



Skyripping Sacrament

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

Musicians

Susan Woodward, Music Director
Donna Holoboff, Organist



Before the service, speak to God to show reverence.
During the service, let God speak to you to show obedience.
After the service, speak to one another to show friendliness.

Order of Worship

* *Please stand as you are able.*

Prelude	Borning Cry Wade in the Water	arr. D. Christiansen arr. B. Harbach
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Announcements		<i>Jean Morris</i>
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*Entry of the Bible		<i>Olul Owiti</i>
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*Lighting of the Christ Candle		<i>David Telfer</i>
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*Choral Introit	God is a Spirit	W. S. Bennett
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*Call to Worship

***HYMN 385 Like The Murmur of The Dove's Song**

Litany of Confession

Sovereign God, in baptism you called us to turn from sin and to turn to Jesus Christ; but we stray from his ways and do not heed your call.

Silence.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you joined us to Christ in his death that we might be raised with Christ in new life; but we cherish old ways and fail to embrace the risen life of righteousness, justice, and love.

Silence.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you united us with all the baptized who confess your name; but we foster division in the church. We refuse to live as one people, and so fail to witness to your reconciling love before the world.

Silence.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you call us to ministry in all realms of life, but we do not nurture the ways of peace; we allow enmity and hatred to grow among us, putting neighbour against neighbour, and nation against nation. We abuse the earth you entrust to our care, and live in discord with your creation.

Silence.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you sent us to serve with compassion all for whom Christ died; but we ignore the suffering of those who are oppressed and the plight of those who are poor. We do not listen to cries for justice.

Silence.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

In baptism you gave us the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us, but we rely on ourselves, and refuse to trust your direction.

Silence.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

God, we remember the promises you made to us in our baptism. Forgive our sinful ways and heal our brokenness. Set us free from all that enslaves us, and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ, that we may be your faithful servants. **Amen.**

***HYMN 475 I Am The Church! You Are The Church!**

The Sacrament of Baptism

Prayer for Illumination

David Todd

**O God, by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear,
and show us what we ought to do to be faithful
followers of Jesus. Amen.**

Scripture

Genesis 1:1-5 (page 1, Old Testament)
Acts 19:1-7 (page 122, New Testament)
Mark 1:4-11 (page 30, New Testament)

Sermon

SKYRIPPING SACRAMENT

***HYMN 183**

Christ, When For Us You Were Baptized

Prayers of the People

Anthem

Like a Dove

J. Purifoy

Affirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we have been joined into Christ's Church. We share in the story of God's mighty acts of salvation, and we receive new birth through water and the Spirit. Let us renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledging what God is doing in, through, and for us, and affirming our commitment to Christ and his Church.

Let us reaffirm the vows of our baptism covenant.

Have you renounced all the forces of evil, in whatever guise they present themselves, that rebel against God and destroy God's good creation?

I have renounced them.

Will you continue to serve Christ, as part of the Christian Church.

I will, with God's help.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you see and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people?

I will, with God's help.

We come out of many traditions. Some of us were baptized before we remember. Others only later when we said, "I believe." Whether immersed, poured upon or sprinkled, it is your action, Gracious God, that defines our baptism.

Having put off the old nature, we have been clothed with Christ.

Barriers that separate us have been taken down. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female.

For we all are one in Christ Jesus.

Old things have passed away. Behold, God makes all things new. Remember your baptism and be thankful.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Offering (envelope in box on pew in front)

Children of the Heavenly Father

arr. R.A. Hobby

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: HYMN 79 - Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

*Offertory Prayer

Marlene Doherty

***HYMN 182 What Was Your Vow And Vision** (Tune: Aurelia)

*Benediction and Choral Amen

Postlude All Glory Be To God On High

J.S. Bach/A. Arnsdorf

Today two bouquets are placed in the Sanctuary to the glory of God. One is placed in loving memory of Jun Staveley by the Cichon family; the second in loving memory of Rob Tomlinson by his family.

Following Worship

- Please speak to Jean Morris if you wish to have private prayer.
- Today's parish nurse, Robin Tomlinson, is available at the front of the sanctuary to discuss any minor medical concerns.
- Refreshments will be served in the Family Room. All are welcome to be part of this time of fellowship.

Welcome to Grace Church

Today we celebrate the baptisms of:

Abalony Cham Metho Agwa

Arit Cham Metho Agwa

Ojuato John Bach Cham

Nutapieri Omot Obang

Jwokwanye Cham Odolla

Abaranyi Ajudah Ojulu

David Oballa Ojo Okango

Mara Ojo Okango

Achan Otor Okoth

Apiew Otor Okoth

Ojulo Otor Okoth

Lero Otor Okoth

Atale Yonas Olul

Isaak Yonas Olul

Tagara Yonas Olul

Grace Bethany, a women's group at Grace, will meet in the Dining Room downstairs at **1:00 pm sharp** on Tuesday, January 9. New members are welcome

Community Feast: Supper and Scripture will run on **Wednesday evenings from January 10 to February 14**. The study will commence at **6:00 pm with a light meal provided**, and **conclude by 7:30 pm**. This is a weekly, lectionary-based Bible study. The Lectionary is a list of scripture readings scheduled to be read at a church service. Grace uses lectionary readings both for its worship services and for its Sunday School lessons. The study will use the same lectionary texts but two weeks advanced (so January 10 will cover January 24 readings). Please advise the church office at 403.244.5861 or office@gracecalgary.org if you plan to attend.

The Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, January 10 at 10:00 am in the Lounge.

The Friendship Club (formerly the Couples Club) will meet for lunch on Friday, January 12 at 11:30 am in the Lounge. Singles and couples are welcome to join. Money is collected to cover the lunch.

GraceFull Seniors will meet on Thursday, January 18 at 11:30 am. Guest speaker, Carol Sapieha, will talk about Fraud Awareness for Seniors. All are welcome. Lunch is provided. If you plan to attend, please advise Cindi at cindib@gracecalgary.org or call the office at 403.244.5861.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Sunday, January 21 at 7:00 pm - During the week beginning January 21, Christian churches around the world will take time to pause, and pray for unity and in solidarity with each other. The theme for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is "Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power." Grace's tradition is to dedicate that week's Evening Grace service to recognition and participation in the event; hosting guests from other churches in the city. Do plan to attend!

New Members Class – Saturday, January 27, 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace Presbyterian Church or would like to learn some more about our ministry, you are welcome to attend. Please call the church office to register at 403.244.5861.

To ALL QUILTERS - We welcome all who are returning to our quilting bees, and invite others who are interested to participate in sewing, fellowship, sharing and fun on the fourth Saturday of each month. We share love and compassion by creating beautiful quilts that are given to families and individuals when facing times of struggle and loss and when celebrating joyful events. The next quilting bee is **Saturday, January 27** from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm or anytime in between. Bring a lunch; snacks and coffee are provided.

Grace Church is seeking a Nursery Caregiver Supervisor to ensure loving care for children through to age 3 on Sunday mornings. This is a paid position and interested candidates should contact Cindy Stephenson at cindys@gracecalgary.org.

2017 Annual Report Content - We're getting ready to pull together the 2017 Annual Report. The theme of the report will be *Onward and Outward* and will focus on how changes over the past year have been preparing us to live Grace's new mission and vision. After the holidays, I will be in touch about specifics of the report

– Tyler Williams

2018 Offering Envelopes are available in the Family Room following today's worship service. If you require custom envelopes, please contact Cindi Banman in the church office at cindib@gracecalgary.org or 403.244.5861.

Volunteer Opportunities at Grace

Self Service Coffee Volunteer Request – We continue to request volunteers to assist after the morning service with setup of the self-service coffee stations. We are looking for two or three people to help each Sunday. **If you can help, please sign the list** posted in the Family Room. Thank you! Complete instructions for setting up the coffee stations can be found in the kitchen.

Ushers Needed - Ushers help:

- welcome worshippers,
- direct newcomers around the building,
- receive and count the offering,
- read the offertory prayers,
- and help with emergencies.

Please let Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers (cindys@gracecalgary.org), know if you might be able to serve in one or more of these ways.

Sunday School Helpers Needed - The Grace family delights in the presence of the children and is thankful for our vibrant Sunday School. Helpers are needed to assist our dedicated teachers by being present to help the children with class activities, and to escort children to the washrooms. No lesson planning is required. Please let Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers, cindys@gracecalgary.org, know if you can serve once per month.

Upcoming Worship Services

TONIGHT, Sunday, January 7, 2018

Epiphany Sunday

Evening Grace, 7:00 pm to 7:50 pm in the Chapel

Preacher – Roberto DeSandoli, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

Sunday, January 14, 2018

10:30 am

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Nancy Cocks

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Cocks recently retired from St. John's Medicine Hall after 39 years in ministry. She also served pastorates in Ontario and BC. She completed a Doctorate in Theology at Knox College, exploring the work of John Calvin and the impact of life experience on expressing Christian faith. She held tenure as Associate Professor in Pastoral Theology at both Vancouver School of Theology and Atlantic School of Theology. She is well known for her storytelling with children, having published 16 children's books and two collections of worship resources with reflections on faith development.

Sunday, January 21, 2018

10:30 am

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Nancy Cocks

Evening Grace, 7:00 -7:50 pm in the Chapel

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Preacher: The Rev. Daranne Harris

The theme for 2018 is "Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power (Exodus 15:6)".

Thankful for 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 – Happy New Year and Happy Epiphany!

All children age 4 through Grade 6 are welcome to join us as we resume regular Sunday School classes! This morning's activities will focus on worshipping God the Creator and discovering that all life depends on God, and that God's Spirit is essential in the creation of new beginnings. After the Conversation with Young Christians, the children will go downstairs to their classrooms for a healthy snack and a time of connection and learning:

Ages 4-5: second classroom down the corridor off the Dining Hall

Grades 1-2: first classroom down the corridor off the Dining Hall

Grades 3-4: classroom area closest to the window in the Dining Hall

Grades 5-6: middle classroom area in the Dining Hall

For more information about our children's programs and teaching teams, please contact Joanne, Interim Sunday School Coordinator, at joannek@gracecalgary.org or 403.244.5861.

Phone: 403-244-5861

Website: www.gracechurchcalgary.com

Email: office@gracecalgary.org

Twitter/Facebook: @calgarygrace