

Fall at Grace

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 10:30 AM

WORSHIP ONLINE:
gracechurchcalgary.com

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



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 **Fantasia in G major, BWV 572**

Johann Sebastian Bach

Worship begins with the Prelude. We invite you to centre yourself as you listen and acknowledge the Spirit gathering you into this community of worship.

Welcome and Announcements

Joanne Kellough

Welcome to all who are guests with us. If comfortable doing so, please let us know you are here by filling out the card located in the pew and placing it in the offering plate when passed.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Micah

Please stand in body or spirit with the choir

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!**

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Call to Worship

Jake Van Pernis

We come from scattered lives to this sanctuary,

to seek the strength to take up our cross and follow.

Let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts

be acceptable to God, our rock and our redeemer.

Hymn **333 I sing the almighty power of God** *The Book of Praise (Blue Hymnal)*

Prayer of Adoration

Please be seated

Rite of Reconciliation

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,
you show us the path of discipleship
is in taking up our cross and following Christ.
We confess we prefer our own human way to
the way of the cross.
We seek the way of power and control
in our dealings with others.
We think in terms of our own vision of who Christ should be
rather than the way he reveals himself.
Forgive us, gracious God,
and set our minds on you,
that we might follow your Son,
bearing our cross.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

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

Anthem The Call

Z. Randell Stroop

Time with Young Christians

Chris Joiner

Children age 4 through Grade 6 are invited to Church School following this time.

Prayer for Understanding

Richard Wilson

Scripture Readings

Psalm 19 (Responsive, Sing Refrain I)

The Book of Psalms (red)

James 3:1-12

Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 203

Mark 8:27-38

Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 38

Sermon Things Divine and Human

Please stand in body or spirit with the choir

Hymn 211 Take up your cross

The Book of Praise (Blue Hymnal)

Please be seated

Commissioning

Grace Presbyterian Church and The Presbyterian Church in Canada
commission David Turner to the Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference.

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

Chisom Okongwu

Offertory Chorale Prelude on *Slane*

Healey Willan

Please stand in body or spirit with the choir

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 461 Be thou my vision

The Book of Praise (Blue Hymnal)

Benediction

Sending Hymn 780 Amen

The Book of Praise (Blue Hymnal)

Please be seated

Postlude Toccata on *Ein Feste burg (A Mighty Fortress)*

Gordon Young

The end of the Postlude marks the end of our service. Please join in a time of fellowship in the Family Room, located across the hall from the Sanctuary.

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 22 Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8
Sermon: "Good Fruit"

September 22 An Evening Service of Prayers for Peace Grace Community Led
7:00 p.m. in Grace Chapel

Grace will be hosting an Evening Service of Prayers for Peace in recognition of the World Council of Church's International Day of Prayers for Peace. This service will take place in Grace's Chapel and will feature prayers from different parts of the world, beautiful music, and space for reflection. All are welcome to attend.

September 29 Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
Psalm 124; James 5: 13-20
Sermon: "Let the Church Now Say"
Orange Shirt Sunday

In recognition of the path of Truth and Reconciliation Grace is on with its Indigenous neighbours and as a way of signifying commitment to this journey, you are invited to wear orange to Grace on Sunday, September 29. To learn more about why the colour orange is significant for the work of Truth and Reconciliation please read more here: presbyterian.ca/2023/09/28/orange-shirt-day-and-the-national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation/

September Worship at Grace: *The Garden of God*

Grace continues to explore the theme of The Garden of God in September by spending time looking at 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 four Sundays as we explore what growth in abundant life can look like in ourselves and in our church.

Music Notes

The anthem “The Call”, by American composer and conductor Z. Randell Stroop reflects the spirit of the reading of the Gospel according to Mark. The lyric reinforces Mark’s words of Jesus being the Messiah; *“Come my way, my truth, my light, such a way as gives us breath, such a truth as ends all strife: such a life, such a life as killeth death”*.

Today’s service also includes two instances of the beautiful Irish hymn tune “SLANE”, once as the offertory by Canadian composer Healey Willan, and then as our closing hymn. “SLANE” is an old Irish folk melody that became a hymn tune when it was arranged by David Evans and set to the Irish hymn "Be Thou My Vision" published in the Church Hymnary (1927).

Grace Kids and Youth

Jr. High Youth Lunch

All Junior High Youth (Grades 7-9) are invited to Youth Lunch on Sunday, September 22. Youth Lunch is an opportunity to grab some food from a local spot after worship at Grace and foster fellowship and community. Please meet in the pews on the north side of Grace's Sanctuary. The Jr. High Youth Lunch will conclude at 1:00 p.m.

Sr. High Youth Lunch

All Senior High Youth (Grades 10-12) are invited to Youth Lunch on Sunday, September 29. Youth Lunch is an opportunity to grab some food from a local spot after worship at Grace and foster fellowship and community. Please meet in the pews on the north side of Grace's Sanctuary. The Sr. High Youth Lunch will conclude at 1:00 p.m.

[Grace Updates](#)



Condolences

The service honouring the life of Bea Walker and sharing the promise of God’s faithfulness, will be held at Grace on Friday, September 20 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception following in Grace’s Family Room.

The condolences of Grace Presbyterian Church are shared with the family and friends of Robert “Rob” Purdy who died on Tuesday, August 27, 2024. A Celebration of Rob’s Life will be held at Grace on Monday, September 30, at 11:00 a.m., with the reception at Grace immediately following the service.

Grace Gives Thanks

Cathy Caldwell, Marlene Doherty, Gord Smith, and Robin Tomlinson baked 1,200 chocolate chip cookies last week, which Marlene and Rev. Chris served the next day to students and families at the Connaught School Welcome Back BBQ. Grace give thanks for this sharing of time to help show care and build community with neighbours.

Session Highlights

At its regular meeting on September 9, the Session:

- worshipped in the Chapel, with hymns, prayers, and reflection on Mark 8:27-38
- approved an updated Budget Monitoring policy which clarifies Committees' authority to approve expenditures not previously budgeted
- referred a proposal for an Investment Policy to the Financial Management Committee for additional consideration
- approved a position description for a Youth Ministry Leader, to be recruited this fall
- approved the position description for the Nursery Supervisor
- was updated on the Roll. There are now 350 professing members and 162 adherents who are assigned elders who visit, and provide care and connection
- received reports from the Financial Management, Engagement & Service, Land & Facilities, Minister Resource & Presbytery Relations, Spiritual Growth, and Pastoral Care & Connection Committees
- received updates from the Lead Minister, Support Services Director, and Coordinator of Volunteers
- agreed upon a revised Session calendar to increase focus on visioning and strategic planning and reduce unnecessary reporting burden on Committees
- continued discussions following the June Leadership Retreat, identifying potential initiatives, both short-term and long-term. Further discernment within the Session, broader leadership, and the congregation is planned.
- closed with the singing of the doxology.

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.

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

Engagement & Service Committee Members

The Engagement and Service Committee oversees Grace's community and social justice partnerships and programs: operating the Satellite Food Bank, supporting newcomers to Canada, helping neighbours in need and encouraging environmental stewardship through various initiatives. The committee typically meets in the evening on the fourth Monday of the month via Zoom. Two more members to help guide this important missional work are needed.

Grace Children's Choir Rehearsal Volunteers

The Children's Choir is restarting its rehearsals on Sundays, from 1:00 to 2:30 pm at Grace. At least one additional adult is needed each week to be present and ensure a safe and supportive environment is provided. This role can be shared on a rotating basis.

To learn more about opportunities to volunteer at Grace please contact the Coordinator of Volunteers, Cindy Stephenson, at volunteers@gracecalgary.org.

Grace Events

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/events/



Lectionary Bible Study

Grace's weekly Lectionary Bible Study continues on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., in the Family Room. It will run until October 16. All are welcome to attend.

Reminder: Engaging with Vulnerable Persons

Engaging with Vulnerable Persons, an insightful and helpful presentation led by Alpha House, will convene here at Grace, on September 16 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Contact Cindy Stephenson at cindys@gracecalgary.org for last minute registration.

Tending the Wild Garden - A Bible Study

Dates: September 29 - December 8 or October 2 - December 11

Times: Weekly on Sunday mornings, 9:00-10:00, or Wednesday evenings, 6:30-7:30 in Grace's Chapel.

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." – Galatians 5:22-23a

What does a life filled with the Spirit of Christ look like in the world? Paul describes it as a life that bears fruit, a life that reflects Christ's image, a life that is blessed and transformed, and a life that is a blessing to others.

Join Rev. Chris in a study of the fruits of the Spirit, using a new book by Presbyterian minister Eugenia Gamble, "Tending the Wild Garden: Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit." Each chapter explores one of the fruits Paul writes about in Galatians. There are also six daily devotions as part of each chapter, containing scripture, reflections, and spiritual practices. Books will be provided.

Please sign up on-line gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/groups/ or through Grace's Office at office@gracecalgary.org or (403) 244-5861.

Resonant Reflections: Concert of music for Cello and Piano

September 29, Grace Sanctuary, 2:00 p.m.

Congregational Lunch: *Every Perfect Gift*

October 6, following worship

Grace congregation and volunteers, please plan to attend this luncheon after worship on October 6 at Grace, to celebrate the service of over 200 individuals.

October at Grace:

October 6 - World Communion Sunday and Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

October 6 - Taizé at the Table Evening Service

October 13 - Thanksgiving / Harvest Sunday

October 15 - Pregnancy and Infant Loss Evening Service

October 16 - World Food Day Speaker

October 19 - Wild Grace at Confederation Park

October 20 - Worship at Grace, Living Our Faith Course (Session 2)

October 26 - Trunk n' Treat and Open Mic Night

October 27- Reformation Sunday, Sr. High Game Night

Community Events

Workshop with the Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher Walls, Moderator of The General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada



How might biblical stories in which



is inspired for God's people
lay a foundation for our own stories of
hope and possibility?

Biblical Foundations for Narratives of Hope is a participatory workshop designed for both clergy and lay leaders, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Calgary, on Monday, September 30, led by the Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher-Walls, that considers tales of hope from the Bible and then explore ways to find parallels in these ancient tales of hope for congregations today. Please register for the workshop by Monday, Sep 23 via email: office@standrewscalgary.ca or by calling: 403.255.0001

Indigenous Friendship Day

Indigenous Friendship Day will be held on Saturday, September 28 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Drive SW, Calgary.

Activities will include: listening stations to hear traditional indigenous stories, craft centers, an opportunity to erect a Ti Pi, playing traditional Indigenous games, vendors and a taster of traditional indigenous food. The day will end with several dance performances and an opportunity to join in a Circle Dance. Indigenous Friendship Day will be an intergenerational and cross-cultural educational event.

All are welcome to join in this day of learning about traditional Indigenous cultures, in a very fun way!

Want to Volunteer for Indigenous Friendship Day?

A lot of help is needed before/during/after the event to make it all happen. You can register to volunteer, through the following link:

<https://www.standrewscalgary.ca/ifd>

Mission Moment

After participating in the New Beginnings program, which guides congregations through a renewal process to discern God's call for their future, St. Giles Presbyterian Church in St. Catharines, ON, is exploring innovative ways to engage with their community. The congregation is turning faith into action by fostering a welcoming and supportive environment for individuals with disabilities and their families. They have created a multi-sensory space where individuals with sensory sensitivities can find comfort and engagement. They hope to offer respite programming and support groups for caregivers who demonstrate a commitment to walking alongside them in their journey. The New Beginnings program receives funding from Presbyterians Sharing.



Presbyterians Sharing supports the overall mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Learn more at presbyterian.ca/sharing/.

GRACE LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

Session Elders

Nancy Connors
Mark Durieux
Clark Hanna
Janet Hyde
Mary Jardine
Joanne Kellough
Anne Mohtadi
Jiebiene Nyajwok
Okwayi Obang
Shirley Philips (Clerk)
Mary Lil Rozsa de Coquet
Cindy Stephenson
Matthew Vyse
Len Wolstenholme

Service Elders

Jim Campbell
Fran Cormack
Bill Cruickshanks
Marlene Doherty
Bob Ermter
Carol Evans
Margot Kellough
Richard Kim
Bonnie Noyce Faust
Iain Robertson
Les Wilson

Deacons

Nancy Connors - *Hospital and Health Care*
Elizabeth Cressman - *Bereavement Care*
Margot Kellough - *Homebound Care*

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner - *Lead Minister*
The Rev. Jake Van Pernis - *Associate Minister*
Matt Kallio - *Music Director*
Alan Facey - *Support Services Director*
Cindy Stephenson - *Coordinator of Volunteers*
Rob McDonald - *Treasurer*
Dana Seiffert - *Admin Support*
Brenda Robertson - *Admin Support*
Andrew Manuel - *Communications Specialist*
Craig Murphy - *Facilities*
Ngath Diok - *Facilities*
Teri Telfer - *Facilities*
Nathan Kelly - *Facilities*
Pavel Thomson - *Facilities*
Jim Hatridge - *Facilities*