

PEACE BE WITH YOU SHARING COMMUNITY
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 7, 2024
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 live, work, play, and worship on the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprised of the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai Nations) the Tsuut'ina Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw and Goodstoney Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Metis Nation of Alberta Districts 5 and 6.

Prelude Corrente

Antonio Vivaldi

Sonata for violin and continuo RV 754

Welcome and Announcements

Jake Van Pernis

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Pauline

Introit Because

Shawna Edwards

Grace Notes Children's Choir

Call to Worship

The joy of Easter continues!

Locked doors have been opened and fear has turned to peace!

We gather in Easter's light!

Drawn into this light, we are drawn to see God's ever-expanding love for creation.

We are open to the peace the risen Jesus offers,

weaving us into the movement of the Spirit!

Friends, let us rejoice and be glad in God's grace!

We share our prayers and praise with humble and hope-filled hearts.

Hymn 250 I danced in the morning / Lord of the dance

*

Prayer of Adoration

Rite of Reconciliation

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

Risen One, meet us with healing grace and help our unbelief.

We confess we hold onto the idea that your love is limited and something we need to protect, yet you invite us to give this love away freely.

Open our hands, hearts, and lives to being followers of your way, letting go of our personal agendas, seeking instead to be attentive to the wisdom shared in creation, the call of reconciliation, and places of new beginnings. Help us recall and know from deep within ourselves we are your beloved; we are carriers of your story of grace, made in your image.

Risen One, meet us with healing grace and help our unbelief.

Rekindle our imaginations to see beyond ideas of your love being limited and in need of protection, so we may live for you.

Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

The Peace

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

And also with you.

Anthem **Praise the Lord for Spring**

Robert Powell

Time with Young Christians

Prayer for Understanding

Kerri Kroeker

Scriptures **Psalm 133** (Responsive Refrain II)

John 20:19-23

Acts 4:32-35

Sermon **Peace Be With You Sharing Community**

Jake Van Pernis

Hymn 489 **Help us to help each other, Lord**

†

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Friends, let us join one another in moving towards the openness prayer invites us into. This is a time to be together and to share from our hearts words of hope, concern, and care for our neighbours, our world, our loved ones, and each other. This time also provides space to be attentive to how God is responding to our thoughts and what we are sensing.

A part of this time together in prayer is sharing in a collective response. After the name "*Lord Jesus*" is spoken, we are invited to say together, "Reveal your risen presence."

Let's begin our prayer using this call and response:

Lord Jesus

Reveal your risen presence.

With hopeful hearts we offer the prayer Jesus taught his disciples, taking comfort and strength in these familiar words, saying:

**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 Fugue in C major

Johann Pachelbel

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.**

Hymn 251 Christ is alive

*

Benediction

Friends, let us joyfully go into the world to witness to God's presence in our lives and the life of the world. Be generous in sharing love and care in Jesus' name so the story you tell today and every day becomes good news to people and places in need of hope and understanding.

We go to be God's people in the world!

May God walk with us as we seek to build community, revealing the sacred essence within and around. May Jesus' deep knowing help us to trust in his call to be carriers of good news and know the depth of his love when we feel small in comparison to the hurts of the world. And may the Spirit guide us to a deeper knowledge of and willingness to share the light and warmth of the deep peace of God's heart. Friends, go to be a blessing that is waiting to be received ready to learn and ready to love.

Amen.

Sung Hymn 770 Amen

†

Postlude Fanfare

Healey Willan

Thank you to our guest musician Katarina Wollman, violin.

Thank you to the Director of the Grace Notes Children's Choir, Trisha McKinnon.

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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 and the Anyuak communities will meet in the Sanctuary today at 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. respectively, due to the Chapel renovations. *Please ensure you take all your belongings and bulletins after the 10:30 a.m. worship service.*

April 14	Third Sunday of Easter Sacrament of Baptism	The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris
April 21	Fourth Sunday of Easter Care of Creation Sunday	The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins

Funerals

A Service of Remembrance for Kirsteen Aston will be held at McInnis and Holloway Park Memorial Chapel (5008 Elbow Drive SW) at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10. The Rev. Geoffrey Simmins will officiate.

A Service of Remembrance for Sherry Buckle will be held in Grace's Sanctuary on Saturday, April 13 at 11:00 a.m. The Rev. Geoffrey Simmins and the Rev. Jake Van Pernis will officiate. Reception to follow in Grace's Family Room.

Music Notes

We welcome our newly formed Grace Notes Children's Choir in worship. The Grace Notes Choir has been working hard for the past six weeks enjoying rehearsing and preparing to help lead worship. The Grace Notes Choir will present two pieces on the themes of Easter and new life. The first piece, "Because" by Shawna Edwards, tells of Christ's sacrifice and our redemption. The second piece, "Praise the Lord for Spring" by Robert Powell, praises God for all the beautiful things Spring brings. This piece will include our guest musician Katarina Wollman, and the Grace Chancel Choir.

Grace Updates

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/news/



Thank You

The Clerk of Session is an active ruling elder who is responsible for the Session's records and documents including meeting minutes and correspondence on behalf of the Session. The clerk works with the Session Moderator to develop meeting agendas and support Session elders. We express our gratitude to Len Wolstenholme for his faithful service as the Clerk of Session for the past several years as he is stepping down. We give thanks to God for Shirley Philips who will serve as the new Clerk of Session.

Communication Transition

Amy Dunn Moscoso, the Grace Communications Specialist, is moving to a new communications opportunity in an organization that combats preventable blindness in the world. Amy came to Grace in the fall of 2018 and has worked with leaders, volunteers, ministers, and staff to connect with the congregation and the community.

Thank you for your tireless work to connect with one another and your neighbours as you work to transform lives. It has been a privilege to work with Grace leaders, volunteers, ministers, and staff and I will miss you and look forward to watching the next stages of your journey.

Thank you.—Amy Dunn Muscoso

The communications job role has been posted at: www.Gracechurchcalgary.com/news/. The congregation is invited to review jobs and apply or to share with your networks.

Volunteer Opportunities www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/volunteer/

English Language Learner Program Teachers

The ELL program is growing in response to the increasing need for conversational English skills in our community and *two additional teachers are required for May and June this year*. 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 committees. Committees put together plans to help guide 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.

Offering Stewards

Grace would like to reestablish the more formal passing of the offering plates during worship services, which will require an increase in the number of volunteers receiving the offering each Sunday.

Please let Cindy Stephenson, Grace's Coordinator of Volunteers, know if you might be willing to volunteer for one of the opportunities above to help Grace in its ministry, mission, and values.

Grace Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



Creation Stewardship

The Engagement and Service Committee is launching an April Creation Stewardship Campaign. This work supports satellite food bank clients who often arrive at Grace without reusable bags. Therefore, Grace has reusable canvas bags for sale to help care for creation and our neighbours.

In April bags will be available for purchase after worship in Grace's Family Room. There are three options for purchasing bags:

1. Buy a bag for personal use.
2. Buy a bag for personal use and gift a bag to a food bank client.
3. Sponsor bags that will be gifted to food bank clients.

RESET Book Drive

Support women in RESET (Rapid Exit from Sexual Exploitation & Trafficking) by donating your used books. Drop off books April 12-21, 2024, 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. at Crossroads Market, 1235 Ave SE Calgary, AB. Crossroads Market is the only drop-off location.

Walking the Silent Road: Exploring the Traditions of Christian Contemplation and Meditation

led by the Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins, Interim Minister

Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 am in the Grace Chapel
April 14, April 21, April 28, and May 5 - RSVP online



Walking the Silent Road:

Exploring the Traditions of Christian Contemplation and Meditation

Sunday mornings, April 14, April 21, April 28, and May 5, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in Grace's Chapel. Led by Geoffrey Simmins.

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 study will consist of four sessions each approximately an hour in length. Pastries and beverage service are planned to be a part of each session.

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 explore Centering Prayer and other contemplative teachings and practices.

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



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Elder Training

Spiritual Leadership
Led by Rev. Jake Van Pernis

Sunday, April 21 Noon - 1:30 pm

*Includes Lunch

RSVP by Tuesday, April 16 at
www.GraceChurchCalgary.com/events/



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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



Conversations Matter: 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

Presbyterian World Service and Development Mission Moment



Katia Bien-Aime, a senior nurse and coordinator for a nutrition program in Haiti, recalls a time when a significant number of children failed to return for follow-up care after initial treatment at the nutrition clinic. She knew something needed to be done. In response, PWS&D's partner, who also runs the original clinic, decided to begin mobile clinics. Today, these mobile units have proven successful in bridging the gap and allowing healthcare providers to get closer to their patients, easier follow-ups and enabling the delivery of crucial basic medical care directly to villages and homes. "It worked," Katia says. "We were able to get to the really sick kids faster and earlier." In addition, the mobile units provide tools to make water safe for drinking and to promote better sanitation and hygiene practices.

Mission Moments highlight the ministry the Presbyterian Church in Canada is doing through Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D). For over 75 years, PWS&D has been working with partners overseas and with Canadians across the country to make positive changes in the world. To learn more about the many programs and partnerships such as the one supporting Katia in Haiti, please visit <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/>