

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 are out on the table in the Narthex

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



"Light in Darkness" – (Total Lunar Eclipse, Portland, ON)- Sep. 28, 2015 - by: Rev. Takouhi

***Where Everyone is Part of the Family
&
Worship is a Lifestyle NOT an Event***



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

December 3, 2023 - Order of Worship

First Sunday of Advent - HOPE

Beginning of Lectionary Year B

Communion Sunday

World Aids Day – December 1

WE GATHER AS ADVENT PEOPLE

Organ Prelude: *Jesu Ahotonia (The Huron Carol)*

Welcome – Vicki Leakey

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:

“Advent: *Redirecting our lives to God’s authority and aligning ourselves to the coming of the Realm of God!”*

Lighting the Christ Candle

(The Christ candle is lit.)

Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: From light comes life. Deep in expectant earth, a seed stretches.
Through the fire-start of imagination, an idea takes root.
In a passionate flash, love glows with infant intensity.
Safe in the womb, a child senses its season turning and stirs.

All: It is Advent, we are expecting, something is coming, vulnerable in its unstoppable desire to love.

One: God, unquenchable light, may they grow –
the seed, the love, the idea, the child.
In and through us.

All: God of ALL Places we Praise Your Name.

(Please stand as able)

Gathering Song of Praise Voices United #4

“God of All Places”

1 God of all places; present, unseen;
voice in our silence, song in our midst,
we are your people, knowing, unsure:
come, Lord Jesus, come!



2 God of all dreaming, near and yet far;
vision unheard of, wake us to rest.
We are your presence sent forth, afraid:
come, Lord Jesus, come!

3 God of all people, dust and the clay;
breath of a new wind, fire in our hearts,
light born of heaven, peace on the earth:
come, Lord Jesus, come!

Words: David Haas 1988.

Music: David M Young 1988 Words copyright © G.I.A. Publications Inc.

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(Please be seated)

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy - Advent I

Voice 1: This Christmas, 110 million people¹
simply can't be at home. Forced out by the
darkness of violence and fear, they're
searching for safety and refuge.

Voice 2: As we light the candles this Advent, we pray
for all who seek safety and refuge; and for all who can be the
voice of the voiceless and the extension of God's Love.
May we have the courage to light the way for all,
out of poverty and darkness.

Let us pray (All):

**As winter days dim and bow to early darkness, you, God of light,
set watch in the night sky and beckon the wise to follow. When**

3



**hope hangs low in the human heart, you, loving creator, kindle
compassion, breathing life into the early embers of change and
empathy. We pray with Hope burning in our hearts. Amen.**

Voice 1: We light a candle for hope, sending prayers high into the
heavens and dreams deep into the human soul.

We Light the Candle of HOPE.

Voice 2: As Advent dawns, God of all hope, shine your light on the
story of the universe, the story of your children, the story of
Your Love. May the seeds planted, by Your Grace, in the world
– Hope, Peace, Joy, Love – take hold in our hearts and stretch
towards everyone. Helping all to see God's Future born in our
midst once again.

Advent Candle Lighting Song - Voices United #1

"O Come, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Words by Rev. Jeff Ducette

Enniskillen Tyrone United Church

1 - O Come, O Come Emmanuel
We plead that all despair in us be quelled,
Your breath of hope is all that we need
That all the fear within us will recede.

Refrain:

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel!
Come bring us Hope,
Wherever we shall dwell.**

Words: Rev. Jeff Ducette, Enniskillen Tyrone United Church. Used with permission.

Music: 15th century plainsong melody. Arr. Healey Willan.

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¹ <https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics> – November 26, 2023

WE SEEK WISDOM

Prayer of Illumination (All): O God of our people and Lord of every nation, let your Word ring out from the mountains and your Spirit shine forth in the earth, so that all may hear your Good News and all may do your will; we pray through Jesus our Hope. **Amen**

Scripture Reader: Denise Wood

Reader: Let us open our hearts, and minds to hear the Word of Hope

All: Let us listen for that Living Word.

Psalm 80:3-7, 17-19 (NRSV)

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.
Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Anthem – *There is a Light* - Michael Barrett

Life Lesson: *"Advent: Our Yearning for the Light..."*

Song of Assurance - Voices United #2

"Come, thou Long-Expected Jesus"

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.
- 3 Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744

Music: Rowland Huw Prichard ca. 1831

Public Domain



AN ADVENT COMMUNION LITURGY ¹

Invitation to the Feast that is Prepared by the Love of God...



One: Come, come from distraction to attention.

**All: Come from loneliness to
God's gathered community.**

One: Come from anxiety and stress into God's Peace.

All: Come from labour to rebirth.

One: Come to God's table knowing that the love offered here
sustains and unites us.

**All: Knowing that the cup offered here reminds us of God's love
poured out in the Life of Jesus, the fruit of love and justice.**

One: Come, let us lay aside those things that inhibit our participation in
God's New Day and let us pray and give thanks:

**All: We give you thanks, God of Hope and Prince of Peace,
who gives deep Joy and embellishes us with eternal Love.
Through the words of your prophets and the faith of your
followers you prepare the way of our redemption and bring
Hope through new birth. Though we often grow weary of
waiting, your signs call us to actively wait for that day when
all things shall be new. Standing firm in this assurance we give
you praise:**

One: Holy Wisdom, Comforter, Advocate, Friend, may these gifts of
creation bless our lives with the presence and power of the infant
child... We gather these and all unspoken prayers, thankful that

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¹ Rev. Michelle Torigian - <https://michelleorigian.com/2019/11/25/an-advent-communion-liturgy/> Nov. 20,
2022

we may turn to you as our Father and Mother who loves us, and
we pray:

**All: Our Mother and Father who resides in our hearts
Sacred is your cool name. May the world have
eternal peace. And love be the ruler. Provide us
with what we need to live happy lives. May we have the
courage to forgive others as You have forgiven our sins and
help us see that everyone makes mistakes. Help us to resist
temptations Help us to always follow the path of LOVE. For
this world is your kingdom. You are the source of love that
will never end and will always be with us. Make it happen!!!
Amen.**



Kaitlyn, Kara, Liv and Heather

A few of the Bay of Quinte Conference Youth – October 24, 2015

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Leader: These are the Gifts of God, for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Distribution

Jesus the Bread of Life Jesus the True Vine

Prayer after Communion (All): For the bread we have eaten, for the
cup we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you God.
Grant that what we have been given here, may fill us with eternal Hope.
As we grow in the Way of Your Love, may our lives become Faithful
Actions of Justice for all. In the name of the One who demonstrated
Hope for ALL the Earth. **Amen.**

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WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Offertory Song: Voices United # 55 (verse 4)

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

4 *What can I give him, poor as I am?*

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him - give my heart.



Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti ca. 1872

Music: Gustav Theodor Holst 1906 Public domain

Your Generosity Matters

Marilyn Rodger from Edith Rankin Memorial UC talks about Zatoun
Palestinian fair trade products

Our Offerings – Supporting God's Ministries:

*Mindful of the abundance we have received in Christ,
we offer ourselves and our gifts to the world.*

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 #7

"Hope is a Star"

1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.



- 2 Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.
- 3 Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.
- 4 Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

Words: Brian Wren 1985 Music: Joan Collier Fogg 1987

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Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: *Where'er You Walk* - Handel



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 this week to Steve Thompson

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

Our sincere gratitude to all who attended the Bob Burtch Concert on Friday, November 24th. It was a wonderful evening and very well attended. We are grateful to our sponsors of the event, Paul & Colleen Harding and Christina Gordon as well as to the support of our congregation.

Sale& Donations (less Expenses) = Proceeds
\$ 5,405.00 – (1,606.80) = \$3,798.20

Thank you to the Advent Decorating Team

On Tuesday the Grace Church sanctuary was transforms and prepared for the Christmas Season.

Thank you all. Paul and Carolyn Scott, Murray and Rhea Roantree, Brian and Linda Brooks, Tammy and Angus Fergusson, David Charles and Joan MacKinnon, Colleen Harding, Dianna Grier, Marilyn Belbin, Cheryl O'Leary and Connie and Steve Thompson.

Thank you to all who contributed to our Christmas Market on Saturday. Your generosity and support are truly appreciated. It was a wonderful day of fun and fellowship. The final numbers for the day will be posted in next week's Order of Service.

Annual Congregation Christmas Breakfast

Plans are underway for the annual Congregation Christmas Breakfast. He Breakfast will be held on Sunday, December 17th, prior to service. All are invited. We would like to have an idea of how many to prepare for. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. The cost will be by donation.

MAKE SURE YOUR NAME & THE AMOUNT ARE ON YOUR DONATION ENVELOPES

If you would like envelopes, there is a sign-up sheet available on the table in the Narthex.

Offerings November 2023

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Benevolent	Anniversary White Gift
Nov 5	66	\$ 2062.50	\$ 207.50	\$20.00	\$110.00
Nov 12	42	\$ 657.50	\$ 152.50	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Nov 19	39	\$ 937.50	\$ 247.50	\$ 85.00	\$100.00
Nov 26					
PAR					
BMO					

Thank you for your generosity.

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 (Included in Bulletin)

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

PAR Forms have been included in this week's bulletin. PAR donations are taken directly out of your bank account, once a month. You decide where and how much money you would like to contribute. If you have questions, please speak with Laurie.

by Credit Card through CanadaHelps.

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

Christmas Pie for Sale

There is a great variety of pies available. Don't miss out on your favourite variety. Order now for Christmas.

Mincemeat & raisin for our winter orders. (quantity limited)

Bumbleberry,	Apple,	Peach,	Blueberry,
Strawberry,	Strawberry Rhubarb,	Rhubarb,	
Cherry	Raisin,	Mincemeat	

\$15 Each

Raspberry \$20 each

Pick up date for Christmas Orders is Dec 21, 3 to 6 pm

Our Annual Red Wagon Food Drive will begin on November 26th.

Here is a list of items for each date.

Monetary Gifts are also appreciated.



December 3rd - Breakfast Items

Various Cereal, Oatmeal, Instant Oatmeal, Jams & Jellies, Peanut Butter, & Peanut Butter substitutes, Pancake Mix and syrup.

December 10th Canned goods

Tuna, Salmon, Flaked Chicken or Ham, Spam, Vegetables, Tomatoes, Chunky Soups, Stews, Mayonnaise, Ketchup.

December 17th - Snack Items & Miscellaneous.

Juice Boxes, Kids snack packs, Peanut free snacks, Granola bars, Crackers, Cookies, Popcorn, Cake mixes.

Memory Tree honours loved ones

This Christmas, honour one or more loved ones who have passed, by placing their names on our special Memory Tree in our beautiful sanctuary. For a donation of your choosing, you can write a beloved name on a flat gold painted ornament decorated with a red or green ribbon and hang it on the Memory Tree. We can also write the name for you and place it on the tree. The ornaments will be available at church services during Advent, or you can order in advance by contacting Marilyn Belbin at 613-382-8885, or mbelbin@sympatico.ca. The names will be recorded and printed in the church bulletin. After Epiphany, you may take your ornament home as a keepsake. Let's fill the tree, and our hearts, with Christmas memories of those we have loved!

Gananoque Choral Society Concert
Saturday, December 9th 7:30 pm at Grace United Church
Or – Sunday, December 10th , 2:30 pm, at Lansdowne United Church.
Cost: Adults \$15, Family \$30, Children \$5

Coming up this week at Grace United....

Sunday, December 3rd 10:30 am Worship	Office Closed Morning Worship, Rev. Takouhi
Monday, December 4th 6:30 pm	Office CLOSED – Vacation Day YOGA
Tuesday, December 5th 8 am - noon 9 – Noon 5:30 to 7:30pm	Office 8am to 1 pm Pie Makers Quilters Bootcamp/Zumba
Wednesday, December 6th 3:30 pm	Office Closed YOGA
Thursday, December 7th 11:00am 5:30 to 7:30	Office 8am to 1 pm GUC at Carveth Chapel Bootcamp/Zumba
Friday, December 8th 10:00 am	Office 8am to 1pm Set up for Market
Saturday, December 9th	Office Closed
Sunday, December 10th 10:30 am Worship <i>Advent 2 PEACE</i> 2:00 to 4pm	Office Closed Worship Rev. Takouhi Birthday Party for Jesus



Grace United Church
120 Pine St.
Gananoque, ON

2023

*Our 2023 directory is here.
Members and adherents
who were photographed for
inclusion in the directory,
may pick up their copy
Sunday mornings at Church,
starting December 3rd.*

*If you are not able to pick up
your directory Sunday mornings,
arrangements can be made
for delivery.*

*Thank you for your
participation and paitence.*



Catalogues also available in the Narthex.

How It Works

The United Church of Canada developed Gifts with Vision in response to requests to be able to give gifts to relatives, friends, and loved ones that directly support projects developed by the church's Mission and Service partners.

Link for Catalogue <https://giftswithvision.ca/>