reflect on  
 Philippians 2:5-11 where Paul tells us that Jesus "existed in the form of God...but emptied  
 Himself...humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death". Aren't you glad  
 for the end of the story when "at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow ... and every  
 tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

With those amazing words, I can take a deep breath and find rest and peace in the midst  
 of the chaos.

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**Attendance Last Week: In-Person Service: 60**

**Online views: 69**



# CHRISTMAS

*a time of...*

DEC 4 | 11 | 18 | 25

*sundays at 10a*



# CHRISTMAS

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# SUNDAY

DEC  
25

10a | Christmas in the Courtyard

10:45a | Christmas Worship Service



## CHRISTMAS A TIME OF HOPE – Christmas. 12/11/22.

Pastor Oscar Chavez

### Intro.

The world needs HOPE!

Hope is a powerful word the Romans used. A word in Latin for hope means breath, to catch your breath when you are running in life with all the worries. It means to give oxygen to someone. Hope is a reality; hope is something that is real, hope is what keeps us going...

Only God can bring hope and new life out of dead situations

### When Jesus was born, hope was born into this world.

#### Luke 1

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. <sup>28</sup> Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

<sup>29</sup> Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. <sup>30</sup> "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "For you have found favor with God! <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

#### Job 8:13

<sup>13</sup> those who forget God have no hope.

## 7 reasons why the Birth of Jesus is a time of HOPE:

### 1. A time of Hope Because He came to **save us** from our sins and the **emotional** oppression that humanity experienced

**Matt. 1.** <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

**Luke 4:18** <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,

### 2. A time of Hope Because He came to **show us the way** that we should take in Life.

**Psalm 32:8.** <sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

### 3. A time of Hope because He came so you can be sure that He understands your **struggles**.

**Heb. 4** <sup>14</sup> So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. <sup>15</sup> This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.

**Heb. 2** <sup>17</sup> For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

### 4. A time of Hope because He came to **forgive** you.

**John 8:3; 10-11** <sup>3</sup> The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group

<sup>10</sup> Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

<sup>11</sup> "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

### 5. A time of Hope because He came for **Love**.

**1 Corinthians 13:13** <sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**Romans 5:7-8** <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### 6. A time of Hope because He promises that all things will **work** for good for those who love Him.

**Romans 8** <sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him

### 7. A time of Hope because He will **finish** the work that He began in you

**Philippians 1:6.** <sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

# **Sermon Discussion Guide**

## **The Christmas Time of Hope**

*Hope is a powerful word the Romans used. A word in Latin for hope means breath, to catch your breath when you are running in life with all the worries. It means to give oxygen to someone. Hope is a reality; hope is something that is real, hope is what keeps us going...*

*Hope sustains us through despair*

*Hope teaches that there is reason to rejoice even when all seems dark around us*

*and to all who suffer, to all who feel discouraged, worried or lonely, I say with love and deep concern for you never give in, never surrender, never allow despair to overcome your spirit. For the love of the son of God pierces all darkness, softens all sorrow and gladness every heart with HOPE*

**Let's Talk It Over.**

**1. Briefly share what the word "Hope" means to you.**

**2. Let's talk about your understanding of this verse**

**Job 8:13 Living Bible**

**<sup>13</sup> those who forget God have no hope.**

**3. What is the difference between hope and faith?**

**4. What did you learn from this teaching this week? Share with your Life Group please**