

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

Treasurer: Vicki Leakey

613-382-4015

vickileakey@gmail.com

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



Altered By the Spirit ©Michelle Walka. BelovedArtandPractice.com

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

*(Remember to pass this bulletin to someone else
You never know how you will Bless them)*



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 3, 2024

Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Lent

**WE GATHER AS PEOPLE WHO WALK IN THE WILDERNESS OF LIFE
WITH GOD'S PRESENCE & PEACE**

Organ Prelude

"Believe Me if All Those Endearing Young Charms" traditional melody

Welcome – Elaine Davidson

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:

"Lent: A time of Self-Reflection, Spiritual Discipline, Commitment, and Community..."

Lighting the Christ Candle:

*We light this candle to spread the **Light of Christ**, into the corners which seek to hinder us from the truth— we are reminded that **we are loved**, even in the wilderness of our lives.*

Call to Worship (Responsive):

One: Jesus, Light of the World,

John 9:5

give us eyes to see as you see!

All: Once we lived in darkness, but now— as children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

(Please stand as able)

Gathering Song of Praise: Voices United #108

"Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights" Tune: Maryton: VU 560

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: Henry Percy Smith 1874

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(Please be seated)

A Prayer of the Day (All):

Holy God,
why is it that we look but do not see?
Bring us again and again into your light
until your ways become visible to us,
and bear fruit in us.
Touch us so that we are utterly changed,

John 9:6

a "before" and "after,"
a "now" and "then";
that we may also say,
"One thing I do know, John 9:25
that though I was blind, now I see."
Lord, we believe; John 9:38
help our unbelief.
In Christ's light, we pray. **Amen.**

WE SEEK WISDOM

(Please Remain Seated)

Time with Youth and Young at Heart:

"Helping Others Sometimes Disrupts the Status Quo..."

(Please stand as able)

Song of Commitment: Voices United #684

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:
- 2 Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
O Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

- 3 Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words: attrib. to St. Francis 1220. Music: Sebastian Temple 1967; arr. Betty Pulkingham 1976
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(Please be seated)

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Prayer of Illumination (All):

Gracious God, illumine our hearts and minds
as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed,
so that by the power of your Holy Spirit
we may see what is good and right and true.
And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you,
so that your glory becomes visible in our words and deeds.
In Christ's Healing name, we pray. **Amen.**

Scripture Reader: Christina Gordon-Charney

Reader: Let us listen to the Living Word of God

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

Jesus Clears the Temple Courts

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up
to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling

cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers
seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he
drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep
and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the
money changers and overturned their tables. He told
those who were selling the doves, "Take these things
out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will
consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us
for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in
three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been
under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three
days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was
raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this;
and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Reader: May God's Spirit add understanding in our hearing.

All: Amen

Anthem: *I Believe* - Drake, Shirl, Stillman, Graham

Life Lesson: "Altered by Disruption..."



(Please remain seated)

Song of Assurance More Voices #90

"Don't Be Afraid" (Sing through Twice)

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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Prayers of Hope and Healing

The Lord's Prayer

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,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Your Generosity Matters: *Accompanying Grandmothers*

Invitation to Offer Ourselves, Finances, Gifts and Talents to God



And now we pause in our worship to commit an act of rebellion. When so much around us tells us to hold tightly to our money and resources, or spend and consume beyond our means and rack up large debt, we choose to turn the tables, follow Jesus, and give some of it away. Please join me in rebelling and making fun of the world's foolishness by giving generously.

Passing the offertory plates – Music

(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 – (All): Gracious and Holy God, your foolishness is wiser than our wisdom and your weakness is stronger than our strength. We give these gifts, those given through PAR, those given online, as an act of faith in your care and of rebellion against an economy that devours and destroys. Thank you for this opportunity to raise up a new way. **Amen.**

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

Song of Commitment & Going Forth Voices United #356

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Hallelu, hallelujah.
- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Hallelu, hallelujah.
- 3 We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Hallelu, hallelujah.



Words and music: Karen Lafferty 1972; descant: Karen Lafferty 1972
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Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: "Bless this House"

May Brahe, lyrics by Helen Taylor 1927

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 Marilyn McDougal and Colleen Harding

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

FOOD BANK Requests this month.

Cookies & Crackers, Canned Fruit, Canned Meat

**On Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024, Grace United Church will
officially welcome full members.
If you are considering making Grace United Church Your Spiritual
Family Home, please contact Rev. Takouhi
at revtakouhi@terrautopia.ca
Or by phone - direct line: 613-777-0880 By March 17.**

MAKE SURE YOUR NAME & THE AMOUNT ARE ON YOUR DONATION

ENVELOPES. 2024 Envelopes are out and ready for pick up.

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

Offerings January 2024

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Benevolent (SGM)
Feb 4	35	\$ 1247.50	\$ 282.50	\$ 25.00
Feb 11	32	\$ 1057.50	\$ 152.50	\$ 0.00
Feb 18		Service Cancelled - Weather		
Feb 25	31	\$ 1622.50	\$ 222.50	\$ 100.00
PAR		\$ 1850.00	\$ 298.50	\$ 57.50
BMO		\$ 550.00	\$25.00	\$ 75.00

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 are located on the table in the Narthex.

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/>

PIE ORDERS

**While Tom & Carol are away on holiday, pies can be ordered by
calling Betty Matthews at 613-382-3315**

Coming up this week at Grace United....

Sunday, March 3 10:30 am Worship/Communion Following Service	Office Closed Worship Leader, Rev. Takouhi Annual General Meeting
Monday, March 4 6:00pm	Office 8am-1pm YOGA
Tuesday, March 5 9am – 12pm 5:30 to 7:30pm	Office 8am – 1pm Quilters BootCamp/Zoomba
Wednesday, March 6	Office Closed
Thursday, March 7 10:30 to 12 pm 1:30 to 7:30	Office 8am – 1pm Choir Practice (10:30 – 12pm) Boot Camp / Zoomba (5:30-7:30)
Friday, March 8	Office 8am – 1pm
Saturday, March 9	Office Closed
Sunday, March 10 10:30 am Worship Service	Office Closed Worship Leader, Rev. Takouhi

United Church Women – Lent Offerings

**During Lent, offerings in the Lent Envelopes or mark
Lenten Donations are for the UCW and their programs.**



Count Your Blessings

Each week throughout Lent, we hope you will use our calendar as a reminder to count your blessings every day and collect a donation (by Easter Sunday) towards bringing Hamse's family from their refugee camp to join him in Canada.

At this time, The Gananoque Refugee Settlement Group is working toward settling a young man and his mother, who are the mother and brother of a wonderful young man in Kingston, named Hamse. Hamse came here as a refugee 4 years ago from Ethiopia after escaping war and an ethnic massacre in Somalia. Hamse works full time at Costco and is just finishing up full time education at St. Lawrence College and will soon be ready to join the health sector.

Hamse's mother and brother remain in one of the world's largest refugee camps in Ethiopia, where everyday is a battle for survival.

Hamse very much hopes to help his mother and little brother escape from the refugee camp and settle in Canada, where we are sure they will be as successful and as wonderful as Hamse.

Pick up your "Count Your Blessings Calendar" at the back of the Sanctuary or on line. graceunitedgananoque.com or on our Facebook page.

On Easter Sunday, bring your "*Count Your Blessings*" donations. Please have donations in a separate envelope or cheque, made out to **Grace United Church**, identified as "***Count Your Blessings***". Everything collected through this project will go to the Refugee Settlement Group.
