



Reconciliation by Josefine de Vasconcellos at Coventry Cathedral.  
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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/bensutherland/5588005173/in/photostream/>

“Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law” (Rom. 13:8).

**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**      **Melodie in G major**      Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)  
                  **Verset de Procession**      Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

**Welcome and Announcements**      **Cindy Stephenson**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**      **Alexander**

**Introit**      **Let the Whole Creation Cry**      Ian Charter (b 1954)

### **Call To Worship**

Sing to the Lord a new song.  
**We will worship God, our Maker!**  
Let us praise God with song and dance,  
**For God is gracious and loving!**  
Let us bring God glory and honour  
**For God deserves our praise.**

**Hymn**      **# 324 Great is thy faithfulness**      †

**Prayer of Adoration**      **The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins**

## Rite of Reconciliation

### Prayer of Confession

God of majesty and mercy,  
although Christ offers us peace,  
we confess we are a people divided.  
We harbour fears and jealousy  
which set neighbour against neighbour, nation against nation.  
We pursue profit and pleasures which harm creation  
and the wellbeing of less privileged peoples.  
Have mercy upon us, O God.  
Set us free from our old ways  
to serve you as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

### Words of Forgiveness

#### The Peace

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

**Anthem**    **Sing to the Lord**

Paul Basler (b.1963)  
Jennifer Frank, French horn

### Time with Young Christians

Commissioning of Teachers and Leaders  
Blessing of backpacks and work bags for the school year

**Prayer for Understanding**

**Richard Wilson**

**Scripture**    **Psalm 149** (Responsive, sing refrain I)  
**Matthew 18: 15-20**

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn**    **# 625 Seek ye first**

\*

**Sermon**    **Set Free**

**Hymn**        **# 354 O living Word of God**

**\***

### **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**    **Romance Op. 36**

Camille Saint-Saens (1835-1921)

**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**

Sandy Strother-Stewart

**Hymn**        **# 431 Jesus, where'er thy people meet**

**\***

### **Benediction**

**Amen**        **# 780 Amen**

**†**

**Postlude**    **All'offertorio**

Dominico Zipoli (1688-1717)

We thank Jennifer Frank for her contribution to our music worship this morning.

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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 17**

**The Rev. Sabino Diok**

**Sept 24**

**The Rev. Wendy Adams**

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

Welcome to Grace Kids and Youth for the start of Fall Church School. After Commissioning of Leaders and Blessing of Backpacks, children and youth will proceed downstairs to meet their teachers, practise a fire drill, return to class and get to know one another. We look forward to sharing, learning and growing in God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Please register children and youth at [www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/families/](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/families/). Hard copies will also be available in the Church school room from Coordinator, Anne Mohtadi. Any questions please contact Anne Mohtadi at [gracekids@gracecalgary.org](mailto:gracekids@gracecalgary.org) or Cindy Stephenson at [cindys@gracecalgary.org](mailto:cindys@gracecalgary.org).

### **Minister Away**

The Rev. Wendy Adams is away through September 16.

### **Grace Office**

The office returns to regular hours starting September 11, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

### **Thank You**

As another school year begins, Grace gives thanks to God for the thriving Church School ministry, led by faithful and loving volunteers: Abuk, Adauny, Anne (providing overall coordination), Brenda, Chisom, Cindy, Doch, Elise, Euan, Flora, Henrietta, Irene, Jen, Joanne, Ken, Kim, Nya, Richard, Ryan, Samantha, and Sujung. With these gifts of time and talent, Grace supports families as they raise their children within a covenant community and nurtures them in the faith by teaching and example.

## 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. In the evening, there will be a showing in the sanctuary of the cinematic release *Bones of Crows*. Volunteers will be needed through the day/evening to help with set-up, welcoming, and tear-down. Your time 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.

### **Cookie Bakers and Servers**

Connaught School is hosting their Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday, September 28. Grace, in partnership with Rotary Calgary West District, is providing fresh baked cookies. Bakers are needed starting at 10:00 am that morning and then a few volunteers to help serve them at the BBQ later that afternoon would be most welcome.

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) and is 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**

The first practice of the Handbell Choir is September 11. 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. The Handbell Choir meets for the first time this Fall on Monday, September 11 at 6:30 pm in the Music Auditorium.

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



Welcome to Grace. We are excited to have our chancel choir back from their summer break. I know I can speak for all in the congregation that we've missed their ministry over the summer months. Welcome back choir!

Joining us as well in our anthem and other music during the service is our own Grace congregation member Jennifer Frank on French horn. We are very much looking forward to presenting our music with her.

Our anthem this morning is an exciting piece by American composer Dr. Paul Basler based on the text of Psalm 96. Dr. Basler has held positions as a Fulbright Senior Lecturer in music at Kenyatta University (Nairobi, Kenya) and the University of Florida where he teaches composition and horn. In "Sing to the Lord" Basler creates a bouncy sense of excitement with the 6/8 meter and constant 3 note figurations in the right hand of the piano while employing expansive harmonic writing.



## Grace Updates



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

### **Minister Resource Update**

- While the Search Committee is working diligently to find our next Lead Minister, Session has instructed the Interim Moderator, Minister Resource and two additional Session Elders, to review our ministry model and determine the number of ministers that will serve Grace and develop their respective position descriptions.
- The recommendation is that Grace will be best served by two full-time Ministers of Word and Sacrament, rather than 3.1 full-time Ministers. The team would be a Lead and an Associate Minister.
- Rev. Jake Van Pernis has been included in these discussions and is supportive of the changes. The committee has been careful to ensure the key responsibilities of our four-minister model will be included in the new model, and that Rev. Jake Van Pernis' position will continue to equip the congregation to fulfill our mission of loving our neighbours and effecting social change.
- Next Sunday, September 17 you are invited to discuss the proposed changes with our Interim Moderator, Rev. Dr. Jean Morris, after worship in the boardroom. The following Sunday, September 24, other Elders will lead the discussion.
- This week, you will receive a letter and the proposed position descriptions to clarify the roles of the two ministers.
- If you cannot stay after worship, you are encouraged to speak with your Elder or send your comments to the Clerk of Session, Len Wolstenholme at [clerk@gracecalgary.org](mailto:clerk@gracecalgary.org) or Rev. Dr. Jean Morris at [jeanmorris@platinum.ca](mailto:jeanmorris@platinum.ca). Your thoughts will be helpful in finalizing the model prior to its final consideration by Session and Presbytery.
- Again, these changes will not slow or otherwise impact the work of the Search Committee.

## [Grace Events](#)



### **Sunday, September 10: Convener and Liaison Meeting and Lunch**

Immediately after worship today, committee conveners and liaisons are asked to go down to the gym for the working meeting and lunch.

### **Saturday, September 23: Journey for Hope Adventure at Confederation Park**

On September 23, Grace Kids and Youth are taking part in the Journey for Hope in support of the Presbyterian World Sharing & Development (PWS&D) food security projects. Join the Grace Kids, families and leashed pets as we explore the pathways of Calgary's Confederation Park. Bring your lunch and your feet, strollers, bicycles, skateboards, and unicycles. The event goes from 10:30 am to noon. Meet at St. Giles Presbyterian Church parking lot 1102 23 Ave NW.


Donations can also be made here: [Grace Church Kids and Youth \(Calgary\) - Presbyterian World Service & Development](#).

### **Saturday, September 30 Reconnection, Reconciliation and Resilience: Orange Shirt Day Event with Stardale Women's Group**

For the second year, the community is coming together to collaborate on this event in honour of Truth and Reconciliation. This event provides an opportunity to discuss the effects of residential schools and their legacy and is open to the public. It will include a ceremony with Elder presence and teachings, and a drumming performance from The Stardale Girls Drumming Group. Additionally there will be a screening of an original film created by Stardale Women's Group. Refreshments will also be served and a selection of Indigenous-owned businesses will be showcased as part of the event.

### **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).

A group of people, including children and adults, are holding hands in a circle around an open Bible. The scene is warm and intimate, with soft lighting. The text is overlaid on a white, torn-paper-like background.

ENJOY FAITH FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP IN  
THIS SMALL GROUP STUDY  
**GOD'S GRACE IN SCRIPTURE BIBLE STUDY**  
IN-PERSON - DROP IN!

**SERIES 1: WEDNESDAYS FROM 9:00AM TO 10:00AM**  
**SEPTEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27 OCTOBER 4 AND 11**

**SERIES 2: WEDNESDAYS FROM 9:00AM TO 10:00AM**  
**NOVEMBER 8, 15, 22, 29 DECEMBER 6 AND 13**

A close-up of several white lilies with red stamens, set against a dark, textured background. The text is overlaid on a white, torn-paper-like background.

JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF IN A SUPPORTIVE  
IN-PERSON GROUP  
**GRIEVING IN GOD'S GRACE**  
GRIEF GROUP

**SERIES 1: WEDNESDAYS FROM 10:00AM TO 11:30AM;**  
**FELLOWSHIP 11:30AM - NOON**  
**SEPTEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27 OCTOBER 4 AND 11**

**SERIES 2: WEDNESDAYS FROM 10:00AM TO 11:30AM;**  
**FELLOWSHIP 11:30AM - NOON**  
**NOVEMBER 8, 15, 22, 29 DECEMBER 6 AND 13**



## In Community



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

### **Mission Moment**

Pakistan is the world's third-largest refugee host country, accommodating over a million Afghans who fled their homes due to war, internal conflict, insecurity and persecution. The poorest refugees lack sufficient access to necessities such as food, shelter, clothing and health care. Another need expressed by Afghan refugees is for their children to be able to access schooling. PWS&D is responding to this need by providing a digital learning facility where Afghan refugee children and young women can access virtual education in place of traditional schools. The Digital Learning Center is one way of supporting those who have already lost so much. It is planting the seeds for current and future success for children and young women who would otherwise be entirely out of school.



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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