

LIVING INTO THE PROMISE OF THE UNEXPECTED

MARCH 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY

10:30 a.m.



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

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

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 includes the Siksika Nation, the Piikani Nation, the Kainai Nation, the Tsuut'ina Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda Nation (including Chiniki, Bearspaw and Goodstoney Bands). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta Districts 5 and 6.

Prelude Heut Triumphieret Gottes Sohn BWV 630

J.S. Bach

I know my redeemer liveth

G.F. Handel

Heather Rose Locken, soprano

Welcome and Announcements

Geoffrey Simmins

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Alexander

Introit Surrexit Dominus Vere

Jacques Berthier, Communauté Taizé

(The Lord is risen! Christ is risen today!)

Call to Worship

Give thanks to God Eternal because God Eternal is good!

The love of God Eternal never ceases to be loving and kind!

This is the very day God Eternal has acted—

let us celebrate grace-filled salvation!

Heaven and Earth will never be the same!

A free and full life! Rejoice and be glad!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn 255 Now let the vault of heaven resound

†

Prayer of Adoration

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

This morning as we open our hearts in a time of collective prayer, we lift up our neighbours, our world, our loved ones, and each other by hearing the words: Living God, hear our prayer.

And responding together:

Fill the world with newness!

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 Epistle Sonata in D major K 245—Allegro

W.A. Mozart

Response to the Offering Hymn 260 v4

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Saviour;

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Prayer for Our Offering

Ephraim Porter

Hymn 248 At the dawning of salvation

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Benediction

Choral Amen 780 Amen

Postlude Chorus: Hallelujah

G.F. Handel

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Life and Work at Grace Church

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/



Worship Services

- ◇ Sundays, 10:30 a.m. in-person and online; fellowship follows in the Family Room
- ◇ Worship can be watched anytime at www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/
- ◇ The South Sudanese community meets Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in the Chapel.
- ◇ The Anyuak community meets Sundays at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

April 7 Second Sunday of Easter The Rev. Jake Van Pernis
Grace Notes Children's Choir

April 14 Third Sunday of Easter The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris
Sacrament of Baptism

Music Notes

Good morning and happy Easter Grace Presbyterian!

Today's music features some wonderfully celebratory music to highlight this special Sunday. We begin with a prelude based on the German chorale tune "Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn" (translation: *This day in triumph, God the Son*) by J.S. Bach, part of the *Orgelbuchlein* (little organ book), a collection of liturgical chorale preludes for the entire church calendar.

We are also doing select choruses and arias from Handel's ever popular work, *Messiah*. Our selections this morning are drawn from the Easter section of this seminal work. A note about our postlude: we will finish the service with the ever-popular *Hallelujah* chorus. The tradition of standing during the chorus began with King George III who upon hearing the chorus, was so moved that he stood. Since all had to stand with the King, it became the tradition to do so in later performances as this anecdote spread. We welcome you to enjoy the postlude however you see fit, either standing or sitting. Have a blessed Easter season.

Sympathies

Condolences are extended to the family of Kirsteen Aston who died Monday, March 25, 2024. May God's peace be their comfort. Kirsteen's funeral will be held at McInnis and Holloway Park Memorial Chapel (5008 Elbow Drive SW) at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10. Rev. Geoffrey Simmins will officiate.

A Service of Remembrance for Sherry Buckle will be held in Grace Sanctuary on Saturday, April 13 at 11:00 a.m. Reception to follow.

Thank You

We thank our guest musicians for their contributions to worship this morning: Samantha Whelan - trumpet, Katarina Wollmann - violin, Angela Smart - violin, Andrea Poon - viola, Maria Vander Hoek - cello, Jonathan Forden - oboe, Chris Sies - percussion.

Thanks to many volunteers, 55 lovely cyclamen plants were delivered this Holy Week to those who are homebound or being especially remembered in our prayers. These beautiful Easter flowers along with our message of caring have been greatly appreciated.

Grace's Chapel

The renovations to Grace's Chapel that have been presented to the congregation and approved by the Session will begin Monday, April 1. Anyone interested in joining in prayers of thanks for the history of Grace's Chapel, hopes for its future, and for the renovations are invited to Grace's Chapel following worship today. Prayers for the renovations will be led by Rev. Jake.

[Volunteer Opportunities](http://www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/volunteer/) www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/volunteer/

Offering Stewards

We would like to reestablish the more formal passing of the offering plates during our worship services, which will require an increase in the number of volunteers receiving the offering each Sunday. (Please note, this does NOT include counting or recording of the offering.) Please let Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers, know if you might be willing to be included in a schedule to serve in this way about once every five or six weeks.

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 at Grace from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Training and teaching resources are provided.

Committee Members

Ministries at Grace are carried out through the Committees of Session, and through ad hoc Committees that fulfil emergent or project work. They develop annual plans that outline mission work and measure the impact within the congregation and the community. Membership for these committees is drawn from the congregation at large. The current committees are Engagement and Service; Financial Management; Governance; Gratitude and Giving; Land and Facilities; Pastoral Care and Connection; and Spiritual Growth. Please consider if you might be called to serve the body of Christ by giving your time and talents on a committee.

Grace Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



God's Grace in Scripture Bible Study

Wednesdays 9:30 to 10:30 am, through April 10, and again from May 1 through June 5. Drop-in, in Grace's Lounge.

Walking the Silent Road:

Exploring the Traditions of Christian Contemplation and Meditation

Sundays mornings, April 14, April 21, April 28, and May 5, from 9:00 to 10:00 in Grace's Chapel.

Register at www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/.

Christians meditate.

Is that news to you? It is to many people. Yes, some Christians meditate. And so can you. You are invited to learn about the Christian contemplative tradition in a four-part series on Christian Contemplation and Meditation. The program will consist of four sessions led by Geoffrey Simmins, each approximately an hour in length. Pastries and beverage service are planned to be a part of each session of the study.

Participants will gain an overview of the main traditions of Christian meditation, using the teaching and practices established by the Benedictine monk John Main as our principal reference. We will also learn about Centering Prayer and other contemplative teachers and practices.

Each session will include a time for practicing meditation and for discussion afterwards. At the end of the program, participants will have learned about how, when, and why Christians have meditated—and will be equipped to put meditation into their own spiritual practices.

Conversations Matter, Thursday, May 2, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Family Room

Register by Thursday, April 28 at www.GraceChurchCalgary.com/events/



Conversations Matter A lunch and learn on planning for future health-care decisions

Thursday, May 2, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Grace Presbyterian Church Family Room



Attend this Lunch and Learn that focuses on planning for future health-care decisions. Learn how to talk about what matters regarding future health-care preferences for you or your family members. This presentation is:

- Open to all ages
- Focused on how to have important health-care conversations

Led by Robin Tomlinson, RN (Registered Nurse), BN (Bachelor of Nursing) and the Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins

Grace Presbyterian Church

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