

February 25, 2024

10:30 am



Transfiguration, Duccio, di Buoninsegna, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://digilib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=58757>. Original source: National Gallery (Great Britain)
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Duccio_di_Buoninsegna_-_Transfiguration_-_WGA06780.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 **Aus tiefer Not, Schrei ich zu dir** Christian Geist (1640 - 1711)
 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord

Welcome and Announcements

Cindy Stephenson

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jonathan and Andrew

Introit **Jesus, Remember Me** Jacques Berthier, Communauté Taizé

Call to Worship

We gather, seeking life in all its fullness.

We gather in God's name, longing for truth and hope.

We are drawn by the words of our Creator and Redeemer.

We seek God's Spirit to guide us.

Come and worship the God who seeks us out.

We will worship God, the Source of our lives, who is worthy of all our praise.

Please go to Lent insert responsive reading

Hymn **670 Amazing Grace vv 1-3, 6**

†

Prayer of Adoration

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins

Rite of Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession

Although following you brings joy, O God,
we confess the way is sometimes hard for us.
We get tired and would prefer an easier road.
Some days the task of loving others seems hard,
and we ignore the needs of our neighbours.
Forgive us when our commitment to you wavers,
and we take that easier path.
Strengthen our determination to follow where you lead
and renew our energy to serve in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

The Peace

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

Anthem **My Song Is Love Unknown** Edwin T. Childs

Time with Young Christians **The Rev. Wendy Adams**

Prayer for Illumination **The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris**

Scriptures **Genesis 17:1-10, 15-19**
 Psalm 22: 23-31 (refrain II)
 Mark 9:2-9

Sermon **Listen to Him** **The Rev. Dr. Richard Topping**

Hymn **651 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer** †

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Anne Mohtadi

**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

Joanne Kellough

Offertory Ach Gott vom Himmel, sieh darein

J. Pachelbel

Doxology 457 Now thank we all our God v 1

†

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom God's world rejoices,
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Prayer for Our Offering

Hymn 777 Send me, Lord / Thuma Mina

*

Benediction

Choral Amen 780 Amen

Postlude Grand choeur in d minor

Paul Fey (b. 1998)

Flowers in the Sanctuary are to the glory of God and in honour and loving memory of Robert Montgomery from Margaret and family.

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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.
- ◇ Grace Notes Children's Choir 1:00 pm in the Dining Hall.
- ◇ The Anyuak community meets Sundays at 3:00 pm in the Chapel.

Sunday March 3 3rd Sunday in Lent The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins
Sacrament of Communion

Sunday March 10 4th Sunday in Lent The Rev. Sabino Diok

The Rev. Dr. Richard Topping—Guest Preacher, Preaching Grace

Richard Topping is President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor of Studies in the Reformed Tradition, Vancouver School of Theology. He writes and teaches in the areas of Reformed Theology, biblical interpretation and theological education. Richard is also an amateur photographer.

Condolences

We remember in prayer and thanksgiving Anne Adams. A funeral service for Anne will be held Friday March 1 at 1:00 pm at Grace.

Music Notes:

Good morning, Grace Presbyterian. As we move into Lent, our music becomes a little more somber and penitent. Today's prelude by German composer Christian Geist, "Auf tiefer Not," is a Lenten standard. Geist worked primarily in the courts of Denmark and Sweden. This tune by Wolfgang Dachstein instead of the more well-known Luther tune is a paraphrase of psalm 130 (Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.)

Move ahead a couple of centuries and we have a postlude work by Paul Fey. At 26 years old he has already published many fine organ works and holds a prestigious post as one of the organists at St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, where the yearly Bach festival takes place. A "Grande Choeur" is normally found in French organ music and essentially means "full organ." It is typically a grand, dramatic work, often played as the final piece in a church service.

Thank You

Grace welcomes The Rev. Dr. Richard Topping, a wonderful friend to Grace, as today's guest preacher. Participants at this past weekend's Preaching Grace 2024 have been delighted with presentations and workshops on the theme of Scripture: Play and Possibility led by Dr. Topping. We give thanks for his insights and humour.

Volunteer Opportunities

www.volunteers@gracecalgary.org

English Language Learner Program Teachers

The ELL program is growing in response to the increasing need for conversational English skills in our community and new teachers are welcomed. Currently classes are held Monday mornings at Grace from 9:30 to 11:30. Training and teaching resources are provided.

Accounting

2023 Tax Receipts

2023 income tax receipts were emailed on Tuesday, February 13 to those who have a current email on file. The balance of the tax receipts was mailed during the week of February 12. (If you would like to update your contact information please call the office at 403-244-5861 or e-mail office@gracecalgary.org).

If you contributed to Grace through Canada Helps, that tax receipt is generated by Canada Helps. You can obtain the receipt from Canada Helps by logging on to their website.

Grace Updates

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/updates/



Session Highlights February 2024

- opened with a reading from Luke 6:37-42 and prayer
- gave thanks for the recent preaching for the call by the Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner and the work of the Interim Moderator and the Search Committee
- celebrated and approved two baptisms to be scheduled in the coming weeks
- was informed of exciting plans to grow the English Language Learner program and the need for additional teachers
- welcomed representatives of the Clergy Care & Resource Committee of the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod, who shared information about their mandate to support ministers and sessions

- was advised of plans to give thanks for the interim ministry of the Rev. Wendy Adams and to welcome the Rev. Jake Van Pernis back from parental leave to his revised role as Associate Minister
- approved updates to the Roll, reflecting feedback from elders and individuals. The Roll now stands at 330 professing members. There are also 165 adult adherents
- approved the names of individuals who have discerned a call to serve as ruling elders. The names of these individuals will be shared with the congregation for election in March
- directed the Pastoral Care & Connection Committee to propose updates to elders' districts and an updated model for pastoral care of the congregation at the April meeting
- approved workplans for the Spiritual Growth, Engagement & Service, and Pastoral Care & Connection Committees
- agreed to call a congregational meeting on May 5 to elect elders, to consider the 2023 finances and other ministry updates
- supported the report of the Ad Hoc Land, Facilities and Assets Committee, which included recommendations for additional disclosure to Session and the congregation in financial statements plus further studies of risks and opportunities for various properties. The Ad Hoc Committee was dismissed with thanks
- approved the continued use of deferred contribution funds and agreed that regular reports on the deferred contribution funds would be beneficial
- received reports of the positive trends in giving of time, talent and treasure in 2023
- approved the addition of Dave Turner to the Financial Committee and the addition of Ephraim Porter to the Spiritual Growth Committee
- gave thanks for the work of all the committees, staff and ministers as reported for information and consideration
- approved the Reasons for Translation for the Call to Dr. Joiner to be presented to Presbytery
- offered prayer for the congregation and closed with a benediction

Grace Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



Pilot Project: GRACE NOTES CHILDREN'S CHOIR



**GRACE NOTES
CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to join a pilot children's choir ministry.

- Grace Notes is FREE, for all levels of singers
- Open to children ages 5 to 12
- Sundays at 1:00pm; February 18-April 7
- Directed by Matt Kallio, Grace Music Coordinator & Trisha McKinney, voice & early childhood education teacher

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Sign up at www.GraceChurchCalgary.com/events/



**LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER
AT GRACE**

LIVING INTO THE PROMISE

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Please find opportunities for Lent at www.GraceChurchCalgary.com