

TELLING THE STORY IN A RELATABLE WAY
PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 28, 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. Jake Van Pernis
Associate Minister,
Engagement and Service

Matt Kallio,
Music Coordinator

Please find Online Worship at:
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 **Thirty-Five miniatures for organ - Op. 55** Flor Peeters
Andantino, Molto sostenuto e divoto
“Flute Sonata in C major—Gavotte” Jean Marie Leclair

Welcome and Announcements **Mary Jardine**

Lighting of the Christ Candle **Ainsley**

Introit **Veni Sancte Spiritus** J. Berthier/Taize Community

Call To Worship

Breathe on us, Holy Spirit –

inspire our thoughts and actions.

Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit –

fill us with energy to spread joy in the world.

Breathe on us, Holy Spirit –

refresh our commitment to serve.

Stir in our hearts, Holy Spirit –

as we worship and share God’s love and grace.

Hymn **#403 She comes sailing on the wind** Gordon Light,
Andrew Donaldson *

Prayer of Adoration **Rev. Greg Smith**

Rite of Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

God Moving In Wind and Flame, at Pentecost your Spirit caused followers to share the hope-filled story of Jesus' grace in ways people could understand and connect to.

We confess that we lack the daring to follow and ignore the wind and flame of your Spirit moving in our midst.

Forgive us for the ways we have misrepresented you and withheld your story of promise and hope. We admit we often believe we know what is best, hold judgements and do not share our faith in ways that people can relate to. Our thoughts resound with ideas like, "If only people would become like us disconnection and brokenness would fade." We are often quick to blame and desire solutions for the many ways our relationships are divided and unjust that demand nothing of us.

Help us to reflect and live into the Spirit's movement and dance. Blow on the embers of our faith and reignite us for mission and ministry.

Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

The Peace

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

And also with you.

Hymn **#399 Spirit, Spirit of gentleness** James K. Manley *

Time With Young Christians

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture **Psalm 104 24-34, 35b (*responsive, sing Refrain 1*)** **Rob Taylor**
Acts 2: 1-21
John 7: 37-39 **Rev. Jake Van Pernis**

Sermon **Telling the story in a relatable way**

Hymn **#471 We are one in the Spirit**

Peter Scholtes *

Prayers of the People 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Our Offering

Anthem **Spirit of mercy, truth and love**

Joel VanderZee

Doxology **#306 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

†

Prayer for our Offering

Carol Evans

Hymn **#386 Come down, O Love divine**

†

Benediction

Amen **#780 Amen**

†

Postlude **Thirty-Five miniatures for organ
Op. 55 - Allegro maestoso**

Flor Peeters

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

We thank guest flautist Paul Xu for his contribution to worship this week.

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Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action

The Presbyterian Church in Canada has endorsed the Calls to Action published by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The Truth, Healing & Reconcili-Action Team at Grace shares the following Call to Action, information, and prayer as a way to engage in the work of Truth, Healing and Reconciliation.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission – Call to Action no. 8 says:

“We call upon the federal government to eliminate the discrepancy in federal education funding for First Nations children being educated on reserves and those First Nations children being educated off reserves.”

Why justice is needed:

Call to Action no. 8 is one of several Calls to Action related to education for First Nations children, and it remains unmet. In the words of the 2021 Calls to Action Accountability report of the Yellowhead Institute, “Calls to Action 6–12 address the colonial legacy of assimilative, violent, and chronically underfunded systems of education that Indigenous children and peoples experience in Canada.” Meeting these calls is among the crucial steps to ensuring the well-being of Indigenous children and families, both now and for the future.

Prayer:

Creator God of all knowledge, wisdom and love, you have called us to work for justice and equity wherever there is injustice. Christ taught that your reign is among us when children are loved, their needs met, and when they are placed at the centre of our concern and care.

As a church that ran Residential Schools, we participated in a system where Indigenous children were removed from their homes and communities.

We know that we sinned and are complicit in creating the current system of injustice. As a church, we repent of these sins and pray for hearts renewed to live out your justice. We know there is inequity and injustice in educational funding for Indigenous children and we cannot be complacent. We pray that those who form our laws will correct the injustice and inequity that Indigenous children experience, that their right to a good education is upheld, and that equitable funding will become a reality.

Holy Spirit, nurture in us the humility, wisdom and will to pursue right action and to advocate for change. Let us work for reconciliation. Amen.

To learn more about how the Call to Actions are being responded to see:

yellowheadinstitute.org/trc

Life and Work at Grace Church



www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/

Worship Services

- ◇ Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in-person.
- ◇ Livestreamed to watch anytime at 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 28 Pentecost

Rev. Jake Van Pernis

**June 4 All Ages Worship, Communion
and Church School Celebration**

Rev. Jake Van Pernis

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Please be reminded that Grace's AGM follows worship May 28 in the gym (with lunch for those who registered). Meeting information packages are available online and limited print copies are available at the meeting.

Marathon

Please note that the Calgary Marathon is being held May 28 (same day as Grace's AGM). Refer to www.calgarymarathon.com/info/road-closures/ for access to Grace.

Grace Youth - First Sunday Lunch

All Grace Youth (grades 7-12) are invited to gather for lunch together Sunday, June 4. We'll meet after worship (approximately 11:45 a.m.), just inside the sanctuary from the north doors and return to the South lot between 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Last Week for *Opening Classroom Doors* Initiative

As Church School prepares to wrap up the program year, Grace Kids and Youth invites the whole congregation to join them in their challenge to fill a backpack with loose change! On Sunday, June 4 we'll celebrate our collective offering together.

Volunteer Opportunities

Gardeners

Do you have a green thumb? Now that spring is here, it would be lovely to have flowers in the large flowerpots around the building. Grace will cover the cost of the plants – we need you to select and plant them!

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.

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

Thank You

Anne Mohtadi has volunteered to coordinate the Church School over the next several weeks. We give thanks for Anne’s faithfulness in sharing her love of Christ with the children and youth of Grace.

Grace Updates

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/news/



Minister Resource Update

The Induction Service for the Rev. Maren and the Rev. Christian will take place at Westminster Presbyterian (290 Edgepark Blvd NW) on Sunday, May 28 at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome.

If you have a pastoral care need please reach out to your Elder or Grace’s office. Please note that e-mail and phone messages for Rev. Maren and Rev. Christian are being redirected.

The Pro Tem Ministers will be introduced to the congregation on Sunday, June 11. Rev. Wendy Adams starts June 23 and Rev. Geoffrey Simmins starts September 1. They will be meeting with Rev. Jake, Committee Convenors and Liaisons, and Staff early in June as a part of transition planning.

We will also welcome a new Interim Moderator in June as the Rev. Greg Smith is stepping back to focus on the congregation at Varsity Acres Presbyterian Church. There will be the opportunity to thank Rev. Greg at the Annual General Meeting.

Dr. Ruby Walker Library

A top summer reading suggestion is "Basic Christianity" by John Stott. In the forward, Rick Warren writes: "There are a few landmark books that everyone in the world should read. This is one of the rare few." Look for it on the wire book racks.

Grace Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



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 or 403-244-5861.

Grace Presbyterian Church

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