

Contact information:

Call Rev. Takouhi to book a visit. (Wednesday to Sunday)
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 brooksb525@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**



***Where Everyone is Part of
God's Family***



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

July 23, 2023

Eight Sunday of Pentecost

Order of Worship

WE GATHER AS UNITED AND UNITING PEOPLE

Prelude: *The Stranger of Galilee* - Lelia Naylor Morris

Welcome – Denise Wood

Land Acknowledgement (Responsive):

One: Grace United Church takes seriously the commitments made to First Nations communities through the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, especially through the Calls to Action to churches like us.

All: Therefore, we acknowledge, this day, that we gather for worship on the traditional territories of the original nations of this land, and we acknowledge with respect, their history, their spirituality, and their culture.

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Spiritual Focus:

*“God is **ALWAYS** with us NO MATTER How Good, Bad and Ugly life can be.”*

Lighting the Christ Candle

(The Christ candle is lit.)

Call to Worship: Ps. 8:1, 3–5

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

(Please stand as able)

Gathering Song of Praise: Voices United #686

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
now fulfil your church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.
- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;
fears and doubts too long have bound us;

free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.

- 3 Cure your children's warring madness,
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christlike graces,
pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
that we fail not them nor thee.

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930
Music: Welsh traditional melody
Public domain.

(Please be seated)

Prayer of the Day (All): Gen. 28:10–15

Dear Creator, you are the cornerstone of our common life, you are not bound by our limited vision, or self-centered structures, nor our doctrines. We cannot predict your coming or going, as you are the liberating God of abundant life. You have given us yourself, your sacred story, your love, and you call us Beloved Children and call us to carry out your vision. You meet us everywhere, but now we ask you to gently meet us here. Shape us for service in your world, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus and live by the power of your breath. **Amen.**

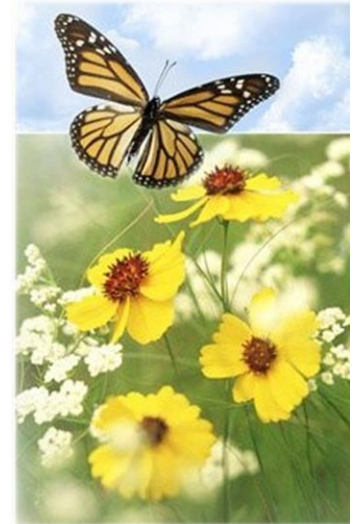
(Please stand as able)

Song for the Journey: Voices United #226

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
**Refrain: God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
**Refrain: God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
**Refrain: God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 4 For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
**Refrain: God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**

Words: Follitt Sandord Pierpoint, 1864
Music: (Tune: Dix VU 81) Conrad Kocher 1838. Public Domain.



WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Time with Youth and Young at Heart

"Life's SURPRISES!"

Song of Illumination: More Voices #18

"Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary" (3x)

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You

Words and music: John Thompson, Randy Scruggs
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Scripture Reader: Shirley Clark

Reader: We listen for the Sacred Story,

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Gospel of Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43 (NRSV)

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let

both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Reader: Here ends today's reading.

May the Spirit of Wisdom add understanding to these words.

All: Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: The Song of Bernadette - Leonard Cohen

Soloist: Mary Kelly

Life Lesson: *"Trusting God in ALL Circumstances of Life"*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Song of Hope & Healing 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 8th century, trans. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905
Music: Irish traditional melody
Public domain.

Prayers of Hope and Healing:

Contemporary Lord's Prayer (All):¹

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey.

Our Parent, who is among us, blessed be your Creation.
May your reign be a reality here on earth.
May we become more interested in building your kin-dom here and
now than in waiting for it to come down from above.
Let us share our bread with those who hunger.
Let us learn to forgive as well as to receive forgiveness.
Help us through the time of temptation, delivering us from all evil.
For ours are the eternal blessings that you pour upon the earth.

Amen.

Your Generosity Matters:

Ecumenical Youth Leadership Development Program

Invitation to Generosity (Call to Offering)

God has blessed us beyond measure and our own generosity is an opportunity to use a portion of our blessings to minister to others. The Holy is calling us to gather our gifts and offer them to God in worship. Let us gather our gifts and worship through our generosity.

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 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public domain.

¹ <https://www.manyvoices.org/blog/resource/contemporary-lords-prayer> - July 12, 2023

Prayer after Offering (All):

God of mystery and grace, you have met us and blessed us with such abundant promise. In gratitude we offer what we carry in our hearts and our pockets. As we bring these worn and freighted offerings, we pray that you would use us, for we come in the name of Jesus and by the movement of your Spirit in this place. **Amen.**

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

(Please stand as able)

Song of Commitment: Voices United #670

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night,
lead me on to the light:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- 2 When my way grows drear,
precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call,
hold my hand lest I fall:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- 3 When the darkness appears,
and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,



at the river I stand,
guide my feet, hold my hand:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Words: Thomas A. Dorsey 1932

Music: George N. Allen 1884

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Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Trumpet Tune No.5 - John Stanley

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 Rev. Takouhi or the church office if there is someone you know who is in need or a visit, in hospital or any other needs.

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 Shannon Tompkins.

Would you like your Birthday or Anniversary added to our announcements contact Laurie at the church Office and give her the details.



Thank you to our guest musician today, soloist Mary Kelly. Mary is currently performing the role of Sister Bertha in "The Sound of Music" at the Thousand Islands Playhouse. We appreciate her time and talents.



Grace United Church has a hearing assistance system which broadcasts via Bluetooth. If you have a Bluetooth setting on your hearing aid, you can pair it with the church's PA system. If you have Bluetooth earbuds or headphones, you can do the same. Ask Paul Harding for assistance.

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 July 2023

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Local/Benevolent
July 2		\$ 2477.50	\$ 192.50	0
July 9	40	\$727.50	\$152.50	0
July 16	50	\$ 743.50	\$ 202.50	\$ 30.00
July 23				
July 30				
PAR				
BMO				

Thank you for your generosity.

Fundscrip – Raising Money

Fundscrip is still alive and doing well and we want to thank you for your help and participation. Our original goal was to raise \$2000; we achieved \$1536 so far, so let's keep going.

During July, the following deals are available for you during holiday time. These also make great birthday, graduation, and anniversary gifts. There are many cards that are electronic and refillable. If there is anyone wishing to have assistance with their order or want to participate in a group order, we will be sending in an order on July 30th so please get your order form at the back of the church to fill in. Anyone needing assistance, contact either Denise Wood or Linda Brooks They will be happy to help.

All of the usual retailers are still available.

Remember you can:

Pay with gift cards: Instead of credit/debit/cash for your everyday items & gifts

Shop as usual: With cards from over 230 leading retailers, there's no need to change your shopping habits. \$100 is \$100 at your chosen retailer

Raise Funds: Each purchase automatically includes a donation for your group that can quickly add up over time

For an example: During July, The Keg is donating 7% for each card purchase; Airbnb 5%; Cineplex Theatre 5%; You can check their website for further deals each month.

YOUR CHURCH WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP!

Linda Brooks 613-382-2385 Denise Wood 613-876-7739

Official Board Meeting – Sunday, July 30th following service.

Coming up this week at Grace United...

Sunday, July 23 10:30 am Worship	Office Closed Morning Worship Rev. Takouhi
Monday, July 24	Office 8 am to 1 pm
Tuesday, July 25 9 – Noon 5:30 – 6:30pm	Office 8 am to 1 pm Quilters BootCamp
Wednesday, July 26	Office Closed
Thursday, July 27 1 to 2 pm 5:30 to 6:30	Office 8 am to 1 pm Chair YOGA Bootcamp
Friday, July 28	Office 8 am to 1 pm
Saturday, July 29	Office Closed
Sunday, July 30 10:30 am Worship 11:30 a.m.	Office Closed Worship Leader, Rev. Takouhi Official Board Meeting <i>(following service)</i>

Coming Events this Fall/Winter

Turkey Dinner

Thursday, October 5th at the Gananoque Curling Club.

Bob Burtch, Blue Grass Concert

Saturday November 25th

Christmas Market

Saturday, December 2nd

Do you have a fundraising idea?

The Stewards would love to hear from you. The contact information is on the back cover of the Order of Service.