

United Church Lapel Pins are available for all who would like one. Donations are appreciated. The pins are located on the table with the Sunday Donation Envelopes at the back of the church.

Contact information:

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

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

Boards of Grace United

Session: Chair: Barb Jenkins:

613-583-2077 barbjenkins1@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Marg Worth, Clerk: Tammy Fergusson

Board of Stewards: Chair: Denise Wood:

613-876-7739 seelion89@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Vacant, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

Official Board: Chair: Brian Brooks

613-382-2385 brooks525@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

The 2023 Directory will be out soon

If you are not able to join us in person or want to watch the service again.

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.

*Welcome
To
Grace United Church
Sunday, March 5, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent*





Grace United Church
120 Pine St. Gananoque, ON K7G 1C7

Ordained Minister

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

Director of Music

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

Office Administrator

Laurie Cadue

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

Order of Worship

WE GATHER AS UNITED AND UNITING PEOPLE

Prelude: Music from "Finlandia" music by Jean Sibelius, 1899

Welcome – Cheryl O’Leary

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

Centering Music: *We Center Our Hearts for Worship.*

Spiritual Focus:

*“The **Season of Lent** Reminds Us of **Who We are**
and to **Whom We Belong...**”*

Lighting the Christ Candle

(The Christ candle is lit.)

Gathering Call (Responsive)

One: As God set Abram, Sarai, and Lot on a journey,
God calls us to follow in trust.

**All: God is able to make us more than we have been
and blesses us on the way.**

One: As Jesus invited Nicodemus to be born anew,
Christ invites us to become a new creation.

**All: Christ calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light,
and we are saved through him.**

(Please Stand as Able)

Gathering Song of Praise: Voices United #108

“Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights”

- 1 Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter Day.
- 2 The pilgrim Christ, the Lamb of God,
who found in weakness greater power,
embraces us, though lost and flawed,
and leads us to his Rising Hour.
- 3 We bear the silence, cross and pain
of human burdens, human strife,
while sisters, brothers help sustain
our courage till the Feast of Life.
- 4 And though the road is hard and steep,
the Spirit ever calls us on through
Calvary's dying, dark and deep,
until we see the coming Dawn.
- 5 So let us choose the path of One
who wore, for us, the crown of thorn,
and slept in death that we might wake
to life on Resurrection Morn!

6 Rejoice, O sons and daughters! Sing
and shout hosannas! Raise the strain!
For Christ, whose death Good Friday brings
on Easter Day will rise again!

Words: James Gertmenian. Music: Misikalisches Mandbuch, *Hamburg* 1690
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(Please be seated)

Prayer of the Day (All): God our helper, our shade, our protector, you give life to the dead, and call into being things that do not exist. We trust in your power to make all things new; to keep us in sunlight and moonlight, along rocky paths and pathways unknown; until all our going and coming brings us at last to your kingdom. We pray because of Jesus. **Amen.**

WE SEEK WISDOM

Time with Youth and Young at Heart:

"Journeying/Moving with TRUST..."

Repeating Prayer

Song of Assurance: Voices United #646

"We are Marching" (Eng., Zulu, Eng.)

English: We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching, we are marching, oo-oo,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching, we are marching, oo-oo,
we are marching in the light of God.

Zulu: Siya ham-ba ku khan yen kwen khos.

Words: South African trad. song 20th century; trans. Anders Nyberg 1984
Music: South African trad. song 20th century; arr. Anders Nyberg et al 1984
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WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Scripture Reader: Marilyn Belbin

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story,
All: our ears and hearts are open.

Gospel: John 3:1-17 (NRSV)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do

not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Reader: For the Sacred Story is God's story,

All: for the Sacred Story is our story,

Reader: for the Sacred Story is our source and inspiration.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem – "Lamb of God"

Music by Ludwig Van Beethoven, words by Michael Barrett, Arranged by Michael Barrett & David Anderman, 2010 Hal Leonard Corporation

Life Lesson "Born Anew..."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Song of Trust: Voices United # 642

"Be Thou My Vision"

- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

- 2 Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.
- 3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Words: Irish ca. 8th century, trans. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905; vers. Eleanor H. Hull 1912. alt.
Music: Irish traditional melody. Public Domain

Prayers of Hope and Healing

The Prayer that Jesus taught His followers (ALL)

The New Zealand Anglican Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain

our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
Amen. - *The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*

Your Generosity Matters: Cheryl O'Leary
"Empowering Women to be Agents of Change."

Our Offerings – Supporting God's Ministries:
*Mindful of the abundance we have received from God,
we offer ourselves and our gifts to the world.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (All): Gracious God, we dedicate to you not only these gifts, but also ourselves, in deep gratitude— for your call on our lives, your guidance in the baptismal journey, and for blessing us that we may be a blessing to others. Accept what we bring for your own good purposes. We pray humbly and sincerely. **Amen.**

**GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD
TO BE THE CHURCH**

(Please stand as able)

Song of Going Forth: Voices United #87

"I Am the Light of the World"

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

1 When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found
their way home, the work of Christmas is begun:

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

2 To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth
and good food, to feel the earth below, the sky above!

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

3 To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere!

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

4 To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth!

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

Words and music: Jim Strathdee 1967.
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Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: "You'll Never Walk Alone"

music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II 1945

Welcome

as we gather for worship this Sunday morning. If you are a visitor or a newcomer to this Community of Faith, either in person or virtually, we extend a warm welcome. May you come in as a stranger but depart knowing you are part of the family. Thank you for joining us.

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. ****

NOTE – Due to privacy laws and confidentiality, the names of people on our list are not printed in the Order of Service.



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.

Happy Birthday to Diane Revelle

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.

There are many ways you can partner up with God's Mission through Grace United Church and help make a difference. by cheque –120 Pine ST. Gananoque, On K7G 1C7, e-transfer to grace.gan@outlook.com

Sign-up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) Forms

https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/form_par-authorization.pdf

by Credit Card through CanadaHelps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118944701RR0001-grace-united-church/>

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME & AMOUNT ON YOUR DONATION ENVELOPES
If you would like envelopes, there is a sign-up sheet available on the table in the Narthex.

Offerings February 2023

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Local
Feb 5	31	\$ 827.00	\$167.00	\$15.00
Feb 12	32	\$ 1275.00	\$ 372.00	\$15.00
Feb 19	27	\$ 397.50	\$ 37.50	\$55.00
Feb 26	44	\$ 1387.50	\$ 167.50	\$ 250.00
PAR		\$1210.00	\$323.50	\$32.50
BMO		\$450.00	\$75.00	\$25.00

Thank you for your generosity.