

Grace United Church

120 Pine St. Gananoque, ON K7G 1C7



Minister

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro B.A., B.Th., M.Div

Minister Emeritus: Rev. J. Harry Seeley.BA.

Organist/Choir Director

Office Administrator

Mr. Paul Harding, B. Mus, B. Ed Laurie Cadue



January 3, 2021

Order of Worship

Epiphany Sunday

WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF GRACE

Prelude: Music & Quiet Time

We Prepare our Hearts for Worship

Welcome – Announcements - Birthdays & Anniversaries

Acknowledging the Traditional Territory: *We acknowledge the unceded and all lands that we live upon - and give thanks for all the generations of people who have taken care of these lands before us and still do with us today. May we be open to historical Truths and may we continue to learn from the past, shape our present time and build a better world with all People.*

1

Spiritual Focus:

"Epiphany: Sacred Wisdom Guiding Us in the Dark Places of Life..."

Call to Worship: Isa. 60:1

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

Behold the glory of the Lord. Alleluia!

A Prayer for Epiphany:

Holy One, we come before you as we are.

In Your Great Light seeking guidance and in Your Love seeking Grace. Sometimes we are afraid to go to a new place that you are sending us to go. As the Magi followed the Star and found Your Gift. Help us follow Your Guidance to the Heart of Your Presence. May the Road be apparent to us

even in the dusty, dark desert of confusion.

May we be alert to your voice and go the Way you want us to go. We want to live with Integrity, Truth and Wisdom.

We pray in the name of the Light of the World. **Amen**
(A Prayer for Epiphany – by Rev. Takouhi – "The True Gift Lives ON" (page 52).

Hymn: VU 74 "What Child is this?"

WE SEEK WISDOM

Prayer of Illumination (All): Isa. 60:3

O God, nations shall come to your light and rulers to the brightness of your dawn. By the compelling radiance of your Spirit, draw us near, reveal your truth, and teach us faithful obedience to your holy Word. **Amen.**

Hebrew Bible: Isaiah 60:1-6 (NRSV)

Reader: Mary Haussler

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSV)

2

Life Lesson "Choosing the Other Way, is the Way of Christ..."

Hymn: VU 93 "When Heaven's Bright with Mystery"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Minute for Mission:

Our Offertory: *The earth belongs to God. Every good thing is a gift from the Lord. Let us glorify God through the gifts of our lives. (Gen. 1:1, 4; Ps. 29:2)*

Offertory Hymn VU 541

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Thanksgiving (All):

Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

We give you thanks, O God,
for every blessing and spiritual
gift you have poured out upon us.
Let the gifts of our lives be
a source of blessing in your world.
We give wholeheartedly. **Amen.**

Hymn: VU 679 "Let There Be Light"

God Sends Us into The World with Wisdom

Prayers of Hope and Healing

VU 959 - The Prayer that Jesus taught his followers

(Thanks to Golden Ears United Church, Maple Ridge, B.C. for providing this video)

Hymn: VU 59 "Joy to the World"

**Commissioning & Benediction
Postlude**

Welcome

as we gather for worship this Sunday morning. If you are a visitor or newcomer to this Community of Faith, we extend a warm greeting. Thank you for joining us virtually.

Celebration Candle



Our Celebration Candle was lit this morning to send our blessings to all those celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special event over this week. Blessings.



Remember in your prayers all those who are in Hospital or recovering at home and all those who may need our comfort, guidance and support.

Donations to the church can be made by e-transfer to grace.gan@outlook.com - by cheque - mailed to the church at 120 Pine ST. Gananoque, On K7G 1C7 - Sign-up for PAR (Preauthorized Auto monthly Remittances) and also through CanadaHelps. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

Undecorating the church will take place on Thursday, January 11th at 1:00pm, for those who are able to help.

The Nominating Committee is actively seeking full members of Grace United Church to become members of Session, the Board of Stewards, the Board of Trustees and the Ministry & Personnel Committee. For further information or to indicate your area of interest, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee on or before Sunday, January 17, 2021.

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