

**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.**

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**Contact information:**

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

**Email: [RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca](mailto:RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca)**

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**Office** (Laurie Cadue) 613-382-2161 [grace.gan@outlook.com](mailto:grace.gan@outlook.com)

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

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**Boards of Grace United**

**Session:** Chair: Barb Jenkins:

613-583-2077      [barbjenkins1@gmail.com](mailto:barbjenkins1@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: Marg Worth      , Clerk: Tammy Fergusson

**Board of Stewards:** Chair: Denise Wood:

613-876-7739      [seelion89@gmail.com](mailto:seelion89@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: Cliff Edwards,      Secretary: Diane Nuttall

**Official Board:** Chair: Brian Brooks

613-382-2385      [brooks525@gmail.com](mailto:brooks525@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson,      Secretary: Diane Nuttall

**The 2023 Directory will be out soon**

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

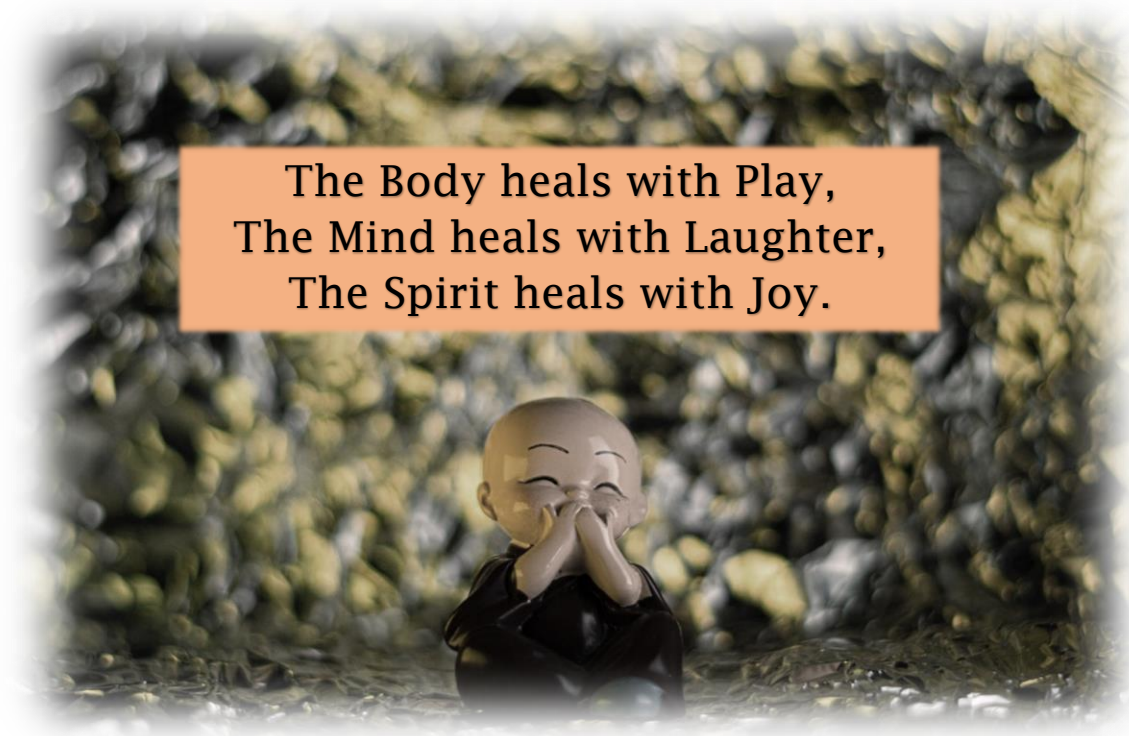
*Service will also be shown live on YouTube.*

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

Welcome  
To  
Grace United Church



The Body heals with Play,  
The Mind heals with Laughter,  
The Spirit heals with Joy.

**April 16, 2023**  
**Holy Humour Sunday**



## 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

**April 6, 2023**

**First Sunday After Easter**

**Holy Humour Sunday**

**Guest Worship Leader: Lay Minister, Tammy Fergusson**

**Order of Service**

**WE GATHER AS UNITED AND UNITING PEOPLE**

**Prelude:** *Shelter Me* - Michael Joncas

**Welcome – Colleen Harding**

**Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Holy Humour Joke Break**

**Centering Music** *We centre our hearts for worship.*

### **Spiritual Focus:**

1 Peter 1:8-9

*...and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith..*

1

## **Lighting the Christ Candle**

### **Gathering Call**

On this Holy Humour Sunday,  
We come to giggle, laugh and sing!  
Alleluia! God Creator  
Alleluia! Christ the King!  
Let the Spirit of the laughter  
Push away our doubts and sin!  
We recall the Easter story  
Death has lost its fearful sting!

*(Please stand as able)*

### **Gathering Song of Praise:**

**Voices United #245** *"Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet"*

- 1 **Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,  
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,  
praise the Lord with the gentle-sounding flute.  
Praise the Lord in the field and forest,  
praise the Lord in the city square,  
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.  
Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,  
praise the Lord in the dark of night,  
praise the Lord in the rain or  
snow or in the morning light.  
Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,  
praise the Lord on the highest hill,  
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.**

2

**2 Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,  
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,  
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.  
Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,  
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,  
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.  
Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,  
praise the Lord in the time of joy,  
praise the Lord every moment,  
nothing let your praise destroy.  
Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,  
praise the Lord in your work or play,  
praise the Lord everywhere in every way!**

Words and music: Natalie Sleeth

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*(Please be seated)*

### **Prayer of the Day**

One: O God of Mystery,

You come with questions and doubts,

**All: You are welcome here.**

One: You come with concerns and anxieties,

**All: You are welcome here.**

One: You come as part of a searching faith community,

**All: You are welcome here.**

One: You come believing that God's peace will be your peace,

**All: We are welcome here.**

*David Sparks, Summerland BC, Gathering*

## **We Seek Wisdom**

### **Holy Humour Joke Break**

### **Time with Youth and Young at Heart**

Three Unbelievable Magic Tricks

### **Repeating Prayer**

*(Please stand as able)*

### **Song of Assurance:**

**Voices United #635 "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"**

- 1 All the way my Saviour leads me;  
what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt his tender mercy  
who through life has been my guide?  
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,  
here by faith in him to dwell,  
for I know, whate'er befall me,  
Jesus doeth all things well.**
- 2 All the way my Saviour leads me,  
cheers each winding path I tread,  
gives me grace for every trial,  
feeds me with the living bread.  
Though my weary steps may falter,  
and my soul athirst may be,  
gushing from the rock before me,  
lo, a spring of joy I see!**

**3 All the way my Saviour leads me;  
O the fullness of his love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised  
in my Father's house above.  
When my spirit, clothed, immortal,  
wings its flight to realms of day,  
this my song through endless ages,  
'Jesus led me all the way!'**

Words: Fanny Crosby 1875

Music: Robert Lowry 1875

Public Domain

### **We Hear the Sacred Stories**

*(Please be seated)*

**Scripture Reader: Marilyn Belbin**

#### **Gospel Reading**

Reader: Listen to the Sacred Story.

**All: Our ears and hearts are open.**

#### ***John 20:19–31 (NRSV Bible)***

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who

was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.<sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** *My Tribute* - *Andréa Crouch; arr. Ed Lojeski*

**Life Lesson:** *The Outcome of Your Faith ... Tammy Fergusson*

## We Respond to God's Grace

*(Please stand as able)*

### Song of Trust:

**Voices United #663** *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary, Saviour divine.  
Now hear me while I pray;  
take all my guilt away.  
O let me from this day be wholly thine.**
- 2 While life's dark maze I tread,  
and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide,  
bid darkness turn to day;  
wipe sorrow's tears away;  
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**
- 3 May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire.  
As thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.**

Words: Ray Palmer 1830

Music: Lowell Mason 1831

Public Domain

*(Please be seated)*

### Prayers of Hope and Healing

**The Prayer that Jesus taught His followers**

## Your Generosity Matters

*Your Generosity Supports a Rights-Based Approach to Growing Food*

### Holy Humour Joke Break

### Our Offerings - Supporting God's Ministries

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

#### God Sends Us Into The World to Be the Church

*(Please stand as able)*

### Song of Going Forth

**Voices United #232** *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"*

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore you,  
God of glory, life and love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the gloom of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.**
- 2 All your works with joy surround you,  
earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you,  
centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
sound their praise eternally.**

**3 You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Source of grace and fount of blessing,  
let your light upon us shine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.**

**4 Mortals join the mighty chorus  
which the morning stars began;  
God's own love is reigning o'er us,  
joining people hand in hand.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.**

Words: Henry van Dyke 1907, alt.

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven 1824, adapt. Edward Hodges 1864

Public Domain

*(Please be seated)*

### **Sending Forth & Benediction**

#### **Choral Response: Go Now In Peace**

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen

Words and music by Don Besig and Nancy Price

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#### **Postlude: One Love - Bob Marley**

One love, one heart

Let's get together and feel all right.

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### *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.*

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### **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 Paul Harding.**

**Happy Anniversary to Brian & Cecile Bass**

**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](mailto:grace.gan@outlook.com)

Sign-up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) Forms  
[https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/form\\_par-authorization.pdf](https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/form_par-authorization.pdf)

by CreditCard 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 April 2023**

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Local	LENT
April 2	51	\$ 2,002.50	\$ 492.50	\$ 125.00	\$ 70.00
April 9	89	\$ 1,515.50	\$ 430.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 25.00
April 16					
April 23					
April 30					
PAR					
BMO					

**Thank you for your generosity.**

Thank you to all who continue to support the FUNDSCHIP gift card fundraising program. Reminder, Gift Cards can be ordered anytime you like and shipped right to your home. Also each month, there are specials that give back more to Grace United. If you need help placing an order speak to Denise Wood or Linda Brooks.

**Mark your Calendars**  
**Mary’s Merry Minstrels are back.**  
**Saturday, May 13 2023 at 7:00pm**  
**With a new program, of Old Time Country and Gospel Music.**  
**Join us for some toe tapping, hand clapping music.**  
**All are welcome – by Donation.**



*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)

## **Announcements**

Welcome on this Holy Humour Sunday!

Holy Humour Sunday was celebrated by the early Christians. It was their tradition to share laughter and song on the Sunday after Easter. As we continue to celebrate the season of Easter, let us also celebrate the time when God played a joke on death by raising Jesus from the cross! In our worship time today, you will notice three Holy Humour Joke Breaks, three magic tricks and more than three times to sing. Let us share the joy and laughter! Christ is risen. Hallelujah!



Our sincere condolences to the family & Friends of Margaret Copeland. Margaret passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at Kingston Health Sciences. The Service will be held at Riverside United Church, Ottawa on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00pm. The Messy Church team and the Grace Church family will miss Margaret.

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### **Official Board Meeting – April 23, 2023**

Following Morning Service

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### ***Carveth Service for April 27<sup>th</sup> changed to May 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am***

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**April 30, 2023 –Visioning Committee Pot-Luck Lunch** Following Service, with Rev. Dr. Peter Bartlett. All are encouraged to attend.

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### **Mary's Merry Minstrel Concert – May 13 at 7:00pm**

At Grace United, a night of Old Time Country & Gospel Music. – By Donation

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### **Classes for Member of the Seniors Association.**

**MELT Exercise** Class Thursdays 1-2pm, (8 weeks), beginning April 20<sup>th</sup> with Gloria Laux

**Conversational French**, Fridays, 10 to 12, (8 weeks) beginning April 21<sup>st</sup> with Nicole Tyo

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**Gananoque Choral Society Concert** – April 22, 2023, at 7:00 pm at Grace United.