

STARTING SMALL
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SUNDAY

JUNE 16, 2024
10:30 a.m.



Vision

Transforming lives through God's grace.

The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris
Interim Moderator

Mission

Inspired by the Holy Spirit,
we grow disciples of Jesus Christ
to love our neighbours and
effect social change.

The Rev. Jake Van Pernis
Associate Minister

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins
Interim Minister

Values

Belonging, Community, Compassion,
Engagement, and Service

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 Cantique Religieuse

Théodore Dubois

Welcome and Announcements

Jake Van Pernis

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Ainsley and Grace

Opening music Hiy Hiy My Creator

Wendy Walker

Call to Worship

Shirley Philips

How good it is to give thanks to the Eternal –

to praise Creator God and speak of Creator God's unfailing love!

Your works bring gladness and joy moving us to sing and dance.

Your works cause awe and wonder and your blessings renew and restore.

We will worship you with thankful and joyful hearts!

Together, let us declare Creator God's goodness –

and share Creator God's unfailing love!

Hymn 310 Bring many names

*

Prayer of Adoration

Rite of Reconciliation

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

Holy One – you call us to walk by faith and to seek your way.

Yet so often we are drawn into the call of the world –

plans, schedules, goals, and results –

so we are pulled and pushed away from following after you.

We want things to make sense and fit into our perspectives so the call to be a part of the mystery of the fullness, life, and love you invite us into is difficult for us because it does not conform to a human point of view.

We have a difficult time trusting in the promise that you are making all things new, especially when brokenness and hurt are all around us.

We want certainty instead of a walk by faith.

Forgive us.

Forgive us for not trusting, for acting from self-interest, for giving into doubt and fear, and trying to make you fit into the boxes that work for us.

Help us to walk by faith and seek your way.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

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

And also with you.

Anthem Take my life and let it be

David H. Williams

Time with Young Christians

Prayer for Understanding

Chris Joiner

Scripture Readings Ezekiel 17: 22-24

Mark 4: 26-34

Sermon Starting Small

Special Music

Reception of New Members

Affirmation of Baptism: A Public Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ever after. Amen.

Hymn 574 With the Lord as my guide

*

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 Share Our Offerings

Offertory Melody in G major Op. 46 #4

Alexandre Guilmant

Response to Sharing Our Offerings Hymn 79

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below:
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer for Our Offerings

Estel Latchman

Hymn 632 Help us accept each other

*

Benediction

Sending Hymn 620 Go now in peace v1

*

Go now in peace; though friends must part,
your presence lives in every heart.
Your gifts to us no words can tell:
go now in peace, in Christ go well.

Postlude Postlude in D major

Healey Willan

We thank Wendy Walker and Rob Maciak for their contributions to Grace's music ministry.

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Music Notes

In recognition of National Indigenous Sunday, Grace welcomes Wendy Walker, sharing traditional music of her culture. We are grateful for her contributions to Grace's worship.

Healey Willan, an important and prolific voice in 20th-century Canadian sacred music, composed the Postlude. When the Order of Canada was established in 1967, this honour was given to Willan. In Britain, it was customary for the Archbishop of Canterbury to occasionally grant very distinguished English cathedral musicians the Lambeth Doctorate, Mus. D Cantuar. In 1956 Willan, "the Dean of Canadian composers," became the first non-English church musician to be so honored.

Life and Work at Grace Church

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/worship/



Worship Services

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

June 23	Fifth Sunday of Pentecost	The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
7:00 p.m.	Induction Service The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner	Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod
June 30	9:00 a.m. Chapel Service	The Rev. Jake Van Pernis
	Sixth Sunday of Pentecost	The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins

Welcome to New Members

Grace gives thanks to God and warmly welcomes new members Nya, Doch, Stephen, Barbara, Sarah, Maryam, Reza, Sheldon, Angel, Gai, Aknelia, Michael, Susan, Adrian, Judith, Greg, Andy, Mariam, Rob, Elaine, Audrey, Greg and Gloria.

Minister away

The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Simmins is away Sunday, June 16 through Saturday, June 22. For any pastoral matter please contact the office at (403) 244-5861.

Grace's Nursery Care

Grace's Nursery Care provider Jiebieni Nyajwok will be away from Grace from June 9 to July 7 travelling to visit family and friends.

Grace will not have a staffed nursery for babies and toddlers while Jiebieni is away; however, Grace's nursery space will be available for use by families with a child or children under the age of 3 accompanied by a parent or guardian who both stays with, and watches over their child/children. Grace's nursery space has a half door and is located on the right-hand side of the hallway leading to Grace's Chapel. Please also note there is a space at the back of Grace's sanctuary with a rocking chair and a pack-and-play for parents of babies and toddlers to use as well.

Grace Updates

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/news/



Welcome to Canada Ding Family

The Ding family from Sudan that Grace is co-sponsoring arrived safely in Calgary this week. Grace extends a warm welcome to them to Calgary and to Canada.



We Give Thanks

The last class of the spring English Language Learner program term will be June 17. This friendly, supportive approach to learning conversational English has been made possible through the gifts of time and talent volunteered by Lidia Alton, Mary Jardine, Levin Li, Susan Mbutha, Jill Nation, Janice Ottewell, Shirley Philips (Program Coordinator), Sandy Willott, and Rose Wolstenholme – we are grateful to God for their dedicated and caring leadership.

Session Highlights

Please note that a Session Elder (Shirley Philips) will be present after worship to address questions.

At its meeting on June 10, 2024, Grace's Session:

- read the Luke 10:38-42 story of Mary and Martha, and reflected on how the Session might choose "the better part", as did Mary, and opened with prayer
- welcomed Chris Joiner as a guest
- celebrated the relationships growing with newly assigned members in elders' districts, the joy of the recent baptism, the milestone of an upcoming 100th birthday
- noted its deep gratitude for the wise service of Jean Morris in her role as Interim Moderator, as it draws to an end with the induction of Chris Joiner on June 23
- was advised that an experienced consultant will work with the team as Chris begins his leadership role
- gave thanks for the ministry of Geoffrey Simmins at Grace which ends June 30
- received an update on the Music Ministry Search Committee (Shirley Philips-Convener, Elizabeth Cressman, Doch Diok, Jennifer Frank, CK Okongwu, Andrea Radford, with the Ministers) as it begins its work
- appointed Joanne Kellough, a Session elder, as Roll Clerk
- approved, with delight and thanks to God, the reception of 19 new members plus 3 confirmands
- agreed to revisions to the roles of the Deacons of Bereavement Care, Hospital and Health Care, and Homebound Visitation and approved the position description for a Deacon of Welcome and Hospitality
- agreed to remove 6 members from the roll, as the individuals have not responded to repeated efforts to reconnect
- approved revisions to the Terms of Reference for Ad Hoc Committee for Elder Election, and dismissed the most recent Ad Hoc Committee, with thanks
- considered feedback from the exit interviews of two Session elders as they completed their service on the Session
- approved the work goals of the Support Services Director for the next six months
- agreed to re-establish a Human Resources Committee, with new Terms of Reference

- requested the Financial Management Committee to recommend an investment policy by September
- noted the need for additional communication with the congregation on giving trends
- received updates from the ministers, including a high level statement of account for the disbursement of Pastoral Funds, and reports from the staff and the majority of the committees
- gave thanks for David Caldwell's faithful service over 27 years as both a Session and Service Elder.
- acknowledged with gratitude the tremendous work of volunteers in the programs at Grace
- prayed for the congregation and members facing bereavement and illness, for Chris and Kim Joiner as they make their new home in Calgary, for the Leadership Retreat, for Sabbath rest as programs take a summer break, for new members as they profess their faith, and for existing members as they seek to better know Christ and glorify God.

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/volunteer/



Deacon of Welcome and Hospitality

The Deacon of Welcome and Hospitality is a new volunteer role meant to help strengthen Grace's ministry of welcome, support Grace's team of welcomers and improve connections with newcomers. The requirements for volunteering to be the Deacon of Welcome and Hospitality are being present for most Sunday worship services, working collaboratively with Grace's ministers, staff, and volunteers to help identify ways for Grace to better model Christian hospitality.

To learn more about volunteering for this role, please contact Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers, at volunteers@gracecalgary.org

[Grace Events](#)

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/

Bible Study: God's Grace in Scripture

Wednesday Mornings, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., in Grace's Lounge

This Bible Study is open and participant-led. It is centered in fellowship, reading scripture together, having discussions, and in prayer. It runs through June 19.

No registration is needed; all are welcome to join.

Reformed and Always Reforming: Celebrating the Renewal of Grace's Chapel



Grace will be celebrating the renewal of Grace's Chapel as a space for worship, mission, and ministry, to the glory of God the week of June 24-30 with events and worship.

Going To The Chapel will be on Monday June 24, 12:00 - 12:45 p.m. and Wednesday June 26 from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. These gatherings will provide opportunity to learn about the history, symbols, as well as the current and future uses of Grace's Chapel to glorify God through worship, teaching, fellowship, and mission. A time of fellowship with snacks and beverages will be shared at the conclusion of each of the *Going To The Chapel* events.

A worship service will be held in Grace's Chapel on Sunday, June 30 from 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. The theme of this worship service will be giving thanksgiving to God for Grace's Chapel space and celebrating its renewal as a congregation that is reformed and always reforming. Prayers will be shared for both the current and future uses this space.

All are invited to attend these planned events and worship to help collectively celebrate the renewal of Grace's Chapel space.

MISSION MOMENT

June 16, 2024

Am Salama reflects on her life in Sudan before the outbreak of war. Following a political crisis in 2023, she and her family, once prosperous farmers and restaurant owners, were forced to flee their bustling town in East Darfur due to escalating tensions. The war separated Am Salama from her husband, who stayed behind to care for his blind mother. Facing numerous challenges during their journey to South Sudan, including being robbed of the little money and clothing she had managed to bring with her and frequent illness, Am Salama and her children found refuge at the Wedwil Refugee Camp. The safety and food assistance they received at the camp, supported by PWS&D, played a critical role in their survival.



Grace Presbyterian Church

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