



# Out of the Wilderness

走出曠野



**LORD'S GRACE CHURCH**

**基督教主恩堂**

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**2021.07.25**

We would like to **welcome** everyone who is worshipping online with us today, especially anyone who is joining us for the first time. Lord's Grace Church is a community of believers and hope that you feel welcome to be amongst us.

**Let's Get Connected (LGC) and English Sunday School:** will be held at 11:40am (after the English worship) on the 1st through 4th Sundays of the month on Zoom. Come connect and reconnect, with God and with one another. Zoom link provided below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89970117698?pwd=ZFpBZWl0T3Q1SDU1OBY5OG9ONVpLdz09> (Meeting ID: 899 7011 7698, passcode: 451937)

**Community Prayer Meeting:** On the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, a prayer meeting will be held at 9:30am for us to pray for our church as community. The next prayer meeting will be Sunday, **August 1**. All are welcome to join our Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/93643602714?pwd=ZEp0djBQUXN6MTFraGxSc2U2RURwZz09> (Meeting ID: 936 4360 2714, passcode: 393438)

After consultation with the LGC family, and in particular the **Kitsilano CARES Café (KCC)** stakeholders, the Deacons Board has the following decision:

1. LGC will terminate our participation as a church in KCC officially after September 3, 2021. Volunteers can participate as individuals but not as representatives of LGC.
2. LGC will honour the current commitment of grocery distribution at our door until the agreement expires on September 3, 2021 (as recommended by the Spiritual Council).
3. LGC will honour the financial support committed until 2023.
4. LGC will continue to dialogue among ourselves with matters arising from the KCC project.
5. The Spiritual Council will work out a protocol or policy for inter-church relationships. Going forward, as a nondenominational church, we should establish policies, processes, and procedures to guide the leadership with criteria on issues like missionary support, collaboration with other organizations, etc.
6. The Deacons Board will review the process of receiving and responding to issues raised by the congregations.

The **Cantonese New Immigrants ministry** will be hosting a seminar on the topic of “Medical Services and Education in Vancouver”, on August 6th Friday at 7pm (Hong Kong time August 7th 10am). Feel free to invite family and friends who might be interested. Please email [newimmigrants@lordsgrace.ca](mailto:newimmigrants@lordsgrace.ca) for more information.

**Baptismal Service and Welcome New Member:** A beach side baptismal service will be held on August 7 (Saturday) at 10 am. You are welcome to attend. For the exact location, please contact the office for a map. The baptismal candidates are Lillian Tang and Yimin Wang from the Mandarin congregation, Mirabelle Woo from the English congregation. We will welcome them and our new transfer member, Michelle Qian from the Mandarin congregation, on August 8 (Sunday). May God continue to strengthen their faith and be witnesses to the Gospel.

The **communion** will be deferred to August 8 (Sunday) instead of the first Sunday of August.

**Speaker Next Week:** Rev. Wai Ling Leung (Nehemiah 4)

## PRAYER ITEM OUTLINE – Week of July 25 – July 31, 2021

Please check off each day after you have prayed

### SUNDAY Praise the Lord and Give Thanks

“<sup>49</sup>And pointing to his disciples, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>50</sup>For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.’” (Matthew 12:49-50)

Meditation: (1) Who are my brothers and sisters? (2) The will of God is that we should believe and trust him. Please integrate (1) and (2).

### MONDAY Thy Kingdom Come

- Pray for labourers to be sent to the harvest (Matthew 9:37-38)
- Pray for the baptismal classes and candidates. May they join the family of God and of LGC.
- Pray for opportunities to welcome seekers into our church as we re-open.
- Pray for non-believing friends and relatives.

### TUESDAY Church Family

- Give thanks for our pastoral team and staff. May they lead us into closer relationship with God and with each other. Pray that laity be supportive of their leadership.
- Pray for discipleship training in all three congregations.
- Pray for our children’s department and the time of return to activities in the church building.
- Thank God for our outreach and evangelism. Pray for friends in Praise Dance and ESL.

### WEDNESDAY Discipleship

- Let us put on the armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-11): truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and the sword of the Spirit.
- Pray for the three ministry teams to shepherd their congregations. How can I support them?
- Give thanks for this session of Blessing Ministry which is winding up this week. Pray our new friends will settle comfortably into fellowship and will receive Christ as their saviour and Lord.
- Pray for the planning of the September Sunday School term.

### THURSDAY God’s Healing

- Joshua Young is still in hospital. His wife, Serena, is feeling better. Pray for their healing.
- Ask for strength and gentleness for families dealing with illness (mental/physical) or rehab.
- Pray to God for comfort to our seniors. Pray for Esther Sung to regain consciousness soon.
- (Psalm 146:7-10) Healing is from God and He is in charge.

### FRIDAY Church without Borders

- Pray for the ministries of CCM, and for Patrick and Tien in Kamloops.
- Pray for dignity and opportunity to life for women and children in Africa.
- Pray for the victims of flood in Henan, China. May governments worldwide urgently take action regarding climate and environmental change.
- Pray for the control of the forest fires in North America. May long term solution and prevention be put in place by governments. Specially pray for BC.

### SATURDAY Our Tomorrow

- May our Sunday preacher, Rev. Wai Ling Leung proclaim the gospel in its fullness. May we learn to journey together as the body of Christ.
- Pray for the worship teams to lead us in thanksgiving and praise of our indescribable God.
- Pray for church to celebrate unity in the midst of diversity.



## Welcome back home.

As part of the BC's Restart Plan step 3 which has begun on July 1, 2021, there are no longer any capacity limits or restrictions on religious gatherings and worship services.

We are very excited to meet together again as a church family. As we reopen our worship gatherings, we recognize that you may have questions as to what to expect, so there are a few things to consider:

**Pre-registration:** Starting July 18th, we will be welcoming our church family back to our worship services without capacity limits. Therefore, it is not necessary to register in advance to attend.

**Worship Seating:** Seating in the Sanctuary, Nursery, and Annex will be spaced-out as possible, and we encourage congregants to sit with their household bubble. We ask that you socialize outside after the service as much as possible.

**Worship Liturgy:** Our worship services will be as usual including prayers, live music, reading of scriptures, preaching of God's Word. Singing will now be permitted. Communion will be offered in prepackaged communion cups with wafer and 100% grape juice.

**Masks:** Masks are recommended in our church for all people 12 and older. Masks are optional for children aged 2 to 12. Children under 2 should not wear masks.

**Children Program:** Children are welcomed to meet together again but they have to stay with their parents at all times. Children Worship and Children Sunday School will still be held online.

**Live-streamed Services:** We will currently continue to live-stream our worship services at the scheduled time for those who are unable or choose not to attend in person.

We fully understand that this transition back to in-person gatherings will take some time, and that everyone has different circumstances and comfort levels. Our hope and prayer are that these worship gatherings, whether you join in-person or continue to watch on-line, would help us all grow as disciples of Jesus.

# **Health and Safety Guidelines**

## **[Self-Isolation]**

- If you are sick or have been in recent contact with anyone with COVID-19 please stay home and self-isolate. It is not safe for you to attend the in-person services.
- If you have travelled internationally, you are required upon return to British Columbia to self-isolate for 14 days.

## **[Inside the Church]**

- Hand sanitizer will be provided upon entrance to the church.
- If you do not have a mask and would like to wear one in the church, church ushers will provide one upon your request.
- Church ushers will guide the entry and exit from the building. Note that you will enter via the West 8th Avenue entrance and leave through the exit from the Annex.

## **[Building Safety Measures]**

- Please follow the signs within the church to stay socially distanced.
- Washrooms can be used but social distancing must be maintained.
- The kitchen is closed and must not be accessed at this time.
- The second floor is closed to the public at this time.