



Songs of Advent

REDEMPTION SONGS

DECEMBER 8, 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 Otipemisiwak Metis Government of the Metis Nation within Alberta Districts 5 and 6.

Prelude Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux

Prelude on Freu Dich Sehr

Phil Lehenbauer

(Comfort, comfort ye my people)

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.

Introit Rorate Caeli

Plainchant/arr: J. Michael Thompson

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.
We know our sin, and we are burdened with our
uncleanliness, we have fallen down like leaves
in the blast of a whirlwind: and the sins we have
committed have carried us away like the wind;
You have taken from us the comfort of your face
and you have broken us by laying the debt of our
sins upon us.

Advent Call to Worship and Lighting the Candle of Peace

Umana Family

Refer to insert

Prayer of Adoration

Jake Van Pernis

Hymn 121 Long ago, prophets knew ^{OL}

Blue Hymnal

Rite of Reconciliation

Please be seated

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

God of peace and redemption,
through your prophets you call us to a new day,
promising to refine and purify us,
that we might be free to offer our lives to you.
We confess that we are still in love with our old ways,
resisting your refiner's fire.
We sin against you and one another,
in what we do and in what we fail to do.
We excuse ourselves,
and take comfort in what is familiar
rather than what serves you.
Forgive us when we mistake such comfort
for the peace you offer us in Christ Jesus.
Prepare our hearts to embrace new ways
of following him.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

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

Anthem **Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Hyfrydol/arr: Dan Forrest

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Come oh sovereign Prince of Heaven, Come oh wonderous love divine
Earth and heaven bow before thee, everlasting peace sublime.
Oh thou source of joy and wonder bless us as we seek thy face
At thy manger grant us mercy in thine Advent grant us grace
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Time with Young Christians

Chris Joiner

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

Prayer for Understanding

Vanessa Davidson

Scripture Readings Malachi 3: 1-4

Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg 841

Cantor Verse View the Present Through the Promise^{OL} 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 peace past peace's conceiving: Christ will come again.

Luke 1: 68-79

New Testament, pg. 50

Sermon *Redemption Songs*

Hymn 113 Comfort, comfort you my people

Blue Hymnal

Please stand in body or spirit

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Invitation to Share Our Offerings

Ray Kellough

Offertory Ososo - Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Roberta Raybold
arr: M. Kallio

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.

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 752 Blest be the God of Israel ^{OL}

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 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol/arr: Robert Farrell

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 guest musicians Paul Xu, flute, J. Paik, trumpet, Ben Kyba, trombone, and Brendan Dickenson, clarinet for their contribution to music during worship.

Permissions:

OL Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream this music in this service obtained from CCLI under license. All rights reserved.

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/
- ◇ 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. For the remaining two Sundays in Advent the following themes will be explored: A Song of Saving and A Song of the Soul.

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
December 22	Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:39-55 Sermon: <i>A Song of the Soul</i>	The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner

Grace Updates

Advent & Christmas Books Available from Grace's Ruby Walker Library

Advent and Christmas books are currently on display in both the Adult and Children's sections of Grace's Family Room Library. You are encouraged to sign these books out and take them home to enjoy. Please return the books to the blue box on the library desk within two to three weeks.

Pew Cushion Repairs and Replacement

Repairs to existing pew cushions, and replacement of missing cushions will be ongoing into 2025. Your patience and cooperation during the repairs and replacement is appreciated.

Grace's Quarterly Newsletter is Ready for Pick-Up

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.

Poinsettias are being delivered to Grace congregants unable to participate at Grace in person or who are mourning. They also beautify Grace's sanctuary, to the glory of God.

Contributor

Bruce and Maureen Cameron
Mary Jardine
Margot Kellough
Margaret Montgomery
Cindy Stephenson
Cindy Stephenson
Barb Voynovich
Barb Voynovich

Contributor

Julia Anderson
Norma Blake
Bruce and Maureen Cameron
The Cichon Family

Carol Collinge
Fran Cormack
Fran Cormack
Elizabeth Cressman
Mark, Meghan, Matthew, Emma
Carol Evans
Carol Evans
Barbara Henson
Mary, Steph and Carrie
Ray and Margot Kellough Family
Ray and Margot Kellough Family
Lesley Lee
Lesley Lee
Dave and Dorothy Love
Montgomery Family
Justina Penner
Dana Seiffert
Cindy Stephenson
Barbara Henson and Broda Stuart
Joanne and Anja Thompson
Joanne and Anja Thompson
Van Huigenbos Family
Barb Voynovich
Barb Voynovich

In Honour of

Isabel Cameron, Jean Clelland, Margaret Montgomery
Chris and Kim Joiner, we are so glad you are here!
Brenda and Dana
My Children and their families
Ministers & Staff of Grace
Volunteers at Grace
Rev. Dr Chris and Kim
Rev. Jake, Kate and Madeline

In Memory of

Joan Thomson
Martin Blake
Bill & Eileen Ritchie, Peter Cameron, Bill Clelland, Robert Montgomery
Jun and Lura Staveley
Sheila Dunlop, who passed away on June 12, 2024, a cherished member of the MacEachern family.
Vernon and Ruby Van Sant
Tom Cormack and his parents, George and Kay
William P. Gardner
Sherri Buckle
Keith Evans
Doreen McNain, sister; Mr. and Mrs. Thos. N. Duff, parents
Brian Henson
Lorne Jardine, with love always
Betty and Frank Lough
Margaret and Clayton Kellough
Bob and Florence Lee
Denis and Jean Wood-Samman
Our Parents
Robert Montgomery
Peter Penner
Clara Young
Stan, Shirley & Scott Stephenson
Agnes and Clarence Richards
Mike and Marie Van Brummelen
Marianne Lahey - We miss you every day.
Our loved ones that we hold dear and miss this Christmas Season
My parents, Adolph and Martha Wedman
Rade and Helen Voynovich

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 entrance 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.

Grace Gives Thanks

Grace gives thanks for the time and talent contributed by Mary Jardine, Gord Smith, Broda Stuart, and Barb Voynovich for beautifully decorating Grace's Sanctuary for Advent Christmas. Additionally, Save-On Foods kindly donated two Christmas trees which are now in the Grace Chapel and Family Room.

Music Notes

Worship's featured tune is "Hyfrydol," known to many as "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" or the Advent hymn "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus." The anthem, final hymn and the postlude use this beloved melody. The term Hyfrydol, translates to "delightful, agreeable, pleasing, pleasant, beautiful, fair, fine, sweet, melodious." This Welsh hymn tune appears in a number of hymnals in various arrangements. Composed by Rowland Pritchard, it was originally published in the composer's handbook of the children's songbook Cyfaill y Cantorion ("The Singers' Friend") in 1844. Pritchard composed the tune before he was twenty years old.

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 Opportunity

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.

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

Grace Events

Grace at a Glance

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; 7:00 p.m. Evening Grace: Blue Christmas Service
December 24	4:00 p.m. All Ages Worship 7:00 p.m. Lessons & Carols (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
January 8	Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study resumes

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!

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 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.



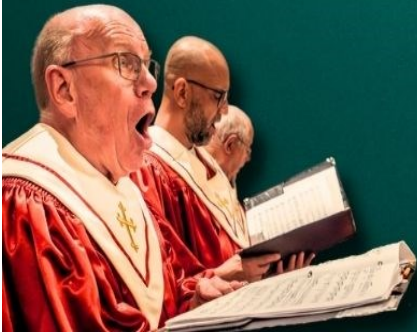
SOLD OUT!

Featuring choirs and
musicians from all
across Calgary

All is Calm
All is Bright

All proceeds from
tickets supporting
Calgary Alpha House

Dec. 15 7PM



Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets to Grace's Choral Christmas Concert on December 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Grace is thrilled to announce that the event is officially sold out! If you were not able to secure a ticket, we hope you will join us for future events at Grace.

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

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

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