

THE GARDEN OF GOD
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
10:30 a.m.



Vision

Transforming lives through God's grace.

The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
Lead Minister

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

Matt Kallio
Music Director

Values

Belonging, Community, Compassion, Engagement, and Service

Please find Online Worship at:

www.gracechurchcalgary.com



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 **Air in B flat major** Eric Thiman
 Sonata in G Major - Adagio - Bourée G.F. Handel
 Paul Xu, Flute

Welcome and Announcements **Clark Hanna**

Lighting of the Christ Candle **Atale**

Introit **Come and fill** (sing 3x's) Songs & Prayers from Taizé
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
 You alone, O Lord, are holy.
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
 alleluia! © 1991 GIA Publications Inc.

Call to Worship **Jake Van Pernis**

Praise God, the Father of lights;
 from whom every perfect gift comes.
God has given us the gift of birth by the word of truth.
 In praise and thanksgiving, we offer our worship.

Hymn **462 All my hope on God is founded** CCLI

Prayer of Adoration

Rite of Reconciliation

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God,
even though we know you are the Source of our lives,
we confess we often turn our backs on you.
We hear your Word but follow our own ways.
We see others in need but prefer to meet our own needs first.
We harbour anger and say things that cause others pain.
In your mercy, forgive us,
and restore us to right relationship with you
and with one another
that we may be the first fruits you created us to be,
by your grace.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

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

Time with Young Christians

Chris Joiner

Prayer for Understanding

Anne Stephenson

Scripture Readings

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sermon Within and Without

Hymn 763 To show by touch and word

CCLI

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

Susan Mbutia

Offertory Sonata in G major Adagio

G.F. Handel

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 324 Great is thy faithfulness

Benediction

Sending Hymn 780 Amen

Postlude Fantasia: Komm Heiliger Geist, Herr Gott

J.S. Bach

(Come Holy Spirit, Lord God)

Thank you to Paul Xu, flute, for his contribution 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.

September 8 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
Fall Kick-Off Sunday

September 15 Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner

September Worship at Grace: *The Garden of God*

In September Grace's worship will explore the theme of The Garden of God as it is witnessed to in the lectionary readings. Four of the five Sundays readings come from the book of James, which invites followers of Christ to grow in faith and produce the "fruits" of faith - love, justice, peace, and kindness - using simple and powerful language.

This invitation calls us into a vibrant and joyful life; what Jesus called, "abundant life." Join Grace over the next five Sundays as we explore what growth in abundant life can look like in ourselves and in our church.

Fall Kick-Off Sunday

Come be a part of Grace's Fall Kick-Off Sunday, on Sunday, September 8, 2024 where together we will start the Fall with inspiring and joy-filled worship, celebrate the start of Grace's Church School for kids age 4 - Grade 6, and enjoy a time of fellowship together. Bring family and friends and help make this a memorable start to Fall at Grace!

Grace Kids and Youth

Grace's Church School Registration Now Open!

The registration for Grace's Church School for kids age 4 - Grade 6 to join in a year of learning, growth, and community on Sunday mornings during Grace's worship service is open and online.

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

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

Church School Leader Training

Church School Leaders, Teachers, Rovers, and Volunteers are invited to a special training session on Saturday, September 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Grace's Dining Hall. This training is an opportunity to come together, get to know one another, and strengthen a collective understanding of the roles and responsibilities within Grace's Church School. Your presence and participation are highly encouraged.

Grace Updates



Grace Gives Thanks

The Diing family home is now furnished and the boys are ready for school with the generous support of Grace's congregation. Grace gives thanks for the many hours Marlene and Dan Doherty, Clark Hanna, Rob McDonald, the Rev. Jake Van Pernis, Omijima Diing, and Thomas and Nadil Bithow have shared in assisting with the settlement process and in coordinating many donations. The Diing family is grateful for the gifts of housewares and furniture, as well as monetary donations provided by several members. Grace also appreciates Mark Tomlinson and Matthew Vyse moving the donations of furniture with their trucks. Grace's support of the Diing family continues as they experience their first year in Canada.

Postponement of ELL Fall Sessions

Grace's Engagement and Service Committee has made the decision to postpone the Fall Sessions of Grace's English Language Learner ("ELL") program. This decision comes as Grace's Engagement and Service Committee undertakes a thorough evaluative process of the ELL program to ensure it meets the highest standards and effectively serves our community's needs.

Your understanding and patience are appreciated as the evaluation of Grace's ELL program proceeds. Please know updates regarding Grace's ELL program and the evaluation of this program will be shared in due course.

Name Tags

Remember to sign up to get a permanent name tag by Sunday September 8, 2024 as the Spiritual Growth Committee will be ordering name tags in mid September. Sign-up sheets for name tags are at the welcome tables at Grace's North and South entrances.

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

Cookie Bakers and Distributors for Connaught School

Connaught School is having their annual Welcome Back BBQ on Friday, September 6, between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. Grace is planning to contribute baked cookies so a baking bee is planned Thursday, September 5 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. in Grace's kitchen. Four volunteers are needed to help bake on Thursday and two volunteers are needed to help distribute on Friday. Please let Cindy Stephenson or Marlene Doherty know if you can help.

Nursery Helpers

Two volunteers are needed to be present from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., one Sunday per month, to help Grace offer the hospitality of a nursery staffed each week with a supervisor and volunteers, allowing parents to worship knowing their young children (18 months to 3 years old) are in a safe and caring environment.

Office Help Wednesdays

Grace's Office Staff need volunteer help on Wednesdays, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The volunteers would answer phones, doors and have other tasks. Please consider whether you might be able to assist.

Music at Grace

Rehearsals for the groups that make up Grace's Music Ministry will begin again in September. Grace's Music Ministry groups include Grace's Chancel Choir, Grace's Camarata Instrumental Group, Grace Notes Children's Choir, and Grace's Handbell Choir. Grace's Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, and Grace Notes Children's Choir are open to anyone who has an interest in joining; no prior music experience is needed. Grace's Camarata Instrumental Group is looking for people who play woodwind, string, or brass instruments and it is requested that those interested have an intermediate skill level of playing ability.

Rehearsal times are set for the following two groups:

Grace's Chancel Choir: Thursdays, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Grace's Camarata Instrumental Group: Sunday afternoons beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Grace Notes Children's Choir : Sundays, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

The rehearsal time for the Grace Handbell Choir is yet to be determined.

Anyone interested in joining one or more of Grace's Music Ministry groups should connect with Matt Kallio or contact Grace's Office (403 244-5861).

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

Grace Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



Please Register: Engaging with Vulnerable Persons

Grace will host Engaging with Vulnerable Persons, an insightful and helpful presentation led by Alpha House, on September 16, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Please contact Cindy Stephenson cindys@gracecalgary.org to register or for more information.

Mission Moment

In an Indigenous community in Guatemala, Mercedes Coronado (36), a teacher and mother of eight, shares her transformative journey as the vice president of the agroecological group Los Arbolitos. The community women once faced challenges, including violence and a lack of decision-making power within their households. With the support of PWS&D's local partner, the Maya-Mam Indigenous Association for Development, Mercedes and the women are experiencing positive change through education and training programs, enabling them to advocate for themselves and future generations. Mercedes is grateful for her husband's strong support in her career pursuits, emphasizing the importance of gender equality in fostering harmonious relationships and eliminating discrimination.



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 Mercedes in Guatemala, please visit <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/>.

Grace Presbyterian Church

1009 15 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0S5

Phone: 403-244-5861 Email: office@gracecalgary.org Website: www.gracechurchcalgary.com