



Moses Removes his Sandals before the Burning Bush, Mosaic, Church of San Vitale, Ravenna, Italy, ca. 525. Source of illustration: Anonymous. Burning Bush, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://digitlib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55945> [retrieved August 7, 2023]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/paullew/9304183235>.

## 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 (parental leave)  
Assoc. Minister, Engagement & Service

The Rev. Wendy Adams  
Interim Minister

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins  
Interim 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    A Gospel Prelude**

Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Iain Robertson**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Call To Worship**

We gather with glad hearts to worship God. Offering ourselves to God, we learn once again to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

**We will sing praises for all that God has done.**

Let your hearts be joyful!

**Through God's love and transforming grace, we find courage and hope.**

Call to mind God's wonderful works.

**God pours out grace like water on dry ground. Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn    # 433 All creatures of our God and King**

†

**Prayer of Adoration**

**The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins**

## Rite of Reconciliation

### Prayer of Confession

Faithful and forgiving God, we confess we do not always live as you call us to. Love and mercy can be in short supply, both for ourselves and for others.

We refuse your potter's hand that will remake us into vessels of beauty. We cling instead to old forms, old hurts, familiar habits.

Looking inward, we forget sometimes to look outward to those in need.

Forgive what we have been, amend who we are,  
and guide us toward who we may become  
according to your generous grace.

### Words of Forgiveness

#### The Peace

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

**Hymn** # 708 When Israel was in Egypt's land †

### Time with Young Christians

#### Prayer for Understanding

Flora Stephenson

**Scripture** Exodus 3:1-5

Psalm 105:1-6, 45b (Responsive, sing refrain I)

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**Sermon** Standing on Holy Ground

**Hymn** # 767 Lord, speak to me \*

### 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 Sonata for four hands in C major K521 - Andante

W.A. Mozart (1756—1791)

**Hymn** #425 We praise you, O God v1 †

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

**Prayer for Our Offering** Alexis

**Hymn** # 592 I, the Lord of sea and sky \*

### Benediction

**Amen** # 780 Amen †

### Postlude Fantasia Super: Komm Heiliger Geist Herre Gott BWV 651

J.S. Bach

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- † Public Domain

## Life and Work at Grace Church

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



### **Worship Services**

- ◇ Sundays at 10:30 am in-person.
- ◇ Livestreamed to watch anytime at [www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/)
- ◇ Fellowship in the Family Room immediately following Worship each Sunday.
- ◇ The South Sudanese community meets Sundays at 12:30 pm in the Chapel.
- ◇ The Anyuak community meets Sundays at 3:00 pm in the Chapel.

**Sept 3** All Ages Worship

**The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins**

There are activity bags for children just inside the Sanctuary doors.

**Sept 10**

**The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins**

### **Upcoming Dates for children and youth at Grace**

September 10: Commissioning of leaders and helpers.

Everyone - bring your backpacks and workbags for our annual *Back to School Blessing*.

First Sunday of Church School—register children here:

[www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/families/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/families/)

### **Minister Away**

The Rev. Wendy Adams will be away from September 1 through 16.

### **Thank You**

The Human Resources Committee develops and oversees the implementation of a plan to staff Grace's ministries, programs, and projects. The scope includes non-clergy staff and volunteers in the congregation and in the community.

Current members are: Sherry Buckle, Alan Facey (Support Services Director), Barbara Henson (Convener), Joanne Kellough (Session Liaison), Freda Pascoe, and Cindy Stephenson (Coordinator of Volunteers). We are grateful for their service.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Reconnection, Reconciliation and Resilience – an event for hope and a better future in honour of Orange Shirt Day**

Grace is working with Stardale Women's Group to welcome the community in coming together in honour of The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on Saturday, September 30. The afternoon event will take place in the south parking lot and in the evening, there will be a showing in the sanctuary of the cinematic release *Bones of Crows*. Volunteers to help with set-up, welcoming, and tear-down will be needed through the day/evening. Your time for some of this to support this vital partnership will be a great help.

### **Children and Youth**

We almost have a full complement of Church School leaders to start the fall. Please consider helping with this ministry one Sunday per month. The curriculum is easy and there is lots of support to make it fun.

### **Grace Satellite Food Bank**

The Grace Food Bank has been operating at capacity on Thursdays. We have been asked if we could expand this service to the community to also operate on Tuesday afternoons. Please let us know if you might be interested in this much-needed ministry.

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

### **Volunteer Request for Cake Bake 2023 Saturday, October 14 to Friday, October 20**

Opportunities include:

**Saturday, October 14: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Delivery Day** · organize and set-up

**Monday and Tuesday: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm: Production Days**

· Cake Production: filling pans, weighing, leveling, preparing for baking

**Tuesday through Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm: Baking Days**

**Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm: Wrapping Days**

· Wrapping cakes, gift packaging, storing

**Friday: 9:00 am: Cleanup Day** · Clean and store equipment

**To join in, please contact the cake bake volunteer coordinator at [cakebake@gracecalgary.org](mailto:cakebake@gracecalgary.org)**



## **Music Ministry Opportunities**

### **Grace Presbyterian Chancel Choir**

The chancel choir is a mixed voice ensemble (soprano, alto, tenor and base (SATB)) comprised of both professional and amateur singers. The choir provides music for Sunday services at Grace as well as performing concerts and special events throughout the season. The focus is music from the classical canon—Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Romantic works—as well as contemporary music. The ensemble meets for rehearsals from September to June on Thursdays at 7:30 pm.

### **Grace Notes Children's Choir**

This season, we will focus on our children's choir. All children from the Grace congregation and community, aged 7 years and older, are welcome. The choir will build basic music skills and will join the Grace Choir in services for special times of the year such as Easter, Christmas, all-ages services and special events.

### **Grace Band**

Grace's music ministry is starting an instrumental group. We are offering an open call for all musicians—all string types, woodwinds, brass, and any other instruments. The Grace Band will meet bi-monthly to rehearse and prepare music for services and other special events. Amateur, professional or somewhere in between, come and see what we are about as we connect over the challenge of classical sacred music. We will have a place for you!

### **Grace Handbell Choir**

Our handbell choir has long been part of our ministry. We are inviting new members to this challenging but fun musical expression. To ring, it is useful but not required to read music—we can train you! We enjoy regular seminars with handbell experts to build skills and the group participates in various services throughout the church year.

For more, e-mail Music Coordinator Matthew Kallio at [mattk@gracecalgary.org](mailto:mattk@gracecalgary.org).

Today we welcome special guest Michael McKay. Michael is a talented and versatile pianist, organist and composer who has worked extensively in music across Canada. He is the music director at First Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg. Welcome to Grace, Mike!

Today's prelude is a charming medley of some of your favourite old hymns arranged for organ and piano by Charles Callahan. I think you may recognize a few tunes in this piece. Callahan, a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, is a musician in demand, having taught at Baylor University and Middlebury College. He has held postings as organist at churches throughout the eastern United States and has received commissions for his work from Harvard University as well as one papal visit.

Our offertory piece is from the duo sonata in C major by W.A.Mozart. Quintessentially classical and distinctly Mozartian, this piece, a fairly late work (written in 1787), was dedicated to Franziska von Jacquin, the sister of a friend who had recently passed away. In a letter, Mozart advises von Jacquin to "tackle this sonata right away, it is rather difficult." Perhaps the first movement and third may be challenging, but the Andante played today is simply beautiful writing, with a calm melodious "A" section and foreboding central "B" section. Our postlude "Komm Heiliger Geist, Herr Gott" by J.S. Bach starts with a magnificent bit of musical illustration. This piece, very much appropriate for Pentecost creates the opening lines from Acts 2 in its opening figurations. Under this "rushing wind" in the manuals we hear the chorale tune *Come Holy Ghost, God and Lord* to magnificent effect.





## Grace Updates

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

### **Minister Resource Update**

The Rev. Wendy Adams started her term June 23, 2023 and will complete her time at Grace March 16, 2024.

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins began September 1, 2023 and will continue at Grace until June 30, 2024.

The Rev. Jake Van Pernis is scheduled to return to work March 17, 2024. From that time until June 30, he and The Rev. Simmins will work together to complete ministerial responsibilities.

The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris began June 1, 2023 as Interim Moderator. Her responsibilities are primarily to moderate the Session, work with the Search Committee, oversee the work of the Interim Ministers, ensure a ministry plan is in place and see that the pulpit is filled.

Ministry Expectations and Responsibilities for 2023 - 2024 are posted here:

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

## Grace Events



**Planning Your Legacy Workshop Sunday, October 1** after worship.

Learn how to leave a lasting legacy in this workshop on planned giving. Four professional presentations will cover the legal aspects, insurance options, estate planning, and executor selection considerations of leaving a legacy gift.

Information about the new Grace Legacy Fund will be shared. As lunch will be provided, you are warmly invited to sign up by September 25 online at

[gracechurchcalgary.com/events/](http://gracechurchcalgary.com/events/) or through the office at [office@gracecalgary.org](mailto:office@gracecalgary.org).



# ENJOY FAITH FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP IN THIS SMALL GROUP STUDY

*LED BY GRACE LAY LEADERS*

## **GOD'S GRACE IN SCRIPTURE**

**IN-PERSON BIBLE STUDY AT GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1009 15 AVE SW  
NO NEED TO REGISTER - COME TO THE OFFICE - WEST CHAPEL DOORS  
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:00AM - 10:00AM**



### **Series 1: September & October 2023**

Wednesdays from 9:00am to 10:00am

- September 6, 13, 20, 27
- October 4 and 11

*Three week break from October 18-November 1*



### **Series 2: November & December 2023**

Wednesdays from 9:00am to 10:00am

- November 8, 15, 22, 29
- December 6 and 13

403.244.5861

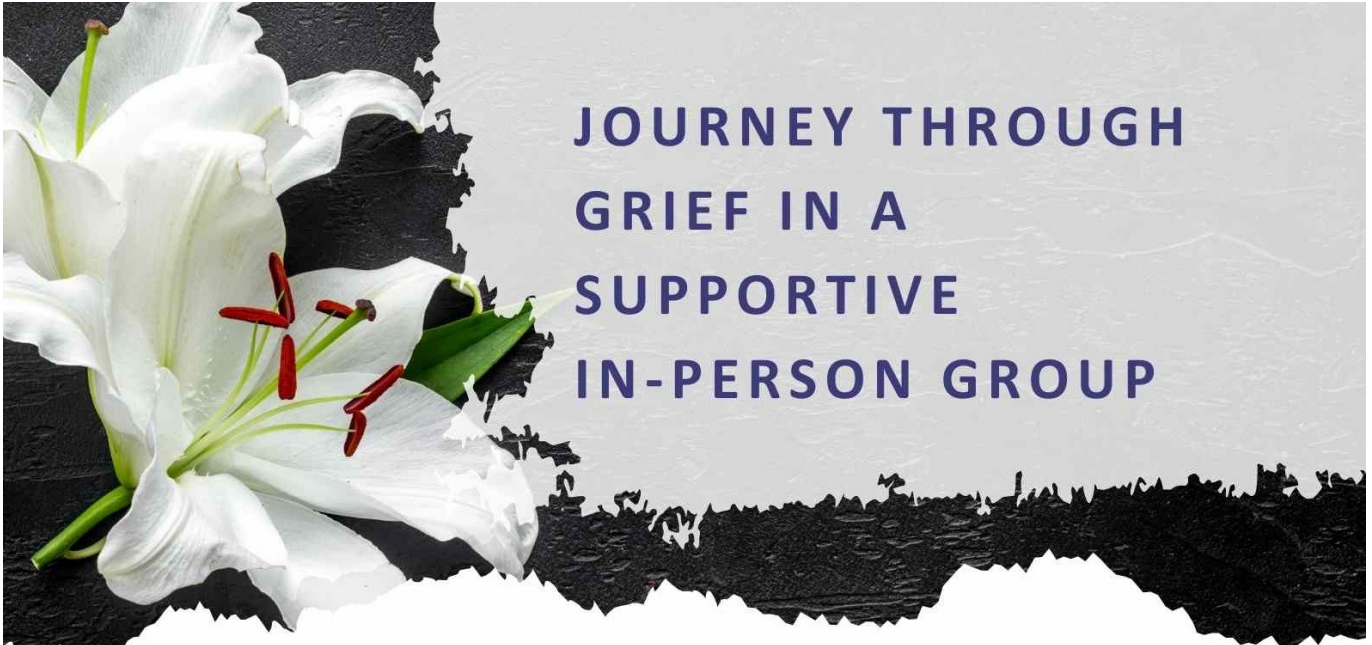
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[www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/)



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# JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF IN A SUPPORTIVE IN-PERSON GROUP

**LED BY DEACON OF BEREAVEMENT CARE ELIZABETH CRESSMAN**

## GRIEVING IN GOD'S GRACE

IN-PERSON GRIEF GROUP AT GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1009 15 AVE SW

- NO NEED TO REGISTER - COME TO THE OFFICE - WEST CHAPEL DOORS
- WEDNESDAY MORNINGS FROM 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
- FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP TIME FROM 11:30 AM TO NOON



### Series 1: September & October 2023

Wednesdays from 10:00am to 11:30am;

fellowship 11:30am - Noon

- September 6, 13, 20, 27
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*Three week break from October 18-November 1*

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## In Community

### Mission Moment



**Do** justice.  
**Love** kindness.  
**Walk** humbly.



After a drought cost her her livelihood, Nadhifa, a single mother of seven in Somalia, had to relocate with her two oldest daughters and one-year-old son, Hamza, to a camp for internally displaced people. She left her other four children behind with relatives, fearing for their survival. Nadhifa and her three children journeyed to the Dollow district to seek humanitarian assistance. During screening at the camp, Hamza was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition. With the support of PWS&D, Hamza received treatment and recovered after a few weeks. In addition, Nadhifa participated in the infant and young child feeding community information session, where she gained valuable nutrition knowledge. “I feel relieved that my son’s health has improved, and I can now search for work to provide food for my children,” she shared.

For more information on the life-changing work of Presbyterian World Service & Development, please visit <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/>

### **Grace Presbyterian Church**

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