

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

Email: RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca

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

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: Cliff Edwards, 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





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

Motion M-587 (2015) Declares Month of April as Genocide Recognition and Condemnation Month in Canada.

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter/ Good Shepherd Sunday

Order of Worship

WE GATHER AS UNITED AND UNITING PEOPLE

Prelude: *He Shall Feed His Flock* (from "Messiah") - G.F. Handel

Welcome – Joan MacKinnon

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Spiritual Focus:

*"Often, God does not give answers – But Always, **God gives God-Self ...**"*

Lighting the Christ Candle

(The Christ candle is lit.)

Gathering Call (Responsive): Acts 2:42–47

One: Sisters and brothers, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

All: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

One: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common communion with God and one another.

All: Let us give what we can to all who have needs so that all people, no matter who they are, may experience Grace.

One: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

All: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

(Please stand as able)

Gathering Song of Praise: Voices United #559

"Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"

- 1 Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unfailing love.
- 2 Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger,
precious presence, precious blood.

3 O, to grace how great a debt
or daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
wander from the love I've known:
here's my heart, O, take and seal it,
seal it for your very own.

Words: Robert Robinson 1758, alt.

Music: John Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II 1813

Public domain.

(Please be seated)

Invitation to Prayer of Confession

Prayer of Confession (All): 1 Pet. 2:19–25

Holy One, we confess to you and to one another that we have not always followed Christ's example. When we have been abused, we have been abusive in return. We have gone astray. Lead us back into your fold and guard our souls, hearts, and minds in Jesus. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Psalm 23 "The Lord's My Shepherd" Voices United # 747

1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me,
the quiet waters by.

2 My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
even for his own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4 My table thou has furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Words: Scottish Psalter 1650

Music: "Crimond" Jessie Seymour Irvine 1872

Public domain.

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Time with Youth and Young at Heart

"Lost & Found..."

Prayer (All):

Dear God, Thank You for being our Shepherd.
Your Persistent Love never gives up on us.
This morning we are grateful that you always find
us no matter where we are, even when we are lost
in the wilderness of life, because you are with us.

Today we pray that we can stay close to you always so that we can also
help others find you. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**



Song of Illumination: Voices United #381

"Spirit of Life" (3x – 3rd time A Capella)

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Words and music: Carolyn McDade 1981, Harm. Grace Lewis-McLaren 1992, alt.

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Scripture Reader: Brian Brooks

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story,

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47 (NRSV)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: Here ends today's reading.

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

One More Mountain to Climb - Neil Sedaka, Howard Greenfield

Soloist: Cliff Edwards

Life Lesson *"Let Your Life Speak and Your Heart Rejoice"*

Song of Assurance: More Voices #90

"Don't Be Afraid" (2X)

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.

Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1995

Music: John L. Bell, 1995

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WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Prayers of Hope and Healing

The Prayer that Jesus taught his followers (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.**

Your Generosity Matters

The Incredible Difference Your Gifts Make: Bill's Story

Our Offerings – Supporting God's Ministries:

*Our offerings make the deserts sing with Living Water
and quench the thirst of many who thirst.*

(Please stand as able)

Offertory Song: Voices United #541

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674

Music: Genevan Psalter 1551

Public domain.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (All):

Holy and generous God,
you have anointed us and we are yours. *Ps. 23:5*
Bless these tithes and offerings
that they may become green pastures and still waters *Ps. 23:2*
for any and all who need your comfort and restoration. **Amen.**

<p style="text-align: center;">GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD TO BE THE CHURCH</p>
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(Please stand as able)

Song of Going Forth: Voices United #578

"As a Fire Meant for Burning"

- 1 As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.
- 2 We are learners; we are teachers;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions,
we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit,
we would live to God's delight.

3 As a green bud in the springtime
 is a sign of life renewed,
 so may we be signs of oneness
 mid earth's peoples, many-hued.
 As a rainbow lights the heavens
 when a storm is past and gone,
 may our lives reflect the radiance
 of God's new and glorious dawn.

Words: Ruth Duck 1983

Music: "Hyfrydol" VU 333, Rowland Huw Prichard ca. 1838

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Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: *Fugue in Bb - J.S. Bach*

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 Dorothy, David & Betty.

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

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 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	42	\$ 782.50	\$ 157.50		
April 23	52	\$ 1178.50	\$ 437.50	\$ 25.00	
April 30					
PAR		\$ 1210.00	\$ 343.50	\$ 12.50	
BMO		\$ 450.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 25.00	

Thank you for your generosity.

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)

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.



Bulletin Dedication

This week's Bulletin is dedicated to the memory of Beverly Scott, and her parents Mildred and Ralph Scott. The Scott family was devoted and active in Grace Church, particularly in the Choir and Sunday School for their entire lives. Lovingly remembered by Paul and John Harding and families.

