



## Apocalypse Wow

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### Vision

Transforming lives through God's grace

### Mission

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we grow disciples of Jesus Christ to love our neighbours and effect social change.

### Minister

The Rev. Dr. M. Jean Morris  
Associate Minister, Pastoral Care

### Presbytery Representative

The Rev. Mark Tremblay  
[minister@knoxcalgary.ca](mailto:minister@knoxcalgary.ca)

### Musicians

Susan Woodward, Music Director  
Donna Holoboff, Organist



*Today flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Jack Williams by Joyce and family.*

## Order of Worship

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*\* Please stand as you are able.*

There is information in the bulletin about Sunday School and Nursery for newcomers.

Prelude            Advent Wreath: Andantino Espressivo; Andante Cantando            P. Hamill  
Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying            J.S. Bach/B. Price

Announcements            *Mary Rozsa de Coquet*

\*Entry of the Bible            *Durk De Jong*

\*Lighting of the Christ Candle            *David Telfer*

\*Choral Introit O Come, Emmanuel            D. Besig/N. Price

\*Call to Worship            *Roberto DeSandoli*

### **\*HYMN #125 People, Look East**

Lighting of the Advent Candle            *Aonghas, Kathryn, Angus and Catriona Smith*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession and The Lord's Prayer

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

## Grace's Sunday School presents: "The Party"

A "One Rehearsal Christmas Play" written by Kendra Smiley

Songs and carols:

Happy Birthday (to Jesus)

Deck the Halls (first verse)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing (first verse)

Hymn 148, It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (first verse, with choir and congregation)

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"To all the earth good will and peace, from heaven's all gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.*

Away in a Manger (first verse)

Silent Night (first verse)

Hymn 153, Joy to the World (first verse, with choir and congregation)

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive its King;  
let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Many thanks to our wonderful children, dedicated leaders and volunteers, and supportive congregation who have made this possible!*

Prayer for Illumination

**Lord our God, as we approach your Word, we pray that you will open  
the doors of our hearts to receive you freely as you have freely received  
us. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Scripture      Mark 13:24-37 (page 44, New Testament)

Sermon

**APOCALYPSE WOW**

*The Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart*

**\*HYMN #120 Lo! Christ Comes With Clouds**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Offering

Quittez, Pasteurs

L. Roques

Doxology, #830 - Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

The Apostles' Creed, #539

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, #564

Communion

Anthem: O Come, Redeemer of the Earth

B. L. Hanson

Prayer After Communion

**\*HYMN #371 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Postlude

Es Ist Ein' Ros': Variation III Chorale-Jubilee

A. Jordan

\*Benediction to follow Congregational Meeting

# Welcome to Grace Church

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**TODAY WE WELCOME THE REV. DR. ROSS LOCKHART** to Grace. Dr. Lockhart is Associate Professor at St. Andrew's Hall at The University of British Columbia. Ross is the Director of Denominational Formation at The Vancouver School of Theology where he teaches courses in Reformed Worship, Creeds and Confessions as well as Evangelism and Catechesis. He is the founding Director of The Centre for Missional Leadership at St. Andrew's Hall with experiments in church planting and New Monasticism. Ross also teaches Pastoral Care at Regent College. Ross is author of "Lessons from Laodicea: Missional Leadership in a Culture of Affluence" and his forthcoming work "Beyond Snakes and Shamrocks: St. Patrick's Missional Leadership Lessons for Today" will be published in 2018. Ross lives in North Vancouver with his wife, Laura, and their three children where he serves as Minister-in-Association at St. Andrew's/St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church.

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held following worship today to consider the call for the Lead Minister for Grace.

**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available in the Family Room following today's worship service. If you require custom envelopes, please contact the church office directly.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS, 'PEACE HOPE LIGHT', REFLECTIONS ON THE WRITINGS OF C.S. LEWIS** – Daily readings for Advent are available for pick up in the Library.

**THE REV. DR. JEAN MORRIS IS AWAY ON VACATION** – She will return to the church on Sunday, December 10. In Jean's absence, please contact Greta Bylsma, Pastoral Assistant, or the Rev. Murdo Marple, Interim Pastoral Care Leader, with any pastoral concerns.

**NOW HIRING!** – Grace Church is looking to fill a position for Security/Maintenance Personnel. If you are interested or know of someone looking for part-time work (evening and weekends), please contact David Telfer, Building Supervisor, at 403-244-5861 or davidt@gracecalgary.org.

**GIFT CARDS DONATIONS ON DECEMBER 17** – On Sunday, December 17, gift cards for food (for example: Safeway, Sobey's Calgary Co-op, Walmart) may be donated. These cards will be provided to the pastoral staff to distribute throughout the year. Thank you for your generosity as we live our vision of transforming lives through God's grace. Please place gift cards on the offering plates on December 17 at both morning and evening services.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** – Please see pink insert for those who wish to order Christmas poinsettias for Grace’s home-bound. Poinsettias will be delivered following the morning worship on December 17.

**GRACEFULL SENIORS ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2017** – Susan Woodward, Choral Director at Grace, will lead us in song, laughter and Christmas cheer. Join us for Christmas music and our GraceFull Seniors traditional holiday meal of shepherd’s pie and angel food cake! Please indicate your attendance by signing up on the bulletin board in the lobby or contacting the church office.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) PROGRAM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** – Our ELL program has been so popular that we are in need of additional volunteers to help newcomers to Canada improve their spoken English language skills. The program runs Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:30 am to noon. If you can help, please contact Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers, [cindys@gracecalgary.org](mailto:cindys@gracecalgary.org).

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24**

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|----------|---|
| 10:30 am | Fourth Sunday of Advent (Sacrament of Holy Communion) |
| 4:30 pm  | A Service for Families with Young Children            |
| 8:00 pm  | Carols and Choir                                      |

**A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER** – Thank you for your faithfulness and generous spirit in supporting the work of Grace Church over the past year. With your support, we have accomplished much – even amid significant changes at Grace. The year has not been without challenges, and while your giving has remained steady, expenditures resulting from the changes have exceeded our predictions. As we near the end of 2017, we wanted you to know that we are concerned about our cash position and we ask that you give prayerful consideration with respect to our present financial situation.

**2017 TAX PLANNING** – As you consider your final donations for 2017, please remember we must receive your donation by December 31 if you wish to have the amount count towards your 2017 offerings. If you send a donation by mail, it must be postmarked December 31 or earlier. Any contributions received after December 31 are only eligible for a 2018 tax receipt.

**NEW BOOKS IN CHURCH LIBRARY** – You are invited to discover Christmas-themed and other new books displayed on the standing racks as well as the children’s section.

## To Visitors with Children

We are thankful for the presence of infants and children in our sanctuary, though if you wish, we do offer programming for kids during the service.

**Nursery** – Care is available for children age 3 and younger; an usher can lead you to the Nursery at any time.

**Sunday School and Christmas Pageants** – After this morning’s pageant, all children Ages 4 through Grade 6 are invited to come downstairs for a time of music, a snack, and rehearsals for the next pageants.

Additional activities focussing on Paul’s grace-filled letter with words of faith and blessing to the Corinthians will be available to the children.

This year’s pageants were chosen because they are designed to include even occasional attending participants. All are invited to be a part of our community and join in the fun! Christmas Pageant Information:

December 3: “The Party”

December 10: “’Twas the Night Before Christmas”

December 17: “The Good News Flash”

Interested in learning more about our children’s programs or teaching teams? Contact Joanne Kellough at [joannek@gracecalgary.org](mailto:joannek@gracecalgary.org).

**Youth Group** – All youth in Grades 7 to 12 are invited to join us for fellowship and conversation. We sit in the Sanctuary near the piano. For more information, please contact Roberto DeSandoli, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator at [robertod@gracecalgary.org](mailto:robertod@gracecalgary.org) or 403.244.5861.

## Upcoming Worship Services

**TONIGHT, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**

**Evening Grace, 7:00 pm to 7:50 pm in the Chapel**  
**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Roberto DeSandoli, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator,  
and The Rev. Mark Tremblay are leading worship.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10**

**Morning Worship, 10:30 am**

Guest Minister: The Rev. Ryan Andersen

Ryan Andersen is a Lutheran Pastor who is currently serving as the lead organizer for the Metro Alliance for the Common Good. His ministry has focused on how faith communities can come together to work for justice, how we can rediscover the richness of our spiritual traditions and how this can lead to the renewal of the church. He is married and has two delightful children.

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