

THE IMITATION OF CHRIST
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 11, 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. Chris Joiner
Lead Minister

The Rev. Jake Van Pernis
Associate Minister

Matt Kallio
Music Coordinator

Please find Online Worship at:

www.gracechurchcalgary.com



Grace Presbyterian Church
Transforming lives through God's grace

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, we confess that we can grieve your Holy Spirit.
Too often our conversations tear down rather than build up.
We allow bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling
and slander to emerge in us, rather than your grace.
Yet even as we confess, we know you are moving toward us in love.
Forgive us, Holy One, and help us to forgive one another
as we have been forgiven, all to your glory alone.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

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

Anthem The Lord is my Shepherd

H. Smart

Heather-Rose Locken, Mariko Johnson, voice

Time with Young Christians

Chris Joiner

Prayer for Understanding

Sandy Strother-Stewart

Scripture Readings Psalm 130 (Responsive)
Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Sermon The Imitation of Christ

Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a servant, being born in human weakness.
And being found in human form he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death –
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Hymn 355 Light of the minds that know him (tune *Aurelia*)

OL

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

Matthew Vyse

Offertory Six pieces for violin and organ—Op. 150
IV. Pastorale

J. Rheinberger

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

Hymn 574 With the Lord as my guide

OL

Benediction

Sending Hymn 780 Amen

Postlude Postlude on the *Nun Danket Alle Gott*

E. Thiman

Thank you to Heather-Rose Locken, Mariko Johnson and Katarina Wollmann for their contributions to Grace's music this morning.

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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 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.

August 18 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner

August 25 Blessing of the Backpacks and Workbags The Rev. Jake Van Pernis

Sympathies The condolences of Grace Presbyterian Church are shared with:

The family and friends of Ross Marsh who died on Wednesday, July 24.

The family and friends of Doris Frizzell who died on Tuesday, July 30.

The family and friends of Bea Walker who died on Thursday, August 1.

Please remember the family and friends of Bea, Doris, and Ross in your prayers.

September Worship at Grace: *The Garden of God*

The Season after Pentecost is the longest season of the Christian liturgical year, traversing part of spring, all of summer and most of fall. It leads the church from the long days of the midnight sun to the deepening darkness of fall and the doorway to winter. The Season after Pentecost is a season of gardens that grow in the warmth of spring and summer and yield their harvest in the fall. The colour green the church uses to mark this season, is itself a mark of this emphasis on growth.

It is fitting, then, that in September Grace's worship will explore the Garden of God as it is witnessed in the lectionary reading. Four of the five Sundays in the month will be focused on the book of James. James proclaims that followers of Christ are called to grow in faith and produce the "fruits" of faith - love, justice, peace, and kindness - using simple and powerful language.

The invitation to growth is an invitation to a journey of vibrant and joyful life; what Jesus called "abundant life." Join Grace in September as we explore what growth in abundant life can look like in ourselves and in our church.

Grace Kids and Youth

Grace Presbyterian Church School Registration Now Open!

Grace is excited to announce that registration for Grace's Church School for children age 4 - Grade 6 is now available online for children to join in a year of learning, growth, and community on Sunday mornings during Grace's worship service.

Register here: <https://gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/families/>

Looking forward to a great year of Grace's Church School!

Blessing of Backpacks and Workbags

Grace Presbyterian Church will share a Blessing of Backpacks and Workbags, during worship service on Sunday, August 25, 2025.

The Blessing of Backpacks and Workbags is a wonderful opportunity for students and professionals alike to bring their backpacks or workbags and receive a blessing for the upcoming academic and work year. It is a moment to acknowledge the importance of our daily vocations and ask for God's guidance in our endeavors.

Whether you're heading back to school, continuing your work, or embarking on a new journey, everyone, young and old, is invited to participate. Come and receive a blessing for the year ahead.

[Grace Updates](#)



Grace Gives Thanks

With the easing of water restrictions in Calgary, Grace is resuming the use of ceramic cups for fellowship time after worship. Volunteers take turns each week to gather the used cups, run them through the dishwasher and put the clean cups away, helping us to reduce the waste of disposable cups. We are thankful for the generosity in sharing their time of Cathy Caldwell, Jim Campbell, Mark Durieux, Joanne Kellough, Ryan Kellough, Lesley Lee, Bruce Perrault, Irene Robinson, Robin Telfer, Dave Turner, Barb Voynovich, Shirley Walker, and Richard Wilson.

Name Tags

Grace's Spiritual Growth Committee is excited to announce it is launching a project to provide permanent name tags for all members and adherents of Grace Presbyterian Church. The project will run through summer with sign-up sheets for name tags at the welcome tables at Grace's North and South entrances. Please be sure to sign up if you would like a name tag. Thanks!

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/volunteer/

Office Help

Grace's Office Staff would find it helpful to have a volunteer on Mondays between 10 am to 12:30 pm to answer the phones and the door. This would allow the staff to more easily attend the Operations meeting each Monday. Ideally there will be enough volunteers to take turns on one Monday per month.

Church School Leaders and Helpers

The fall season of Grace's Church School will soon be here. Volunteers who are willing to be Church School leaders and helpers are needed to make sure leaders and helpers are able to take turns on Sundays. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to help support the faith formation of Grace's children and youth.

Welcome to the Diing Family

Grace is delighted to welcome and support Nyariak and her two boys as they settle into Calgary. The family needs some gently used furniture, kitchen wares and small appliances. Volunteers will also be needed to help with moving these items to the Diing's new home. Marlene Doherty is coordinating donations and delivery so please see Marlene after worship if you think you might be able to help with either. *Please do not bring items to Grace unless you have checked with Marlene first.* There will also be some expenses for new items such as linens. Grace has a budget for some of these items, but if you would like to make a special contribution to help purchase these items please mark this on one of the offering envelopes in the pews or in the memo line of the cheque. Thank you for your generosity!

To learn more about this or other opportunities to serve God's mission through Grace Presbyterian Church, please contact Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers, at volunteers@gracecalgary.org.

Volunteer Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



Save the Date: Engaging with Vulnerable Persons

Engaging with Vulnerable Persons is an insightful and helpful presentation by Alpha House on September 16, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm at Grace. Please contact Cindy Stephenson cindys@gracecalgary.org for more information.



Engaging With Community

Understanding Homelessness & Addiction

Grace Presbyterian Church

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