



Advent at Grace Brevard

**Advent Week 1
“Hope: With God”**

Matthew 1:18-23

December 3, 2017

**To Know, Live and Extend the Hope of Jesus
to the Brevard Community**

GraceBrevardChurch.org

BrevardChurch@Gmail.com



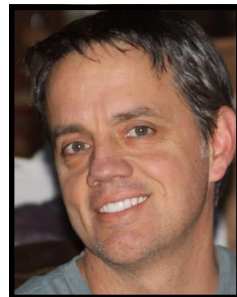
Brian Land,
Lead Pastor
BrianLand@gmail.com



Ben Seneker,
Discipleship Pastor
benseneker@gmail.com



Courtney Lotz,
Children's Director
CourtMJohnson12@gmail.com



Craig Lotz,
Worship and Arts Director
CraigLotz@gmail.com



Chris Strassner,
BBQ Boss and Tech Master
Chris.Strassner@gmail.com

Grace Brevard, a daughter church of Grace Mills River, is connected to the Grace Church Network as well as being part of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church denomination (epc.org). We are also supported by several other churches from multiple denominations.

102 College Station Drive, Suite 3 #149, Brevard, NC 28712

Welcome to Grace Brevard



We are excited to walk together as we grow in our understanding of God and his unfathomable Grace, and how plunging into the depths of his sacrificial love ignites us to love each other and to serve the greater Brevard community.

Over the next few seasons we will roll out different ways in which we can grow in our faith, in our relationships and in our community service. For now let soak in this freeing glorious Gospel together.

A graphic for an Advent series. It features a dark background with soft, out-of-focus evergreen branches and small white snowflakes. The word "Advent" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, the phrase "good news of great joy" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the graphic, the text "a worship series to prepare our hearts for the coming King" is written in a white, sans-serif font.

Advent
good news of great joy

a worship series to prepare
our hearts for the coming King

Today we will begin our 4-week Advent series as we get heart-prepared to celebrate God coming to us, becoming one of us so that we could be WITH HIM. We will celebrate how being WITH God brings us Hope (week 1), Peace (week 2), Joy (week 3) and Love (week 4). Finally, on Christmas Eve night, how being WITH God brings us Life.

For a great free daily Advent devotional, get John Piper's at www.desiringgod.org/books/good-news-of-great-joy

Young Lives

The first 4 December Sundays we will be highlighting and supporting Young Lives, a ministry to local teen moms, by putting up a "Give Tree" with ornaments. Simply take an ornament off the tree and it will describe a specific way you can personally help out a teen mom in our area.



Connect

See some connection/serving options on the Connect Card on the back page of this bulletin, as well as a place to give us your contact information and any prayer requests you might have.

Community & Care

In the new year we will launch some Community Groups that will meet at different times in different places for gospel and relational growth. Connect with Ben Seneker for info on this.

Children

We will have 2 spaces for children on Sunday mornings: one for infants up to 12-months plus a class for 1-3 year olds. To learn how to help with kids, email Courtney Lotz.

Worship and Arts

Worship & Arts Night: On Tuesday, Jan. 9th, we'll host an "open mic" night, where artists can take a few minutes to share their talents (songs, a monologue, etc.), giving us an idea of how you might get plugged in. CraigLotz@Gmail.com.

Giving

As a thankful response to the life and hope God has given us in Jesus, we are called to give back our time, talents and treasures. Financial giving can be done in person on Sundays or online at GraceBrevardChurch.org. Time and talent giving options can be seen on the connect card. If this isn't where you are in your spiritual walk, this is a time for you to simply receive...please don't feel guilted into giving.

Hope. With God.

Matthew 1:18-23

December 3, 2017

Rev. Brian Land

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ *"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"*

(which means, God with us).

*You are never alone. We were specifically designed to be in intimate relationships with one another, but even moreso, with God himself. In the beginning we dwelt **with God**, but in our rebellion we wanted to forge our own path, cutting off our intimacy with Him. The birth ("genesis" in Greek) of Jesus is the starting-block of God's re-creation where he personally and physically comes to dwell with us, paying our rebellion-debt and leaving us his Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ, to permanently dwell **with us** until the day we once again see God face-to-face. This gift of God's presence gives us **HOPE** in our everyday life because, regardless of how we feel or what darkness seems to overtake, we can never be alone and forsaken.*

Sermon Discussion Questions

- 1) What are you hopeful for? With your relationships; job; personal development; spirituality?
- 2) Being alone is different than being lonely. What is it like to be painfully lonely? Why is this such an ache in our hearts?
- 3) Why is it so unimaginable (and ludicrous, even blasphemous to other religions) that God himself became fully human?
- 4) Why is it absolutely necessary that Jesus be 100% God and 100% human?
- 5) How is it that our greatest HOPE is not something God gives us (even heaven), but God Himself?
- 6) How can we begin to enjoy God's greatest HOPE starting now?

Sermon Resources

Colossians 2:9-10 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Revelation 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God."

Philippians 2:6-8 (Jesus) though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

“**Eucatastrophe**’: the sudden happy turn in a story which pierces you with a joy that brings tears...it is a sudden glimpse of Truth, your whole nature chained in material cause and effect, the chain of death, feels a sudden relief as if a major limb out of joint had suddenly snapped back...this is indeed how things really do work in the Great World for which our nature is made.” J.R.R.Tolkien’s letters

Tim Keller Advent sermon "Fullness of His Grace" (www.gospelinlife.com/fullness-of-his-grace-advent)

Charles Spurgeon sermon: The Birth of Christ (www.spurgeon-gems.org/vols40-42/chs2392.pdf)

Jeff White sermon: He Will Save His People (gospelinlife.com/sermons/he-will-save-his-people-from-their-sins-9089)

Responsive Worship Elements

Call To Worship: Psalm 95:1-3 ESV

LEADER: 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

ALL: 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

LEADER: 3 For the Lord is a great God,

ALL: and a great King above all gods.

Advent Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16 ESV

Advent Candle #1 - The Hope Candle

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'"

Benediction: Deuteronomy 31:6 ESV

LEADER: Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them,

ALL: for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

Music

Song of Moses

**By: Pat Barrett, Graham Kendrick, Aaron Keyes,
Chris Moeman, and Ben Smith**

O the Lord our strength and song, Highest praise to Him belongs
Christ the Lord our conquering King, Your name we raise
Your triumph sing

O Praise the Lord our mighty warrior
Praise the Lord the Glorious One
By His hand we stand in victory
By His name we've overcome

Though the storms of hell pursue, In darkest night we worship You
'Cause You divide the raging seas, From death to life You safely lead

All the saints and angels bow, Hosts of heaven crying out
Glory Glory to the King, You reign for all eternity

The Lord shall reign
Forever and ever

Music

What a Beautiful Name

By: Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood

You were the Word at the beginning,
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation, Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful name it is, What a beautiful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ, my King
What a beautiful name it is, Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful name it is, The name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us,
So Jesus, You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater,
What could separate us now

What a wonderful name it is, What a wonderful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ, my King

What a wonderful name it is, Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful name it is, The name of Jesus
What a wonderful name it is, The name of Jesus

Death could not hold you, The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign

Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the name above all names

What a powerful name it is, What a powerful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ, my King
What a powerful name it is, Nothing can stand against
What a powerful name it is, The name of Jesus
What a powerful name it is, The name of Jesus
What a powerful name it is, The name of Jesus

Music

O Come All Ye Faithful

By: C. Frederick Oakeley and John Francis Wade

O Come All Ye Faithful
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of Angels;

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

O Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all that hear in heaven God's holy word.
Give to our Father glory in the Highest;

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

All Hail! Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
O Jesus! for evermore be Thy name adored.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Music

O Come Emmanuel

By: John Mason Neale

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Oh come, Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things, far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

CONNECT

(tear this page off and put it in the offering box)

Please circle: Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Dr. Rev.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Children: (names, ages) _____

How would you like to connect better with Grace Brevard?

- Get on the weekly email list
- Get information on Community Groups (starting in '18)
- Help with outward-service locally or globally
- Talk with a Leader (regarding? _____)
- Pray.... (write your prayer request here if you'd like):

Grace Brevard is basically an "open source" church where we all chip in together to make it happen. Would you like to talk about what it would look like to help in one of the ministries?

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Tech | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Setup/Breakdown |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Worship | <input type="checkbox"/> Cafe | <input type="checkbox"/> Children |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Team | |