



# Songs of Advent

**PROPHECY AND PRAISE**  
**DECEMBER 1, 2024 10:30 AM**

**WORSHIP ONLINE:**  
[gracechurchcalgary.com](http://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 Otipemisiwak Metis Government of the Metis Nation within Alberta Districts 5 and 6.

**Prelude O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

**Grace Handbells Choir**

Arr: Maureen Holmes

**Prelude on Rorate Caeli**

*Pietro Yon*

*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

**Iain Robertson**

*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.*

**Introit Rorate Caeli**

*Pietro Yon*

*Please stand in body or spirit*

Rorate Caeli desuper,  
et nubes pluant justum.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.  
Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember  
iniquity forever: thy holy city is a wilderness,  
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:  
our holy and our beautiful house,  
where our fathers praised thee.

### Advent Call to Worship and Lighting of the Candle of Hope

Refer to insert

**Elizabeth Cressman and Jennifer Williams**

## Prayer of Adoration

Jake Van Pernis

**Hymn 122 Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel** verses 1-5

Blue Hymnal

## Rite of Reconciliation

*Please be seated*

### Invitation

### Prayer of Confession

**Surprising God,  
forgive our sleepiness in the presence of your splendour,  
and for when we abandon hope  
and expect and look for the same old thing in the same old way.  
Forgive us for cowering in fear  
when you have called us to stand up and raise our heads.  
Forgive us our silence when we ought to have spoken up  
and our carelessness with your world and each other.  
Merciful God, execute justice and righteousness  
in us, in our land, in your beloved world.  
Awaken us to your holy, hopeful presence  
so we may watch and wait for you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Assurance of Pardon

### The Peace

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

**Anthem Prepare the Way O Zion** Svenska Psalmboken / Arr: Hal Hopson

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let ev'ry hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Christ brings God's rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above.

His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.

And tidings of salvation proclaim in ev'ry place.

All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.

O blest in Christ that came in God's most holy name.

## Time with Young Christians

*Children and youth remain in worship today.*

**Chris Joiner**

## Prayer for Understanding

**Flora Stephenson**

## Scripture Readings **Jeremiah 33: 14-16**

Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg 696

## Cantor Verse **View the Present Through the Promise**<sup>OL</sup>

Arr: Roy Hopp

View the present through the promise, Christ will come again.  
Trust despite the deeping darkness, Christ will come again.  
Lift the world above its grieving through your watching and  
believing in the hope past hope's conceiving: Christ will come again.

## **Luke 21: 25-36**

New Testament, pg. 74

## Sermon ***Songs for Watching and Waiting***

## Hymn **124 People in darkness**

Blue Hymnal

*Please stand in body or spirit*

## Invitation to Share Our Offerings

## Offertory **English Advent Carol**

**Tara Grant, Brenda Bjolverud - voice**

Come O Emmanuel,  
Come to ransom Israel that mourns  
In lonely exile here until the Son of God  
until the Son of God appear.  
  
Come, Thou Day spring, come and cheer,  
cheer our souls by Your advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
  
Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you,  
O Israel!

Arr: Hal Hopson

## Response to Sharing Our Offerings

*Please stand in body or spirit*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

## Invitation to the Lord's Table

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

**Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Please be seated*

**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.**

### Breaking of the Bread

### Communion of the People

## Communion Music: Soul Adorn Thyself in Gladness

George Frederic Handel / arr: Robert Hines

Soul, adorn thyself with gladness, Leave behind  
all gloom and sadness; Come into the daylight's  
splendor, there with joy thy praises render unto  
Him whose grace unbounded hath this wondrous  
Supper founded. High o'er all the heavn's He reigneith  
Yet to dwell with thee He deigneth

Lord, by love and mercy driven Thou has left Thy  
Throne in heaven on the cross for me to languish  
and to die in bitter anguish, To forgo all joy and gladness  
and to shed Thy blood in sadness. By his blood redeemed  
and living, Lord, I praise Thee with thanksgiving.

### Schmucke dich o liebe seele

Johann Walther

*(Adorn yourself O dear soul)*

## Prayer

### Hymn 110 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Blue Hymnal

## Benediction

### Sending Hymn Wait for the Lord

Taizé /Jacques Berthier

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near**

**Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!**

*Please be seated*

### Postlude Fantasia on Veni Emmanuel

Alec Rowley

*(Fantasia O Come O Come Emmanuel)*

*The end of the Postlude marks the end of our service. We invite you to join in a time of fellowship in the Family Room, located across the hall from the Sanctuary.*

Grace thanks the Grace Handbells Choir and guest musicians Jin Lee-Jones and Jiwon Park for their contribution to music during worship today.

The flowers in the sanctuary are placed to the glory of God by Barb Voynovich.

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## Life and Work at Grace Church

### **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/](http://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.

### **Advent Worship *Songs of Advent: Prophecy and Praise***

During the season of Advent Grace's worship will draw attention to the *Songs of Advent: Prophecy and Praise* as we prepare our hearts and minds for God's coming to us in Jesus' birth. Over the four Sundays in Advent the following themes will be explored: A Song of Watching and Waiting, A Song of Redemption, A Song of Saving, A Song of the Soul.

December 8	Second Sunday in Advent: Peace Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79 Sermon: <i>A Song of Redemption</i>	The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
December 15	Third Sunday in Advent: Joy Isaiah 12: 2-6; Luke 3: 7-18 Sermon: <i>A Song of Saving</i>	The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner

## Grace Updates

### **Missing Pew Cushions Under Repair**

The missing pew cushions in Grace's sanctuary are currently being repaired for a twist in the fabric that causes the cushions to not fit the pew seats correctly. Your patience and cooperation while the pew cushions are being repaired is appreciated.

### **Grace's Quarterly Newsletter is Ready for Pick-Up**

Extra! Extra! Grace's Quarterly Newsletter for the Winter months of December, January, and February is now available for pick-up at the Welcome Tables outside the North and South doors leading into Grace's Sanctuary. The theme of this newsletter is *Comfort and Joy and it features a number of interesting articles sharing about Grace's ministries both within and outside the walls of Grace. Please note, there is one copy of the Newsletter available per household.*

## **Help Decorate the Christmas Tree in Grace's Chapel**

As part of remembering the holiday season elicits many feelings and memories, the congregation and community of Grace are invited to bring an ornament to hang on the tree that will be in Grace's Chapel. This ornament can symbolize a loved one you are remembering or serve as a personal reflection of this season. You can place your ornament on the tree anytime until December 22.

During this Grace's Blue Christmas Service on the evening of Sunday, December 22, a special moment will be incorporated where these ornaments will be taken off the tree. This act will be a meaningful part of the service, symbolizing love and memories that are held dear.

## **East Doors Winter Schedule**

The arrival of winter weather means the East Doors are now closed for use until further notice to safeguard Grace's congregation and visitors from slips or falls on Grace's front stairs. Signage is placed at ground level sharing this closure.

## **Name Tags**

The volunteer manufacturing the nametags has completed about one quarter of the congregational name tags. The remaining nametags will be completed and distributed in December.

## **Grace Gives Thanks**

Grace gives thanks for the skills and diligence that Rob McDonald brings to the role of Treasurer. Rob as Treasurer works with the Financial Management Committee, and helps with the oversight of Grace's financial activities, including the establishment of good financial processes, internal controls and compliance with legal, statutory and administrative requirements.

## **Music Notes**

A prevalent tune starting the Advent season is the ancient plainchant "Veni, Veni Emmanuel", more commonly known as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." The hymn is a metrical paraphrase of the *O Antiphons*, and has its origins in monastic life in the 8th or 9th century. The metrical form of the hymn in Latin was composed as early as the 12th century. The prelude, offertory, opening hymn and postlude all use this beloved tune.



## Grace Kids & Youth

Grace Kids and Youth will be having a Christmas Party on Sunday, December 15 following worship until 1:30 p.m. All Grace Kids and Youth are invited! The party will include a pizza lunch, games, and crafts.

Youth in Grades 7-12 are invited to bring a wrapped gift (something from home or new to you that cost less than \$5) for a White Elephant Gift Exchange as a part of the Grace Kids and Youth Christmas Party. Potential gifts could be a coffee mug from a thrift store or home that doesn't get used, a can of vegetables, a candy bar or two - be creative and have fun in picking out a White Elephant gift. Please know extra gifts will be available if you are unable to bring a gift.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### **Delivering Poinsettias**

Volunteers are needed to deliver poinsettias on Sunday, December 8 to congregants who are unable to attend Grace in person or who are mourning the loss of a loved one.

### **Communion Elements Preparation**

Three volunteers are needed to help with the preparation of the communion elements (gluten-free bread and juice) on the mornings of the first Sundays in March, June, October and December. Training is provided.

To learn more about opportunities to volunteer at Grace please contact the Coordinator of Volunteers, Cindy Stephenson, at [volunteers@gracecalgary.org](mailto:volunteers@gracecalgary.org).

## Grace Events

### **Grace at a Glance**

December 1	Communion; Congregational Lunch and Meeting
December 8	Grace Quilters' Sale; Diaper Drop-off (sizes 4, 5 and 6)
December 15	Grace Kids and Youth Christmas Party <i>All is Calm, All is Bright</i> Concert
December 22	All ages in Worship; Evening Grace: Blue Christmas Service
December 24	4:00 p.m. All Ages Worship 7:00 p.m. Traditional Worship (Nursery Care will be available) 10:00 p.m. Communion & Candlelight Service
December 25	Christmas Day—Grace closed
December 26	Boxing Day—Grace closed
December 29	All ages in Worship

## **Grace is Building a Diaper Tree Forest**

Grace's Engagement and Service Committee is excited to announce a special initiative this holiday season! Diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6) will be collected to build a Diaper Tree Forest on December 15. These diapers will be shared with local community partners, including Connaught School and the Calgary Food Bank, to support families with young children.

How To Help:

Diaper Drop-off Dates: Sunday, December 8 and Sunday, December 15

Drop-off Location: by the Christmas Tree in Grace's Family Room.

Donations will make a significant difference in the lives of many families this holiday season. Thanks for the support and kindness.

## **RESET Society Gift Bags**

Each year Grace volunteers prepare gift bags for women following the RESET (Rapid Exit from Sexual Exploitation & Trafficking) program. Donations of new items suitable for women's self-care gift bags including make-up items, hair care, skin care, hand and foot care, nail care, bath and shower products can be placed in the bin at the entrance to Grace's Family Room. Grace will be making 30+ gift bags. All donations need to be received by December 8.



## **Grace Quilters Sale – Sunday December 8**

Shop for handmade gifts made by Grace Quilters in Grace's Family Room on Sunday December 8 following worship. Proceeds will support the Grace Quilters in making:

Comfort & Healing Quilts

Baptism Quilts

RESET Graduation Quilts

Mexico Mission Quilts

Shopping these handmade gifts makes a difference this holiday season!

**OVER 70%  
TICKETS SOLD**

Featuring  
choirs and  
musicians  
from across  
Calgary

**All is Calm  
All is Bright  
Concert**

All proceeds  
from tickets  
supporting  
Calgary Alpha  
House

**Grace Presbyterian Church**

**Sunday, Dec. 15 7PM**



**CLICK  
HERE  
FOR  
TICKETS**



## Grace Leadership and Staff

### Session Elders

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

### Service Elders

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

### Treasurer

Rob McDonald

### 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 - *Accountant*  
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*

### Deacons

Nancy Connors - *Hospital and Health Care*  
Elizabeth Cressman - *Bereavement Care*  
Margot Kellough - *Homebound Care*  
Jennifer Williams - *Welcome and Hospitality*

### Committee Conveners

David Turner – *Financial Management*  
Barbara Henson – *Gratitude & Giving*  
Darlene & Mike Jones – *Engagement & Service*  
Margot Kellough – *Pastoral Care & Connection*  
Laurie Livingstone – *Governance*  
Lorna McNeill – *Spiritual Growth*  
Robin Telfer – *Land & Facilities*  
Clark Hanna – *Minister Resource & Presbytery Relations*