

AND THEN THERE WAS MORNING FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Zelenka, Dave. Baptism of Christ, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56385>. Original source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Baptism-of-Christ.jpg>.

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)
Associate Minister

The Rev. Wendy Adams
Interim Minister

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins
Interim Minister

Matt Kallio
Music Coordinator

Please find Online Worship at:
www.gracechurchcalgary.com



Grace Presbyterian Church
Transforming lives through God's grace

Order of Worship

Land acknowledgement

In a spirit of respect and truth we honour and acknowledge that we worship on the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which include the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, Piikani, and the Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including Chiniki, Bearspaw and Goodstoney First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

Prelude **Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern BWV 739** J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements **The Rev. Wendy Adams**

Lighting of the Christ Candle **Alexander**

Introit **Break Forth O Beauteous Light** Christmas Oratorio—J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

We continue the journey of becoming the people of God
in this new year. The time has come!

The time is now!

The reign of God has drawn near.

The kingdom of heaven is here.

Let us turn our lives around and accept the good news.

**We will follow Christ and worship in his name,
becoming the people Christ would have us be.**

Hymn **291 Thou whose almighty word** †

Prayer of Adoration

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins with Rev. Adams

Rite of Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

**God of majesty and mercy,
we confess to you our wrongdoing:
things we have done knowingly
and things we have left undone;
hurts we inflicted unintentionally
and hurts we have tried to disguise.
selfish things we have done just to please others,
and those just to please ourselves.**

A pause of silence is kept.

**Forgive us.
In the year ahead, help us choose a better way for Jesus' sake.
Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

The Peace

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

Anthem

What Star is This?

Richard Shepherd

Time with Young Christians

Prayer for Understanding

Sandy Strother-Stewart

Scriptures

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29 (responsive, sing Refrain I)

Mark 1:4-11

Sermon **And then there was morning**

Hymn **817 O splendour of God's glory bright**

†

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 the Offering

Offertory **Trio Sonata in E flat major HWV 382**
Adagio

G.F. Handel

Doxology **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

Nya

Hymn **811 Standing at the portal**

†

Benediction

Choral Amen #780

Postlude **Trio Sonata in E flat major HWV 382**
Allegro

G.F. Handel

Thank you to Katarina Wollmann, violin, and Jonathan Forden, oboe, for enriching our service with their talents this morning.

Life and Work at Grace Church

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/



Worship Services

- ◇ Sundays at 10:30 am in-person.
- ◇ Livestreamed to watch anytime at 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.

January 14

The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris

January 21

The Rev. Wendy Adams

Music Notes:

Good morning, Grace Presbyterian, I hope your Christmas was restful and joyous. Here we are at Epiphany Sunday and we have some great music that reflects this day.

Our prelude today is J.S. Bach's beautiful, and very unusual chorale prelude "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern," which translates to "how brightly shines the morning star," the star being a reference to Jesus. With the themes of stars and light in Epiphany, it is a great choice for this Sunday. In this work, Bach takes the tune of the chorale and develops it throughout the piece, first in the soprano voice and then in the pedals (bass voice). This is the very first chorale prelude to survive in Bach's opus and it is a very youthful work. He was evidently quite proud of it as he kept it meticulously in his catalogue of works throughout his life. The piece is unusual in the sense that there are little virtuosic departures, almost like the young Bach was trying to "show off" a little. These departures sometimes do not have much to do with the core material, an unusual aspect that the mature Bach would likely not have done. A further theory for these departures is that he wrote this as a tribute and showpiece for the older composer Dietrich Buxtehude, whom he admired and looked up to. It certainly has a few Buxtehudian flourishes in it in the manner of the stylus fantasticus (a free-form style that has improvisatory contrasting sections believed to have started with the Italian organist Claudio Merulo). On a personal note, when playing this, I tend to notice that some of the figurations with the appropriate registrations begin to elicit stars twinkling in the sky and create an optimistic, hopeful feeling. I wonder if this was done intentionally? Knowing this composer, it likely was.

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† Public Domain

Grace Updates

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/updates/



Thank You

Each Sunday morning, volunteers operate the sound system for our worship. We give thanks for the time and talent of Chris Crooks, Su Jung Ko, and Rob Strother-Stewart.

Volunteer Opportunities


Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party, Tuesday, February 13


Please come welcome the congregation and community, prepare and serve the meal, and help with the games and clean-up. Fun will be had by all!

English Language Learner Program Co-Coordinator

One volunteer has stepped forward to share the coordination of the English Language Learner (ELL) program at Grace. A second person is needed to help support the class leaders with this ministry that is so valued by the students and rewarding for the volunteers. Currently, classes are offered Monday mornings through the school year.

**ENGLISH
CLASSES**

A circular graphic showing a globe with a hand holding a small white card that says "English" in cursive. The globe is positioned on the right side of the graphic, and the hand is holding the card in front of it.

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The graphic features a blue background. On the left, the words "ENGLISH CLASSES" are written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. On the right, there is a circular image of a globe with a hand holding a small white card that says "English" in cursive. In the bottom left corner of the graphic, there is a logo for Grace Presbyterian Church, which consists of a stylized white figure with arms raised, followed by the text "Grace Presbyterian Church" and the tagline "Transforming lives through God's grace" in a smaller font.



Grace Events

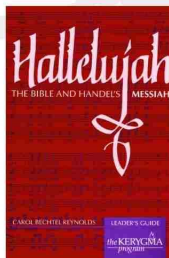
www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/

God’s Grace in Scripture resumes Wednesday mornings January 10 in the Lounge from 9:30 to 10:30 am, followed by a fellowship time. Drop in any week.



“Hallelujah, the Bible and Handel’s Messiah” Bible Study

Part 2 resumes Thursday, January 11, 2024, led by The Rev. Wendy Adams. In-Person at Grace Presbyterian Church and online through Zoom.



**JOIN A SPIRITUAL
GROWTH ADVENT AND
LENT BIBLE STUDY LED BY
THE REV WENDY ADAMS**



Grace in Community



Mission Moment

When the Rev. Lora Nafziger visited her sister in Nepal in 2022, she never imagined that she would return as Staff Care and Counselling Advisor with United Mission to Nepal (UMN). A faith-based international NGO, UMN strives to help all Nepalis achieve a fuller life through medical and community development programs. Responding to God's call, Lora departed for Kathmandu in early January 2024 with her spouse Mitch Rhodes and their two youngest children. Lora, who is also a clinical social worker, will provide spiritual and emotional support to expatriate UMN staff and Nepali staff. She is jointly supported by the PCC through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing and Mennonite Mission Network.

For information to help live out the biblical call to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8) and ways Presbyterians can seek justice through social action, visit presbyterian.ca/social-action.

Grace Presbyterian Church

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