



Season of Epiphany

JUBILEE: A SIGN

JANUARY 19, 2025 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 **Sonata in a minor**

G.F. Handel

Adagio - Allegro

Chaconne in D major

J. Pachelbel

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

Mary Jardine

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 **Christ be our Light**^{OL}

B. Farrell

Please stand in body or spirit.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Ainsley

Call to Worship

Dur Nyak

How precious is God's steadfast love!

We will find refuge in the shelter of God's wings.

Come and feast on God's abundance.

We will drink from the river of God's delights.

Prayer of Adoration

Jake Van Pernis

Hymn 176 Songs of thankfulness and praise

Blue Hymnal

Please be seated following the hymn

Rite of Reconciliation

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

God of glory,
you sent Jesus among us as a sign of your grace,
to reveal your love for all people.
We confess that too often we walk away
from neighbours in need,
refusing to bear the burdens of others,
ignoring the pain of the world,
following signs of wealth, pride and power,
rather than the sign of your Son.
Yet in you is power to forgive.
Free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will
and follow the way of Christ, our Saviour.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

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

Anthem Laudate Nomen Domini

C. Tye

(O Praise the Name of God on High)

Laudate nomen Domini, vos servi Domini	O praise the name of God on high, you servants of the Lord; (x2)
Laudate nomen Domini, vos servi domini	O praise the name of God on high, you servants of the Lord, from morning O praise the name of God on high, you servants of the Lord.

ah ortu solis usque ad occasum ejus	From morning till the setting sun, be everywhere adored. (x2) morning till the setting sun, everywhere, be everywhere adored.
Decreta Dei justa sunt et cor exhilarant.	The laws of God make glad my heart, he makes his mercies known;(x2) All kings and the laws of God make glad my heart, he makes his mercies known.
Laudate Deum principes et omnes populi	All kings and nations now bow down to kneel before his throne (x2)
Laudate Deum principes, laudate principes et omnes populi	To kneel before his throne kings and nations now bow down

Time With Young Christians

Chris Joiner

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

Prayer for Understanding

Henrietta Van Huigenbos

Scripture Readings 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

New Testament, pg.152

New Testament, pg. 80

Sermon *Jubilee: A Sign*

Please stand in body or spirit for the hymn

Hymn 717 We cannot own the sunlit sky

Blue Hymnal

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 and Offertory Prayer

Michael McLenaghan

Offertory **O Nata Lux**

T. Pavchenko

(O Light Born of Light)

O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world,
With loving-kindness deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer.
Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost,
Grant us to be members of thy blessed body.

Response **Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**^{OL}

Brian Wren

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit One.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn **181 All praise to you, O Lord**

Blue Hymnal

Benediction

Sending Hymn **Christ be our light**^{OL}

B. Farrell

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Please be seated for the Postlude

Postlude **Marche-Sortie**

T. Dubois

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, Breanne Jamieson French horn, Hayden McKinney, clarinet, and Gillian Newburn, flute.

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Life and Work at Grace Church

Worship Services

- ◇ Sundays, 10:30 a.m. in-person and online; fellowship follows in 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.

Season of Epiphany—January 19—March 2

Jubilee: Gospel Love & Justice

The Hebrew Law provided for a year of Jubilee every 50 years. In this year all debts were to be forgiven and all prisoners set free. It was to stand as a sign of God's steadfast love and grace and a mark of God's intention that the world be free. As far as we know, Israel never initiated a Jubilee Year, but it stood in the Law as a longing and a promise. Jesus declared in Luke that the year of the Lord's favour—the Jubilee—was found in him. Through this season we will explore passages in Corinthians and Luke that lift up the shape of Jubilee—God's love and justice, God's liberation of all creation in Jesus Christ. As Grace celebrates 120 years of ministry this year, let us pray that God will make this a Jubilee for us and for our community.

January 26	I Corinthians 12: 12-31a Luke 4: 14-21 "Jubilee: Year of Favour"	The Rev. Dr. Chris Joiner
February 2	I Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30 "Jubilee: Love Hurts"	The Rev. Jake Van Pernis

The condolences of Grace Presbyterian Church are shared with:

The family and friends of John William Thomson who passed away January 9. A service will be held at Grace on Thursday, January 23 at 1:00 p.m. The memorial service will be live-streamed on Grace's website.

www.gracechurchcalgary.com/funerals/

Music Notes

The prelude is Chaconne in D major by German Baroque composer J. Pachelbel. The chaconne emerged from 16th century Spain and developed into a style of music exploring theme and variation in the music in the 17th and 18th centuries. The style uses a repeating bass line to create variations from the ostinato harmonic progression with rhythmic variations creating interest in the right-hand part.

As the Church continues through the season of Epiphany and Grace looks at the theme of Jubilee, the music reflects the theme of "light". The offertory is O Nata Lux (O Light Born of Light).

The words have been set to music by numerous composers. The offertory setting is by Thomas Pavchenko, director of music and principal organist of Christ the King Catholic Church, Highland/University Park, Dallas.

Grace Updates

New Nametags Are In

Additional nametags have arrived and are available on the whiteboard in Grace's Alcove. If you would like to order one, please email the Church Office at office@gracecalgary.org

Music Ministries Resume for 2025

As the new year starts, Grace is excited to announce that its music ministries are back in session for 2025. Grace's Chancel choir, Handbell choir, and the Grace Notes children's choir are currently preparing music for upcoming worship services. Why not make January 2025 the year you join one of Grace's music groups? The music is both challenging and enjoyable, and our groups are friendly and inclusive. You are invited to consider joining Grace's music this year!

Visit: <https://gracechurchcalgary.com/connect/music/> for more information.

Introducing Grace's New Youth Ministry Leader Alessa Polito

My name is Alessa Polito. I am originally from Southern Ontario and moved to Alberta in my late teens. Today, my wife, Erica, and I reside in the South East community of Chaparral with our cat, Piper. My first pastorate was at Hinton Alliance Church where I served as the Associate Pastor from 2017-2020. I am now a sessional faculty member at Ambrose University and Seminary. I graduated from Ambrose's Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity programs. When I am not reading or writing about theology, I like to spend time with my family, cook, play games, drink coffee, and listen to music! I am excited to join Grace and serve this wonderful community as we seek to know Christ deeper everyday.



Session Highlights

At its regular meeting on January 13, the Session:

- opened with prayer and reflection on Acts 2:43-47 and the life of the early church, imagining the many conversations that would have occurred and the importance of such conversations for congregations.
- welcomed the Strategic Planning Team and Facilitator, the Rev. Dr. Dale Woods
- supported the proposed strategic planning process which will utilize Appreciative Inquiry, engaging the congregation over the next several months in discovering our strengths, dreaming of what might be, discerning God's will, and designing for that future
- received reports from committees, staff and presbytery
- supported a request for study leave for Rev. Joiner for January 27 to February 2
- appointed Cindy Stephenson as Interim Convenor of the Spiritual Growth Committee, with thanks to Lorna McNeill for her faithful service in this role
- closed with prayer, remembering those who are grieving and who are impacted by the devastating wildfires, and received a benediction.

Grace Gives Thanks

Grace gives thanks for the time and insights given by the Youth Ministry Leader Search Team, led by the Rev. Jake Van Pernis, Anne Mohtadi, CK Okongwu, Rob Petzold and Cindy Stephenson. The team considered and interviewed applicants through a careful process, ultimately recommending to the Session that Alessa Polito be the successful candidate.

Volunteer Opportunities

Financial Management Committee Member

This Committee meets monthly to support the excellent stewardship of the financial resources of Grace Presbyterian Church. One additional member to join this work is needed.

Communion Element Preparation

Two additional volunteers are needed to come early (9:15 a.m.) on Communion Sundays (first Sundays in March, June, October and December) to help pour the juice and place the gluten-free bread cubes on the plates. On-the-job training is provided. Please contact Cindy Stephenson, Coordinator of Volunteers, at volunteers@gracecalgary.org to learn more about these or other volunteer opportunities.

Grace Events

Grace at a Glance

January 19	<i>Living Our Faith</i> course
January 19	Evening Grace: Service of Healing and Wholeness
January 22	Lectionary Bible Study
January 25	Grace Quilters
January 29	Lectionary Bible Study
February 2	Bible and Doughnuts Youth Bible Study
February 8	Wild Grace at Confederation Park
February 13	<i>Practicing</i> Book Study
February 15	Open Mic Night
February 22	Grace Quilters
February 22	Church School Leader & Teacher Training
March 4	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party
March 5	Ash Wednesday

Grace Notes Children's Choir

Grace Notes Children's Choir meets every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in Grace's Dining Hall in the basement.

2025 Book Study - *Practicing: Changing Yourself to Change The World*

Grace is offering a year-long book study on *Practicing:*

Changing Yourself to Change the World by Kathy Escobar, beginning in January and going until December 2025, meeting once a month, with a break in July.

Rev. Jake will help to lead the study along with book study members.

The invitation of this study is to deepen your understanding of the ten transformational practices outlined by Escobar, as well as to have the opportunity to engage in and share about practicing these ten practices with an engaged community of fellow readers sharing support and encouragement.

Sign up online by February 13 to be a part of this transformational study in 2025.

<https://bit.ly/PracticingBookStudy>

Choir Section Lead Position Openings:

Grace's Chancel Choir currently has two positions open for **alto and bass section leads**. Grace's Chancel choir has utilized section leads for over a decade as part of Grace's commitment to leading worship in ways that deepen faith. Grace's Music Ministry is welcoming candidates from the Grace community to apply first. Grace has had a long tradition and belief in musical excellence in sacred music, and section leads, in conjunction with regular choristers, are integral to providing music in worship and events that glorifies God and inspires faith.

Qualifications for Section Leads:

- Has the ability to read music and learn their part independently
- Support section by leading with confident singing
- Be willing to competently sing solos on occasion
- Lead a sectional practice on occasion

Some vocal training and basic piano skills are useful.

Section leads are also informal ambassadors to Grace's Chancel choir, welcoming new members and helping them feel supported. Time obligations are regular weekly rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 7:30 pm-9:30 pm and attendance at Sunday services at 10:30 pm.

Save the Date: Grace Presbyterian Church's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party

Come to Grace's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party on Tuesday, March 4 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for a flap-tastic evening filled with:

A Delicious Pancake Breakfast Dinner

Pancake Flipping Fun

Fellowship and Fun for All Ages

Mark your calendars and bring your appetite for a night of tasty treats and great company. Can't wait to see you there!

Save the Date: Preaching Grace 2025 - April 25 - 27

Topic: *Cultivating Hope: Food, Farming, and the Life of Faith*

Speaker: Dr. Norman Wirzba

Raised in southern Alberta, Norman Wirzba is currently the Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Theology and the Director of Research in the Office of Climate and Sustainability at Duke University in North Carolina. He is the author of multiple books, including *Love's Braided Dance: Hope in a Time of Crisis*, *Agrarian Spirit: Cultivating Faith, Community, and the Land*, *This Sacred Life: Humanity's Place in a Wounded World*, and *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating*. When not teaching, writing, or speaking, he likes to bake cakes for family and friends and play the guitar.

Preaching Grace Schedule:

Friday, April 25, 7:00 p.m. *Forget Optimism - Choose Hope: Choosing a Life Worth Living*: public lecture in partnership with the Chair of Christian Thought at the University of Calgary

Saturday, April 26, 10:00 a.m. *Food and Faith*: interactive workshop for faith leaders, laypeople and pastors

Saturday, April 26: 1:00 p.m. *Promoting Food Security and Justice*: panel discussions/workshop with farming/food sector leaders and community advocates

Sunday, April 27, 10:30 a.m. Worship 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
Cindy Stephenson – Spiritual Growth (Interim)
Robin Telfer – Land & Facilities
Clark Hanna – Minister Resource & Presbytery Relations