

growing
hope



Easter - All Age Worship





Title	Amazing Grace – Grace to be Shared
Date	Easter Sunday
Purpose	For all ages to come together and celebrate the Risen Christ and to consider God's amazing grace.
Overview	This all-age worship may be used with the Amazing Grace Sermon outline provided in the toolkit.
Key Scriptures	John 20:1-18
Preparations and what you will need	1-2 weeks before Ask three people to come prepared to share (See instructions below) 1-2 days before Prepare the gifts for the object lesson Decorate the Hall with large wrapped gifts. Make copies of the cube template Have enough coloured pens, pencils and crayons and sticky tape for every person.

Call to Worship: Introduction

"He is Risen!" (wait for the response 'He is risen, indeed.')

Invite the Congregation to stand

As we stand this morning, let us imagine ourselves entering a parade of celebration, taking our place, together with all God's children as we remember that we are people of the risen King.

Prepare

This Song would be a good opportunity to wave streamers and flags, play musical instruments such as shakers, tambourines and drums.

Song

Come people of the Risen King
(Getty Music)

At the conclusion of the song, invite the congregation to take their seats so they can interact with the following Call to Worship Psalm (next page).

Interactive Psalm

Psalm 118

Adapted from Contemporary

English Version - CEV

Leader:

Tell the Lord how thankful you are.

Children (Stand up):

He is Kind and Always faithful

Leader:

Let every true worshiper of the Lord shout,

Men (Stand Up):

God is always faithful

Leader:

From the tents of God's people come shouts,

Women (Stand Up):

The Lord is powerful

Leader:

Tell the Lord how thankful you are

All:

He is kind and always merciful.

Song

Forever (Give thanks to the Lord)

Chris Tomlin

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Praise

Invite spontaneous prayers of praise and thanksgiving.

Sharing Time

What's so amazing about grace...

The theme for this Easter service is Amazing Grace. Invite an adult, a teenager and an older child to come prepared to share for one minute each on 'This is what's so amazing about God's grace'. Each of those invited to share may need to be guided and given some insight into what God's grace is. However, this exercise will enable them to think deeply and consider for themselves what is amazing about God's grace.

Song/s

This is Amazing Grace

Phil Wickham

Thank you, Lord (for all that you've done)

Hillsong

For all You've done (My Saviour, Redeemer)

Hillsong

Prepare

You will need to wrap some items (approximately six would be good) for this lesson. Wrap them in a way that the people might be able to guess or have a bit of an idea of what it might be from looking at it, e.g. ball, toy car or truck, book, tennis racquet etc. You will also need a wrapped box with a piece of paper in it with the word GRACE written on it. Have all the presents lined up on a table out the front so the everyone can see.

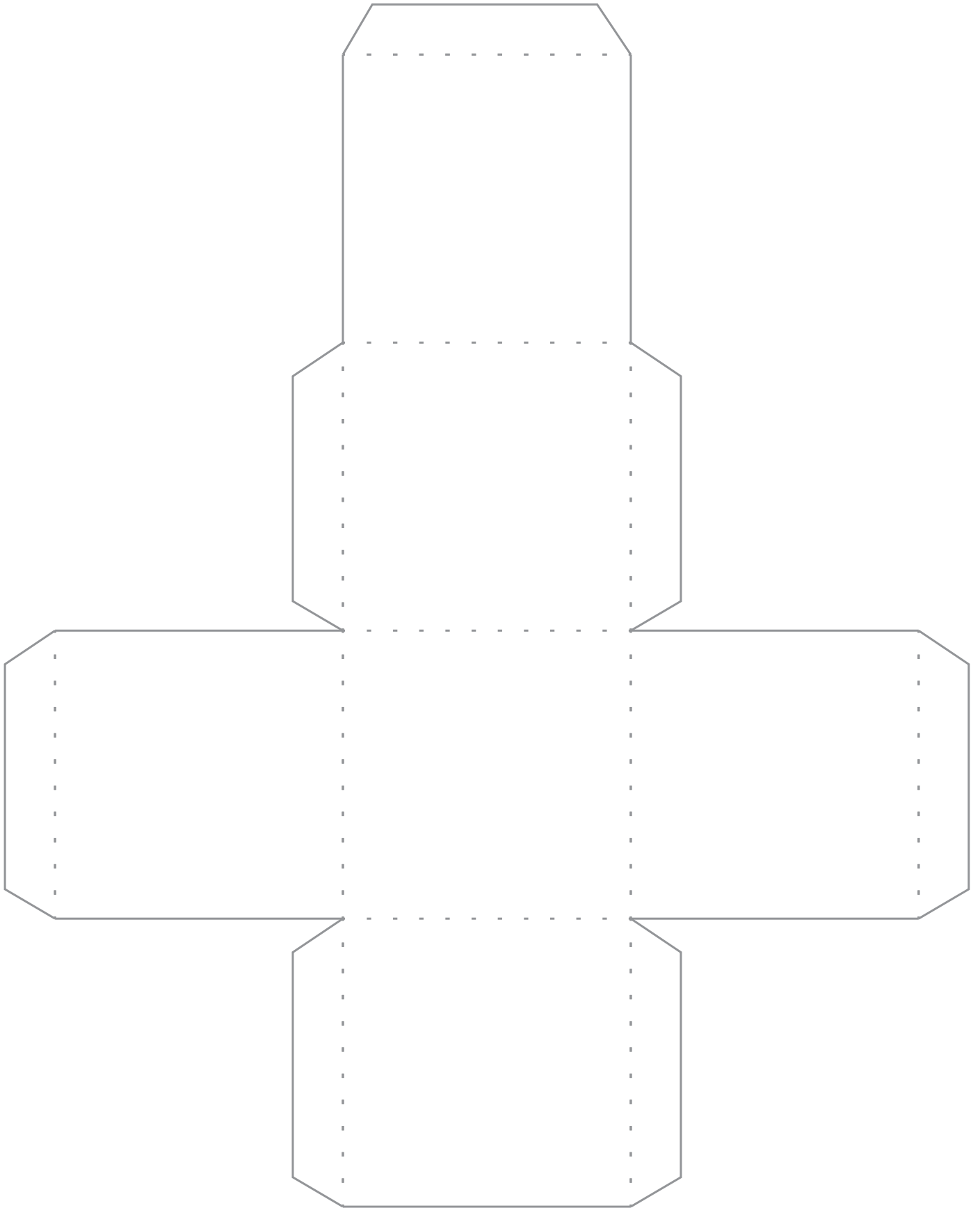
Object Lesson

What is inside the present?

Begin by asking the congregation/children some questions. I wonder if you've received a gift before. I wonder if your family give gifts for special occasions. Have you ever received a special gift from someone? What was it?

1. Invite the children to come forward to participate closely with this lesson.
2. Ask the children if they can guess what the presents are (if they are having difficulty with some then you could help by giving some clues). Leave the GRACE box till last; it will be the hardest as there is not really any indication of what is inside.
3. When all the other presents have been opened, ask the children for some suggestions as to what would be inside the last present (the box), when they give up, ask a child to come and open it and hold up what is inside.

GRACE: 'What does this mean? What is GRACE?' (Encourage some brainstorming, e.g. a girl's name, what you say at dinner time etc.) Another way of understanding grace is this: God loves us just because He wants to. God wants to be in relationship with us and know us and spend time with us because He simply loves us so very much. We don't deserve it, and that's what this word 'grace' means: getting something freely that we don't deserve. Imagine if you loved others even if they didn't deserve it. Do you think people would see there was something different about you if you showed grace to others? God wants us to be so full of His love for us that it overflows. Imagine if I had a drinking glass and I tried to pour a whole bottle of milk into it; the milk would overflow wouldn't it? Well, God loves us so much, that it should 'overflow' out of our lives and into those we spend time with. (You might like to have a glass and some milk to illustrate this point.) God's grace is endless and will never run out.



Scripture Reading

John 20:1-18
(CEV or NLT)

Song

Amazing Grace
John Newton

Sermon

Sharing Grace
(see Toolkit for sermon outline and resource)

Prepare

Print out copies of the blank
box templates (next page)

Response

Give each person a copy of the Gift Box template to colour, cut and construct. The finished gift box can be used as a reminder of the gift of Grace that is given from God. Invite the congregation to construct it while they consider what they have heard and reflecting upon how they would want to respond to the Gospel Message.

Song

Your Grace is Enough
Chris Tomlin

or

My Saviour's love (How marvelous, how wonderful)
Charles Gabriel

Prayer/ Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:13

I pray the Lord Jesus Christ will bless you and be kind to you! May God bless you with his love, and may the Holy Spirit join all your hearts together.