



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

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday in Lent

**42nd Anniversary of the Assassination
of Archbishop Oscar Romero March 24, 1980**

Order of Worship



WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF GRACE

Prelude: *Meditation on "Passion Chorale"* - harm. J.S. Bach

Welcome – Brian Brooks

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

Centering Music: *We Centre Our Hearts on God's Wisdom*

Spiritual Focus:

"Lent: Discernment in the Deserts of Life"

Call to Worship: Isa. 55:1, 3, 6, 7; Matt. 5:6; Ps. 63:7

Everyone who thirsts:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent, and return so that you may live.

All who are hungry for righteousness:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent, and return so that you may live.

All who need the help of God:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent, and return so that you may live.

Song of Praise: Voices United #612

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

Refrain: *There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

Refrain

2. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."

Refrain

Words and music: African American Spiritual, harm. David Hurd 1983
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Prayer of Approach (All): Ps. 63:1–7; John 4:10, 14

Your glory and power, O God, surround us in the sanctuary.

We lift up our hands and call on your name.

We are your people, thirsty for the living water you alone can give.

When we consider how you have helped us,

giving us a spring that gushes up - Living Water.

We cling to you, singing praises with joyful lips;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

WE SEEK WISDOM

Song of Illumination: More Voices # 10 (Tune: Regent Square (VU 36))

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom, she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches, for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice, showing us what love must do.

2. Listen to the voice of Wisdom, crying in the marketplace.
Hear the Word made flesh among us, full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens, peace and righteousness embrace.
3. Sister Wisdom, come, assist us; nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion, bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people, holy friends of God and earth.

Words: Ruth Duck, 1993

Music: Henry Thomas Smart 1867

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Scripture Reader: Linda Brooks

Hebrew Bible: Isaiah 55:1-9 (NRSV)

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9 (NRSV)

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'

Anthem: *He* - Jack Richards, Richard Mullan – arr. P. Harding

Life Lesson: "Live EACH Day Intentionally..."



WE SEEK PEACE & COMMUNION

Song of Praise: More Voices #82

"Bathe Me in Your Light"

1. Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.
2. Bathe me in your love, O Source of Awe and Wonder;
help me walk the sacred path of harmony and peace.
May I be attentive to the musings of your presence,
drinking from the well of hope that brings the heart release.

- Bathe me in your grace, O One of Spirit's longing;
teach me of your gentle ways that fill the soul with strength.
Guide me on the pilgrimage that leads to truth and wholeness.
Fill me with your promise of a love that knows no length.

Words: John Oldham, 2002

Music: Ron Klusmeier, 2002

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Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Jesus (ALL):

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
forever and ever. **Amen.**



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Offertory Song: Voices United # 540

"Grant Us, God, the Grace"

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.

Words: Anonymous Music: attrib. Christian F. Witt, Psalmody Sacra 1715; adapt. Henry John Gauntlett 1861

Your Generosity Matters: "Rebuilding after loss: Lisa's Story"

Our Offerings Make Miracles Evident

We Give Generously with Joy and Gratitude to Help Make Miracles Visible.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication (All):

God of wilderness and Promised Land,

in days of want and in days of plenty you have been with us.

By these gifts we now share, may others know of your providence and care.

Send us—not only our offerings, but our very selves—to console and comfort, to lift up and reach out, to listen and sit beside your children everywhere at the one Table you have set;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD TO BE THE CHURCH

Going Forth: Voices United # 651

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

- Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but though art mighty, hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more.
Feed me till I want no more.
- Open now the crystal fountain, when the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.
Be thou still my strength and shield.
- When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee.
I will ever give to thee.

Words: Welsh, William Williams 1745, Eng. trans. Peter and William Williams 1771

Music: John Hughes 1905

Public Domain

Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: *Prince of Denmark March* - attrib. Jeremiah Clarke

Celebration Candle



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

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. ****

New Members

On this Palm Sunday (April 10), Grace United Church will officially welcome individuals who want to join this Community of Faith.

**All Individuals interested to officially join,
please contact Rev. Takouhi by March 27.
(revtakouhi@terrautopia.ca or 613-777-0880)**

Grace Church Choir are back in session
Practices are Thursdays at 2:30 p.m, in the Choir room.
New Members are welcome.

Questions?? Please speak with Paul Harding.

There are many ways you can partner up with God's Mission through Grace United Church and help make a difference.

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)

Donations received in "Lent" Envelopes or marked Lent are for the UCW (United Church Women) to help with their Ministry and programs – Thank you.

Carveth Services

With the COVID regulations easing Grace United will be having services for the residents at Carveth Nursing Home again. Rev. Takouhi will lead the services once a month on Thursday mornings at 11:00am the first service will be held in May. The dates will be shared in the bulletin.

Rev. Takouhi will also be working with FoxRun to establish a time and date for services to be held there.



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

Sunday, March 20th – 10:30am Service – 3rd Sunday of Lent
March 22 – 4:15 to 6:30pm - Community Kitchen
Learn to cook easy chicken meals (must be preregistered)
Sunday, March 27th – 10:30 am Service – 4th Sunday of Lent
Food Bank Donations
Sunday, April 3rd – 10:30am Service – 5th Sunday of Lent
Sunday, April 10th – 10:30am Service – Palm Sunday
Friday, April 15th – Walk of the Cross – beginning at Christ Church
Sunday, April 17th – Easter Sunday/Communion
10:30 am Service
Sunday, April 24th – 10:30 am Service - 2nd Sunday after Easter

Important Information

*We are back in the Sanctuary!! Masks are still mandatory.
Service will also be shown live on YouTube.*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNVYi-R3mmlG7LnX1jKJnEg>
<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.

Schedule of Services for the Residents of Carveth

May 5 th	June 2 nd
July 7 th	August 4 th
August 25 th	September 22 nd
October 13 th	November 24 th
December 22 nd	

Note – Dates may change as needed. Dates will be posted in the Church Bulletin the week prior to service. Please share the information with your friends and family who reside at Carveth.

Church Humour 😊

1. "The beautiful flowers on the altar this morning are to celebrate the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer."
2. "Illiterate? Write to the church office for help."
3. "Ushers will swat the latecomers."
4. "The Rev. Merriwether spoke briefly, much to the delight of the audience."
5. "The peace making meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict."
6. "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It is a great chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."

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)