

**SUPER SHEPHERD**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MAY 7, 2023**  
**10:30 a.m.**



**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.

**Values**

Belonging, Community, Compassion, Engagement, and Service

The Rev. Greg Smith, Interim Moderator

The Rev. Maren McLean Persaud  
Associate Minister, Children and Youth

The Rev. Jake Van Pernis  
Associate Minister, Engagement and Service

The Rev. Christian Persaud  
Interim Pastoral Care Leader

Matt Kallio, Music Coordinator

Please find Online Worship at:  
[www.gracechurchcalgary.com](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com)



**Grace Presbyterian Church**  
*Transforming lives through God's grace*

## Order of Worship

In a spirit of respect and truth we honour and acknowledge that we live, work, play and worship on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Stoney Nakoda Nations (Bears paw, Chiniki, and Wesley), the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

### **Prelude**

### **Sonata in D Major**

Domenico Gabrielli

Troy Deren, Trumpet

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Janet Hyde**

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Marshall**

### **Introit**

### **Christ Our Passover**

Richard Shepherd

### **Call To Worship**

God, our Shepherd, offers us abundant life.

**God, you are with us.**

God, our Shepherd, leads us by still waters.

**God, restore our souls.**

God, our Shepherd, walks with us through every dark valley.

**We will not be afraid.**

God, our Shepherd, we praise you for your goodness and mercy with us every day.

### **Hymn**

### **#466 Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet**

Natalie Sleeth \*

### **Prayer of Adoration**

**Rev. Maren McLean Persaud**

God of love,

we come trusting that your love has the power to defeat evil in the world.

Jesus shows us that your love defeats even the power of death.

You are with us through the darkest valleys so that we are not afraid.

We worship you with glad hearts,

praising you in the name of our Risen Lord,

praying with the breath of your Spirit in us.

Renew our strength and courage to face whatever each day holds,

so our lives will bring you honour and glory now and always. Amen.

## Rite of Reconciliation

### Prayer of Confession

God of love,

we confess that too often we let the events around us shatter our trust in your love.

When terror strikes and innocents fall, we wonder if love can defeat violence.

When truth gets lost among misleading claims, we wonder if love can prevail over lies.

Forgive us, God, when we lose our trust in the power of your love so soon after it raised Jesus from death's grip.

### Words of Forgiveness

#### The Peace

May the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

**Hymn**            **#485 Saviour, like a shepherd lead us**            †

## Time With Young Christians

### Prayer for Illumination

Elizabeth Cressman

**Scripture**        **Psalm 23** (*responsive, sing Refrain 1*)

**1 Peter 2:19-25**

**John 10:1-10**

**Dr. Joni Sancken**

**Sermon**            **Super Shepherd**

**Hymn**            **Guide my feet** (see over)

African American Spiritual  
Music: Wendell P. Whalum\*



## Guide My Feet

741

1 Guide my feet while I run this race;

(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race;

(yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race, for I

don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

2 Hold my hand ...

5 Search my heart ...

3 Stand by me ...

6 Guide my feet ...

4 I'm your child ...

## Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Jake Van Pernis

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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Invitation to Our Offering

**Anthem**      **Glory, Hallelujah!**

Mark Burrows

**Prayer for our Offering**

Rev. Christian Persaud

**Hymn**      **#726 May the God of hope go with us everyday (x3)**      \*

## Benediction

**Amen**      **#264 Sing Amen**

\*\*\*

**Postlude**      **Meditation on Brother James' Air**

Harold Darke

*Offering plates are at each side of the dais for your convenience.*

Flowers are placed in the sanctuary this weekend to the glory of God in loving memory of Robert Montgomery by Margaret and family.

Thank you to trumpeter Troy Deren and percussionists Andrew Lee and Rob Maciak for their contributions to this worship service.

## Permissions/Licensing

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## Music Notes—Fifth Sunday of Easter

This week's music notes invite us to consider our responses to music in worship.

Sometimes there has been applause following anthems in worship. At times applause or clapping can enhance worship and praise, and at other times applause or clapping may make parts of worship feel more like a performance.

Applause is a way we show appreciation as well as acknowledge skill and hard work, however, as a congregation we need to think about how we show appreciation and acknowledgement as we hold space to praise and worship together.



It is important to recognize applause can, at times, be disjointed in holding space for worshipping God for the simple reason praise should be directed to God even though we appreciate the skill and talent of people who are helping to create this space.

Music is an important part of worship, and it is wonderful that music is so appreciated in our congregation. Please know that everyone who participates in the music ministries of Grace works to help create meaningful spaces in our collective worship, and we are happy that the music ministries add meaning to people's worship experience. We deeply appreciate your support!

Going forward, here are a few ways to show appreciation other than applause if the music in worship is stirring or meaningful:

- A simple statement of "Amen" following the music.
- Thank a member of the choir or one of the musicians for the music following worship and share why it was moving or special. Comments like that are always appreciated and thanks to many who already share thanks for the music in Grace's worship.
- Emails are also a great way to share appreciation for the music. Emails that have been received have been shared with people who make up Grace's music ministry. Words of appreciation and support are greatly appreciated.

Thanks for all of the support of Grace's music ministries!

Gratefully,

Matt, Music Coordinator, in conjunction with the Minister Team



## Life and Work at Grace Church

[www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/)



### Worship Services

- ◇ Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in-person.
- ◇ Livestreamed to watch anytime at [www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/)
- ◇ The South Sudanese community meets Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel.
- ◇ The Anyuak community meets Sundays at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

### **May 7 Fifth Sunday of Easter - Preaching Grace**

**Dr. Joni Sancken**

Dr. Joni Sancken is the 2023 Preaching Grace guest speaker, and is the author of several books reflecting a theological and interdisciplinary approach to preaching. Her recent work related to trauma and resilience includes *Words that Heal* and *All Our Grievs to Bear: Responding with Resilience after Collective Trauma*. Joni was recently named as the new Butler Chair of Homiletics & Hermeneutics at Vancouver School of Theology, where she will join the school effective January 1, 2024.

### **May 14 Christian Family Sunday**

**Rev. Maren McLean Persaud**

#### **Celebration of Maren and Christian**

### **Christian Family Sunday**

Many of us will be observing Mother's Day on Sunday, May 14. This is a tradition that celebrates the unique role mothers play in our lives, but this day can also be challenging for many of us too. Some of us may have had, or continue to have, strained relationships with our mothers, some would like to be mothers and cannot be, some of us associate the day with grief and pain while others mark the day with flowers and time spent together. We hold all these things together, recognizing the breadth and depth of emotions we bring with us as a community, and as members of a larger Christian Family.

We are welcomed into relationship with God and with one another. In baptism we have been welcomed into the worldwide Christian family, and this day we celebrate being part of that family, being kin to one another, and members of God's family.

### **Grace Youth**

This morning, youth will remain in the sanctuary for the opportunity to listen to Dr. Joni Sancken. There is no youth lunch after worship today.

## Kids and Youth Opening Classroom Doors Initiative

As Church School begins to wrap up the program year, we invite the whole congregation to join us in a special challenge. Since September, Grace Kids & Youth have been collecting Church School offering for Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) *Opening Classroom Doors* challenge. Throughout the month of May, the congregation is invited to join in the challenge by helping the kids and youth fill a backpack with loose change! On Sunday, June 4 we will celebrate our collective offering together.



## Sunday School Challenge

# Opening Classroom Doors

**Education is one of the most critical tools** in breaking the cycle of poverty and contributing to the long-term development of vulnerable communities.

About 264 million children around the world do not have the opportunity to go to school. Poverty, conflict, natural disasters and cultural barriers are just a few of the factors keeping girls and boys outside the classroom.

Your participation in the Sunday School Challenge will help open classroom doors in vulnerable communities across the globe, providing children with opportunities for learning so they can fulfill their aspirations and transform their lives.

**\$350**

helps a child receive a full year of education—brightening their prospects for the future.

## We Respond



**Presbyterian  
World Service  
& Development**

1-800-619-7301 x291  
50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1J7

[WeRespond.ca/opening-classroom-doors](http://WeRespond.ca/opening-classroom-doors)



## [Grace Updates](#)

[www.gracechurchcalgary.com/news/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/news/)



### **Minister Resource Committee**

As you have heard during Sunday announcements, Presbytery has cited the congregation, inviting comments by two representatives from Grace to its May 9 meeting to speak to the calls from Westminster Presbyterian to Rev. Maren and Rev. Christian. Assuming the calls are sustained, their last Sunday at Grace will be May 14. The congregation is urged to come wish them well at the coffee hour after worship that day. As this process unfolds, please continue to pray for Rev. Maren and Rev. Christian.

### **Offering Plates**

The practice of passing offering plates to receive financial offerings during worship will resume this month. Stationary offering plates will continue to be available, as well as automatic withdrawal and on-line giving options. Please see the website for more details. [www.gracechurchcalgary.com/givingandfinancials/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/givingandfinancials/)

### **Front Doors**

With Spring's arrival, Grace has resumed use of the front doors. All are welcome to access worship services using these doors.

### **Introducing the Pro Tem Ministers**

Minister Resource is very pleased to announce that Rev. Wendy Adams has agreed to serve as Pro Tem Minister at Grace starting June 23. Rev. Wendy will be with us full-time through March 16, 2024, covering Rev. Jake's entire parental leave. Many of you know Rev. Wendy as a guest preacher and as a member of our congregation before she was ordained so it will be a joy to welcome her back. Her biography is attached. Rev. Wendy and Rev. Jake will have time in June to meet and ensure a smooth transition.

On September 1, Rev. Geoffrey Simmins will join Rev. Wendy to minister at Grace. Rev. Geoffrey has specialized in pastoral care and given his on-going hospital coordinator commitment, will be serving slightly less than full-time. He is very keen to support the Deacon program. Both Rev. Wendy and Rev. Geoffrey are lovers of choral music. It is hoped that they will be introduced to the congregation in June. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Minister Resource Committee.



Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins is an ordained minister of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. He has a particular interest in pastoral care and enjoys team ministry.

Recent ministry highlights include having served from 2020 to the present as the Interim Pastoral Care Minister at St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Calgary. In 2019, he served as a Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care for a Methodist-Presbyterian parish in New Zealand/Aotearoa. For the United Church, in addition to working in congregational ministry, he serves as the Hospital Ministry Coordinator for the Chinook Region. He developed an orientation program for hospital visitors.

Before entering ministry, he enjoyed a 25-year career as a professor, researcher, and administrator at the University of Calgary. He is a professor emeritus of art and architectural history.

Geoffrey is married to Joan. They are the parents of two grown sons. They are also the besotted grandparents of Ayla, who will be two this June.

He looks forward to serving in team ministry with Wendy Adams and with the members and adherents at Grace.



Rev. Wendy Adams was ordained as an Elder in Grace Church, Calgary, in 1997. She served as Representative Elder to the Presbytery of Calgary-MacLeod from 1999-2004. Wendy was ordained to Ministry of Word and Sacrament in 2007 and called to St. Andrew's church in Armstrong, British Columbia where she served until 2015. She was elected Moderator of the Synod of British Columbia in 2011. In 2017 Wendy was appointed as the Minister of Children and Families at All Saints Anglican Church in Vernon where she oversaw the Sunday School and Messy Church program and assisted with a local refugee family. Wendy also has extensive experience as a leader of Spiritual Retreats and is a certified Spiritual Director.

Wendy Adams is a committed advocate for justice and has served on several Not-For-Profit Boards and Committees in that regard. In the 1990s she was the Vice-President of the Board of Directors for the Alberta Wilderness Association, as well as the editor of their news Journal. Wendy served on the International Affairs Committee of General Assembly for 6 years, 3 years as Convenor. Her primary focus was on peace and justice for citizens of Israel Palestine, and the intersection of this issue with the rights of First Nation's people in Canada. Wendy also served as President and director for the Restorative Justice Society of the North Okanagan.

Prior to her Ministry vocation, Wendy worked as a Land Secretary in the Calgary oil industry and then received a Bachelor of Arts Degree First Class Honours, Communications Major, (University of Calgary) 1995. She has been married to her husband Greg for 33 years and they enjoy their role as Great-Aunt and Great-Uncle to their niece's growing family.



## Grace Events

[www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/)



### **Register for Grace Annual General Meeting and Congregational Lunch Sunday, May 28, following worship**

Grace's Annual General Meeting will take place after worship on Sunday, May 28 starting with lunch followed by the meeting. We will break bread as a congregation, learn about the impact of Grace's ministries, financials and upcoming plans. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 24 to support the food order.

### **Lunch and Learn about becoming a member of Grace**

On Sunday, June 4, people interested in learning about membership at Grace Presbyterian Church are invited to a "lunch and learn" in Grace's Board Room at 12:15 p.m. As lunch is shared there will be the opportunity to learn about the beliefs of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, what it means to be a member of Grace, and how Grace supports and shares its ministries within and outside its walls. Please let Rev. Jake know if you are interested by contacting the office at [office@gracecalgary.org](mailto:office@gracecalgary.org) or 403-244-5861.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Worship Leaders**

*Living Faith* reminds us that “we have no higher calling than to offer the worship that belongs to God day by day, Sunday by Sunday”. There are many opportunities to participate in the leadership of worship at Grace: praying, reading scripture, lighting candles, receiving our offerings, singing and ringing handbells, and more.

### **Stewards**

Plans are underway to return to our previous practice of passing the offering plates during the worship service. (Stationary offering plates will also be available for those who prefer that). Stewards are volunteers who help pass the plates and count and record the offerings after worship. Key gifts will be attention to detail, numeracy and confidentiality. Comfort with Excel would also be an asset.

(Note: As Grace Church focuses on its vision, mission and values, the role of “ushers” has been divided into two parts: 1. Welcomers and 2. Stewards. This approach recognizes that the roles of welcoming (or greeting) and stewarding (or counting) are different and so we aim to utilize well the gifts and interests of volunteers.)

### **Grace Kids Leaders**

Do you have a heart for sharing your faith with young Christians? The Church School has a few openings for leaders to serve one Sunday per month. Training and support are provided to make this a fulfilling ministry for volunteers as well as Grace kids and youth.

Please contact Grace’s Coordinator of Volunteers, Cindy Stephenson at [volunteers@gracecalgary.org](mailto:volunteers@gracecalgary.org) to learn more about the many opportunities to volunteer at Grace.

## Thank You

*Preaching Grace* 2023 has been a tremendously enriching and inspiring weekend. We are grateful for the organizing committee: Joanne Kellough, Sheila Kelly, Margaret Montgomery, the Rev. Dr. Jean Morris, the Rev. Christian Persaud (Convener), Phil Ponting, and Amy Dunn Moscoso (Communications), and for the generosity of the Margaret and Robert Montgomery Fund in supporting Preaching Grace each year.

# Notes

## Grace Presbyterian Church

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