



Grace United Church

120 Pine St. Gananoque, ON K7G 1C7

Ordained Minister

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

Minister Emeritus: Rev. J. Harry Seeley B.A.

Director of Music

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

Office Administrator

Laurie Cadue

Lay Worship Leader

Tammy Fergusson

Sunday, January 9th, 2022

**Baptism of the Lord
Blessings from God!**

Guest Worship Leader

Lay Leader: Barb DeJeet



Organ Prelude: Meditation on "Jesus Loves Me"

Welcome: Shirley Clark

Community in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Centering Music

Spiritual Focus: The Spirit dances in the water, waiting in baptism to join us in the fire of God's love. Come to the waters. Come to the Spirit. Come to the journey of a lifetime – a journey through death to life everlasting.

Introit: Voices United # 644

"I Was There to Hear your Borning Cry" (vs 1, 2 & 7)

- 1) I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.**
- 2) I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.**
- 7) I was there to hear your borning cry
I'll be there when you are old
I rejoice the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.**

Words and Music: John Ylvisaker 1985, Words and music copyright © 1985 John Carl Ylvisaker - Tune: *Waterlife*
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Call to Worship:

One: Sing praises to the Lord. Sing of God's glory and strength.

All: God calls us over the waters, and strengthens us for the journey.

One: Sing praises to Christ. Sing of Christ's healing and love.

All: The waters of our baptism cleanse us, renewing our spirits and nursing our wounds.

One: Sing praises to the Spirit. Sing of the Spirit's comfort and hope.

All: The flames of the Spirit are like a refiner's fire, purifying the soul to the glory of God.

Responsive Hymn: Voices United # 100

"When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized"

- 1. When Jesus comes to be baptized,
he leaves the hidden years behind,
the years of safety and of peace,
to bear the sins of humankind.**
- 2. The Spirit of the Lord comes down,
anoints the Christ to suffering,
to preach the word, to free the bound,
and to the mourner, comfort bring.**
- 3. He will not quench the dying flame,
and what is bruised he will not break,
but heal the wound injustice dealt,
and out of death his triumph make.**
- 4. O Spirit help to be like Christ;
to live in love and charity,
to walk in truth and justice now,
and grow in Christian dignity.**
- 5. We praise you, God, source of all life,
we praise you, Christ, eternal Word,
we praise you, Spirit, gracious gift;
your triune presence fills our world.**

Words: vv 1-3 Stanbrook Abbey 1974, 1995; vv 4, 5 Concacan Inc., 1989. Music: Musikalisches Handbuch 1690 - Tune: *Winchester New*. Words vv 1-3 copyright © 1974 Stanbrook Abbey, vv 4, 5 copyright © 1989 Concacan Inc. Public Domain.

Opening Prayer:

Words of Assurance:

More Voices # 90 "Don't be afraid"

- 1. Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised, promised to be
always near.**

Repeat

Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1995. Music: John L. Bell, 1995. Words and music copyright © 1995, 2007 by WGRC, Iona Community, Scotland, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. excl. N American agent. Reprinted with permission under One License A-736946. All rights reserved.

Doxology Voices United # 542

"We Give You but Your Own"

**We give you but your own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone,
We give it gratefully.**

Words: William Walsham How 1858, alt. Music: Johann Balthasar König 1738, adapt. William Henry Havergal 1847. Tune: *Franconia* - Public Domain

Dedication of Offering:

Your Generosity Matters:

"A Better World - One Water Project at a Time"

We Listen to the Voice of the Spirit:

One: Come to the word, seeking the presence of the living God. Come to the word, seeking forgiveness for the hurts you have caused others. Come to the word, seeking acceptance, with hearts ready to be born anew.

All: We come seeking life with Christ in the promise of our baptism. We come to offer our very selves as a living sacrifice. We come to receive God's Spirit.

One: Listen for the word of God.

Scriptures:

Reader: Christina Gordon

Isaiah 43: 1-7: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you."

But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia^[a] and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 "Jesus is baptized by John"

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Reflection: "The Holy Spirit"

Hymn: Voices United #376

"Spirit of the Living God"

- 1. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**
- 2. Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind, make us one
in love:
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!**

Words: v. 1, Daniel Iverson 1926; v 2, Michael Baughen 1982
Music: Daniel Iverson 1926; arr. Darryl Nixon 1987 – Tune:
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Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn: Voices United # 220

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

- 1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him,
at all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear:
brothers and sisters draw near,
joining in glad adoration.**
- 2. Praise to the Lord,
above all things so mightily reigning,
keeping us safe at his side,**

**and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
how all you needed has been
met by God's gracious ordaining?**

- 3. Praise to the Lord who will prosper
our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy
will daily attend us:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
who out of love will befriend us.**
- 4. Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath come now
with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again:
gladly with praise we adore him.**

Words: Joachim Neander 1680, English trans. Catherine
Winkworth 1863, et al, alt., Music: Stralsund Gesangbuch 1665,
desc. Craig Sellar Lang 1964 - Tune: *Lobe den herren*
Public Domain

Commissioning & Benediction:

- One: Go forth and proclaim the good news: God calls
us by name and fashions us for glory.
- All: We go as people washed clean in the
waters of our baptism.**
- One: Go forth and live the good news: the Holy Spirit
blesses us and seals us in God's love
- All: We go as people blessed by God that we
might be a blessing to others.**

Choral Amen

Organ Postlude: Postlude on "St. Bernard"

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



Today we send Blessings of Joy to all who are celebrating Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special Events in the coming week.

Happy Birthday to **Vicki Leakey** and **Tom Tindal**.

May Joy abound and Love Multiply.

Would you like your Birthday or Anniversary added to our announcements? Please contact Laurie at the church Office and give her the details. Birthdays or Anniversaries can only be added with your written consent.

Prayers for the people



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

****Please notify the church office if there is someone you know who is ill, in hospital or in need of pastoral care. ****

The sympathies of our Grace Church family are extended to the family of Doug Robeson, who passed away on December 29th at Carveth Care Centre. Jim, Bonnie, Barb, Mark and families, we pray that you find comfort knowing that Doug is resting peacefully.

The sympathies of our Grace Church family are extended to Liz & Doug Dennison & family as well as the Moran family on the passing of Mary Moran. Mary passed away peacefully at home on December 30th. A private family service was held. We pray that you find comfort and healing in your memories and the support of each other.

Thank you to our guest Worship leader today, Barb DeJeet. We appreciate your leadership, time, and dedication.

There are many ways you can contribute to Grace United Church and our causes.

e-transfer to grace.gan@outlook.com

by cheque -120 Pine ST. Gananoque, On K7G 1C7

Sign-up for PAR Forms

https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/form_par-authorization.pdf (Control & Click to open link)

by Credit Card through CanadaHelps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118944701RR0001-grace-united-church/> (Control & Click to open link)

Canadian Blood Services are holding a Blood Donor Clinic on Monday, January 17th from 2 to 6pm at the Firehall Theatre. Book your appointment at <https://www.blood.ca/en>

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Contact information:

Office (Laurie) 613-382-2161 grace.gan@outlook.com

Church Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:00am to 1:00 p.m. **(Closed on Wednesdays)**

Rev. Takouhi (direct Line) 613-777-0880

Email: RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca

Session: Chair: Paul Scott,

Vice Chair: Rhea Roantree, Clerk: Joan Shaw

Board of Stewards: Chair: Carolyn Scott,

Vice Chair: Denise Wood, Secretary: Mary Haussler

Official Board: Chair: Brian Brooks

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

January 9th – Guest Worship Leader, Barb Dejeet

January 16th – Guest Worship Leader – Tammy Fergusson

January 23rd – Guest Worship Leader – Tammy Fergusson

Important Information

Until further notice, Worship services will be held virtually on our YouTube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNVYi-R3mmIG7LnX1jKJnEg>

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceUnitedChurchGananoque>

The service from the previous week will be shown on COGECO channel 13 or 700HD at 10:30 am Sunday mornings.

NOTE: The new government regulations effective January 5th stipulate that groups of five people are allowed to meet inside and 10 people outside. Religious services are allowed at 50% capacity. We will continue to hold services virtually and ask that all groups and activities normally held in the church cease until further notice. Thank you for your cooperation.

This Community of Faith acknowledges all traditional territories, all ceded and unceded 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.



(Picture: Credit to Indigenous Ministries and Justice – The United Church of Canada)