

SERVICE OF INDUCTION
THE REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER JOINER - LEAD MINISTER
GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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

Participants

Moderator of Presbytery	Dr. Heather Bryant Representative Elder, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Calgary, AB
Clerk of Presbytery	The Rev. Dewald Delport
Preacher	The Rev. Daniel Surya St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lethbridge
The Charge	The Rev. Laurie McKay St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Calgary
Representative Elder	Mary Lil Rozsa de Coquet
Interim Moderator	The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris

June 23, 2024

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.

Edict

Prelude Trio Sonata in G major
Prelude on "Resignation"

G.F. Telemann
Robert Chamberlin

Procession of the Presbytery

The Narration of Steps

Clerk of Presbytery

Called to Worship

Moderator of Presbytery

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all.

But to each of us grace has been given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

until we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity as a people, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Hymn of Praise 290 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

†

Prayer of Adoration

The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris

Rite of Reconciliation

God of Mercy:

In Jesus Christ you call us to be your servant people, but too often we have gone our own way, hoping to avoid your claim on our lives.

We have not always trusted your good news to be good for us and have resisted the transforming power of your Word. We have allowed the empty distractions of this world to draw us from our true vocation and to block us from giving faithful witness to your grace.

Have mercy on us O God.

In your love forgive us and set us free to respond to your call and to be your faithful people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence for reflection.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And with you also.

Anthem Proclamation of Service

Joseph M. Martin

The Word Proclaimed

Scripture 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

Mary Lil Rozsa de Coquet

The Sermon Treasures in Jars of Clay

The Rev. Daniel Surya

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

Living Faith Section 7.1.1-7.1.6

The church is Christ together with his people called both to worship and to serve him in all of life.

The church is *one*. It is one family under God whose purpose it is to unite all people in Jesus Christ.

The church is *holy*. It is set apart by God through the Holy Spirit to be a chosen people in the world.

The church is *catholic*. It is universal, including all people of all time who affirm the Christian Faith.

The church is *apostolic*. It is founded on Christ and the apostles and is in continuity with their teachings.

The church is in constant need of reform because of the failure and sin which mark its life in every age. The church is present when the Word is truly preached, the sacraments rightly administered, and as it orders its life according to the word of God.

Hymn 587 Called as partners in Christ's service

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Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Christus, der ist mein Leben

J. Walther

Doxology 260 Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord

*

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 of Dedication

The Induction

Presentation of the Rev. Dr. Christopher Joiner by the Clerk of Presbytery

The Preamble

All ministries of the Church proceed from and are sustained by the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is our Prophet, Priest and King, the Minister of the covenant of grace. By the operation of God's Word and Spirit, the Church is gathered, equipped, and sent out to participate in this ministry. All members of the Church are called to share the Gospel with the world, and to offer to the Father the worship and service that are due to the Creator from the creation, through Christ, the only Mediator, until he comes again. That the Church may be continually renewed and nurtured for ministry, Christ furnishes the Church with pastors and teachers. He requires and enables the Church to discern and to confirm by ordination those whom he calls to this pastoral and teaching office. The standards of his Church he entrusts in a special degree of responsibility to their care.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada is bound only to Jesus Christ, the Church's King and Head. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as the written Word of God, testifying to Christ the living Word, are the canon of all doctrine, by which Christ rules our faith and life. We acknowledge our historic continuity with the Holy Catholic Church and our doctrinal heritage in the ecumenical creeds, and the confessions of the Reformation. Our subordinate standards are the Westminster Confession of Faith as adopted in 1875 and 1889, the Declaration of Faith Concerning Church and Nation of 1954, Living Faith (Foi Vivant) as adopted in 1998, and such doctrine as the Church, in obedience to Scripture and under the promised guidance of the Holy Spirit, may yet confess in the Church's continuing function of reformulating the faith.

The Induction Questions to Dr. Joiner

Questions To The Congregation

1. Do you confess anew your faith in one God who is creator and ruler of the universe, who came to us in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, and who remains present among us through the power of the Holy Spirit?

We do.

2. Do you receive Christopher Joiner to be your minister as from Christ?

We do.

3. Will you give of your substance as the Lord prospers you, for the maintenance of the Christian ministry and the furtherance of the gospel in this place and throughout the world?

We will.

4. Do you pledge yourselves to be co-servants with your minister under Christ, sharing in the worship of the church, offering support through prayers and friendship, announcing the gospel to the world by the power of the Holy Spirit?

We do.

May the Lord bless you and give you grace to fulfil these vows. **Amen.**

Commitment to Team Ministry

Anthem My Shepherd will supply my need

American hymn/arr. Virgil Thomson

The Induction Prayer

(The Moderator of Presbytery begins the prayer)

... God of grace, you call us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation. Give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us, that together we may declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to the world; through Jesus Christ the Lord of all. Amen.

Declaration

Right Hand of Fellowship by the Presbyters of Calgary-Macleod

Signing the Formula

The Charge

The Rev. Laurie McKay

The Dismissal

Hymn 461 Be thou my vision †

Benediction The Rev. Dr. Christopher Joiner

Amen 780

Postlude Finale Jubilante Healey Willan

We give thanks for the musicians participating in the service:
Matt Kallio, Music Coordinator; Grace Presbyterian Chancel Choir;
Jonathan Forden, oboe; Paul Xu, flute; Jin Lee, flute; Ethan Hill, piano/organ.

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The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner

Chris has been a child of the church from infancy. He was born in Florence, Alabama, and was baptized and nurtured in the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Florence, where he first experienced the seeds of a call to pastoral ministry.

Those experiences led Chris to McKenzie, Tennessee, to attend Bethel College (now University). Chris and Kim met on campus and were close friends for two years before they started dating. The summer after graduation, they were married. This year, 2024, they will celebrate 35 years of marriage.

Moving to Nashville, Chris earned a Master of Divinity at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and served as Youth Director and then Associate Pastor at West Nashville Cumberland Presbyterian Church. While in Nashville, Chris and Kim welcomed their first child, Samuel Caleb.

From Nashville, they moved to Memphis when Chris accepted the call to be Pastor at Colonial Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In Memphis, Chris and Kim welcomed their second child, Chandler Belle.

After three years, Chris accepted a call to be Pastor of Elliottsville Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Alabaster, Alabama (now First Presbyterian Church (Cumberland) of Alabaster). Chris served in Alabama for over six years before he was called back to Memphis to be the Executive Director of the denominational Commission on the Ministry.

While serving the denomination outside of a congregation, Chris sensed the renewal of his calling to the weekly rhythms of congregational life. He received a call to be Pastor and Head of Staff at First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) in Franklin, Tennessee. Chris accepted the call and served in Franklin from 2004 to 2024. He also earned a Doctor of Ministry from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Chris considers every setting where he has served to have been centred in Christ, seeking to live out the church's calling to be bearers of the good news of God's peace, justice, and radical welcome to all, in word and deed. Each place was filled with grace, leaving a lasting positive impact on him and the life of his family.

In addition to their two adult children, Chris and Kim have a daughter-in-law (Ryoko) and two granddaughters (Kotomi and Naomi). Their son Caleb and his family live in Tokyo, Japan, and their daughter Chandler lives in Bozeman, Montana.

Beyond ministry, Chris finds joy in life with Kim, whether walking, hiking, running, taking in music festivals, or enjoying nights out on the town. He loves time with his children and grandchildren and is an avid reader of almost any genre, with mysteries being his go-to fun read. He is fed spiritually by poetry and tries writing it occasionally. He loves watching American football and the other football as well, especially the English Premier League.

Grace Presbyterian Church

1009 15 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0S5

Phone: 403-244-5861 Email: office@gracecalgary.org

Website: www.gracechurchcalgary.com X/Facebook: @calgarygrace

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