

JULY 9, 2023

10:30 a.m.

A Love Story



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. Dr. Jean Morris
Interim Moderator

The Rev. Jake Van Pernis
Associate Minister, Engagement and
Service (on parental leave)

The Rev. Wendy Adams
Pro Tem Minister

Matt Kallio,
Music Coordinator

Please find Online Worship at:



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 Nation, 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: "Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend"

BWV 709

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome and Announcements

Cindy Stephenson

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Giyth

Call To Worship

**Happy are they who hear the word,
hold it fast in an honest and good heart,
and bear fruit with patient endurance.**

Come let us worship the Lord

Hymn # 412 Come, let us sing to the Lord our song

Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Wendy Adams

Rite of Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you.
You call, but we have not listened.
We walk away from neighbours in need,
Wrapped in our own concerns.

**God of grace,
Help us to admit our sin,
So that as you come to us in mercy,
We may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness;
Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

The Peace

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

Hymn # 671 I heard the voice of Jesus say

*

Time with Young Christians

Prayer for Understanding

Carol Latter

Scripture Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

Rev. Terry Fach

Sermon A Love Story

Hymn # 667 God you touch the earth with beauty *

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

Offertory Music "Offertory on Kingsfold" Marianne Johnson

Hymn #306 Praise God from whom all blessings flow †

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures high and low;
praise God in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Prayer for Our Offering Bob Ermtter

Hymn # 652 Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go †

Benediction

Amen # 780 Amen †

Postlude "March in F major" Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

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† Public Domain

Welcome to worship! This morning we have a beautiful little gem of a chorale prelude written by **Johann Sebastian Bach** (1685-1750). Based on the chorale tune "Herr Jesu Christe, dich zu uns wend" (Lord Jesus Christ, be present now), a Lutheran tune written in the 17th century by Wilhelm, Duke of Saxe-Weimar. Many composers such as Bach's cousin Johann Walther, Georges Bohm and Max Reger also wrote preludes on this tune. BWV 709's setting is typical of Bach's treatment of chorale tunes; he creates a serene accompaniment with the left hand and gentle imitation whilst decorating the main tune in a solo stop. The words to the chorale are translated as follows:



*Lord Christ, reveal thy holy Face,
And send the Spirit of thy Grace,
To fill our Hearts with fervent Zeal
To learn thy Truth, and do thy Will.*

Our postlude is quite the opposite of the Bach piece. A vibrant march in F major by French romantic era composer **Alexandre Guilmant** (1837-1911). Guilmant's music is very representative of the French organ school with its large sound and grand, colorful registrations. This is music that sounds best in a cathedral setting, though I'm certain that Grace's organ will do it justice as well! Guilmant studied under the famous Belgian organist Jacques Lemmens and held posts at the Église de la Sainte-Trinité in Paris as principal organist and organ instructor at the Paris Conservatoire.

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 Anuak community meets Sundays at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

Summer Sunday School has begun! Leaders will share lessons, games, arts and crafts, as the Grace Kids connect with the biblical stories of Noah's Ark, Jonah, Jesus walking on water, Jesus and the woman at the well and Lydia helping Paul.

Offering Plates

After several weeks of resuming the practice of passing the offering plates during service, there have been suggestions to simplify our approach. Offering plates will be distributed at all entrances to the sanctuary for worshippers to place their gifts. During the offertory, the plates will be gathered and brought to the front, to dedicate our gifts in response to God's generosity to us.

July 9

The Rev. Terry Fach

Rev. Terry Fach has been the Campus Chaplain at Ambrose University (Calgary) since 2013. He was planter and pastor of a church in Calgary for sixteen years, and before that taught philosophy and theology at Ambrose. Educated at Canadian Nazarene College and Oxford University, he is married to Ruth, and they are the parents of two adult daughters.

July 16

The Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart

Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart is the Dean of St. Andrew's Hall at The University of British Columbia. An Ordained Minister in The Presbyterian Church in Canada, he is the Professor of Mission Studies at The Vancouver School of Theology and the founding Director of The Centre for Missional Leadership at St. Andrew's Hall.

Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to the family of Ken Grogan who died on June 29. A memorial service will be held at Grace on Saturday August 19 in the Chapel. Details to follow. Please keep Ken's family and friends in your prayers at this time.

Grace Updates



Search Committee

The Lead Minister Search Committee continues to actively work to identify the candidate God is calling to us. Recent updates include:

- The Committee is very pleased to welcome the Rev. Dr. Jean Morris as our new Interim Moderator. Jean brings with her a wealth of experience leading Search Committees, familiarity with Grace, and many contacts across the Presbyterian Church in Canada and the U.S.
- We have revised the online Lead Minister search materials to reflect the changes in the ministry team.
- Our expanded advertising and outreach campaigns have resulted in several expressions of interest in the past few weeks.

The Lead Minister Search Committee is continuing to work diligently over the summer and will be holding its next regular meeting July 16. We also have a detailed update in the Summer Newsletter, which we encourage you to read for more information.

Please continue to keep the Committee in your prayers and reach out to us if you have any comments or suggestions of potential candidates. Our email is searchcommittee@gracechurchcalgary.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

Children and Youth

Planning for the regular Church School year starting in September is underway – please prayerfully consider how you might support this ministry with your time and talent.

Sound System Operator

Each Sunday morning, a dedicated volunteer operates the sound system in support of our worship. One additional operator to share the schedule about once every 3 or 4 weeks would be very welcome. The schedule is flexible and training will be provided.

ELL Coordinator

The English Language Learner (“ELL”) program helps dozens of people become more confident in their conversational English, in a safe and encouraging environment. Currently the program runs for 30 weeks on Monday mornings, from September through June. The ELL Coordinator supports volunteer leaders by arranging resources and organizes communication, student registration and facilities requirements with staff. Volunteering for the ELL Coordinator position is a way to help make a positive difference in the lives of many people.

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

Thank You

The Grace Satellite Food Bank continues to provide much needed groceries to individuals and families in our neighbourhood. Each Thursday, volunteers receive and sort the goods delivered by the Calgary Food Bank in the morning, and then welcome the clients who come in the afternoon to pick up their hampers. This summer, Linda Anderson, Frances Bagley, Judy Cochran, Jan Dewar, Dan Doherty, Marlene Doherty (Coordinator), Bonny Fox, Doreen Fulton, Barbie Hames, Clark Hanna, Jim Hartridge, Mary Jardine (Co-Coordinator), Anne Mohtadi, Ken and Elaine Moody, Les Morgan, Bob Pearson, Melinda and Larry Pearson, Andrea Radford, Steve Strang, Fran Tomlinson, Harry and Hazel Turney, Jo-Ann Visser, Diann Vorg, and Mona Wasfy are serving in this ministry which is providing not only food but also building caring relationships with our neighbours.



Social Action Spotlight – July 2023

Housing Equity For All

Have you seen what happens when a home has an unlevel foundation? Walls and floors separate. Concrete cracks. Load-bearing walls tilt. It does not feel safe and secure. For some, this is what it looks like to try to access secure and adequate housing.

Systemic housing inequity is the result of many factors, including racism, economic disparity and access to education, employment and income. As a result, racialized and Indigenous communities, people with disabilities, woman-led single parent families, lone seniors and people experiencing domestic violence or human trafficking face much higher levels of housing insecurity. These factors are far beyond the control of any one person or family and point to a broken, unlevel societal foundation where housing is treated as a commodity instead of a necessity. Without secure housing, human health suffers and social and economic wellbeing diminish. Attaining housing equity for all requires that we reframe how we think about housing: a safe and adequate home is a right for all people. As a society, we are collectively responsible for building a level and just foundation so that no one faces housing insecurity. There are steps we can take to advocate for this just foundation.

What can you do?

- Advocate that elected officials approach housing as a human right, combined with appropriate benefits and services that are trauma-informed, culturally appropriate and reflective of the diverse lived experiences of those most vulnerable to housing insecurity to adequately address systemic barriers to affordable housing.
- Get involved and support cooperative and/or social housing initiatives in your community. Work to ensure that these initiatives are actually meeting the needs of those in your community who live with housing insecurity. Sample letters are available from presbyterian.ca/resources/advocacy

Notes:

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