

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: Colleen Harding Clerk: Julie Price

Board of Stewards: Chair: Vicki Leakey

Vice Chair: Cliff Edwards, Secretary: Mary Hausler

Official Board: Chair: Brian Brooks

613-382-2385 brooks525@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

Treasurer: Vicki Leakey

613-382-4015 vickileakey@gmail.com

The 2024 Directory will be out when the information is received.

There are many ways you can partner up with God's Mission through Grace United Church and help make a difference.

Mail a cheque to, Grace United Church. 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 or copy and paste the link below.

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/>

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 31, 2024

Easter / Resurrection Sunday

Order of Worship - Communion

WE GATHER AS A RESURRECTION PEOPLE

10:15 a.m. **Mini-Recital - Classic Brass**

Prelude: Classic Brass and Organ

The Day of Resurrection - arr. Todd Marchand

Welcome – Joan MacKinnon

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

Spiritual Focus:

"Holy Darkness is necessary, as it gives way to an Altered Abundant Life."



Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (Responsive):

One: The Lord is Risen!

All: He has risen, indeed!

One: God's Love leads our way even in darkness.

All: This Love never dies. God's Promises never fail.

We give praise to the Holy One.

One: Give praise to the Lord!

God's loving kindness endures forever!

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

One: Let us Praise the Risen Lord

and Proclaim our Hallelujahs!

Song of Praise: Voices United #155

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!
3. But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!
our salvation have procured; hallelujah!
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!
where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!
4. Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!
praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah!
praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!
praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

Words: Lyra Davidica 1708, et al.

Music: Lyra Davidica 1708, desc. Derek Holman 1971

Descant copyright © 1971 Derek Holman

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Invitation to Confession Ps. 118:19

God has opened to us the gates of righteousness that we may enter through them. Confident in God's love, let us pray together our prayer of confession.



Prayer of Confession (All): Col. 3:1; John 20:11; John 20:16

Holy One, through the power of the Holy Spirit we have been raised from the waters of baptism to share in your glorious resurrection. Yet often we do not live as Easter people. Our circumstances make us unsure of your promises, confused about your will, and afraid in the face of danger.

Like Mary, we weep at the tomb, and do not recognize your presence. We pray that you call us by name once again, that we may recognize you with confidence.

Whenever we are tempted to fear death, give us courage to confess your Easter victory. Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts, keep our minds on your reconciling love. Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil, reveal again to us your triumph over the destructive powers of oppression.

Forgive our shortfalls we pray and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant life you offer freely to all.

We pray through the Power of Love. **Amen.**

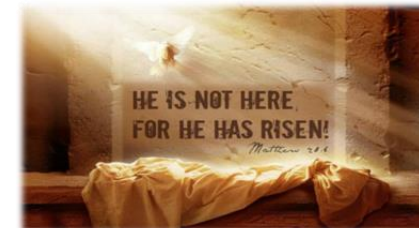
Assurance of Pardon (Responsive) Ps. 118:18

One: Beloved Church, listen,

God who raised Jesus from the dead has not given us over to death.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Hallelujah! We are forgiven indeed!



Song of Praise: Voices United # 157

"New Resurrection"

1. New resurrection! Glory from heaven!
Christ's is the new birth, fresh in our hearts.
Rise up the praises, to God be given
praise for the living, of this glad day.
2. His is the vic'try! His is the Glory!
New doors are opened, amid the strife.
Ours is the failure, old is the story;
ours for the taking is this new life.
3. Glory to Jesus! Ring out the chorus!
Lift high the praises, this He has done.
Conquered the darkness, opened the heavens;
God's loving kindness, once more has won.

Words: Rev. Robert Belbin. Used with permission.

Music: Morning Has Broken - Gaelic Melody - Voices United # 409. Public Domain

WE SEEK WISDOM

Prayer of Illumination (All):

Living God, by your Holy Spirit,
open our eyes to see the new light of this day;
open our lips to tell of the empty tomb;
open our hearts to believe the Good News;
we pray through the One who is Resurrection and Life, the Word
made Flesh. **Amen.**

Scripture Reader: Pam Shea

Reader: Let us listen to the Living Word of God

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Reader: May God's Word continue to be the Living Word for our lives.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

Anthem: *Worthy Is The Lamb That Was Slain - Allen Pote*

Life Lesson: *"Life Altered..."*

WE SEEK PEACE & COMMUNION

Preparing our hearts for Communion: Voices United #: 480

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

1. Let us break bread together on our knees,
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain: When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees,
let us drink wine together on our knees.

Refrain: When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.

3. Let us praise God together on our knees,
let us praise God together on our knees.

Refrain: When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.

Words and music: African-American spiritual 19th cent.

Harmony copyright © 1974 F. R. C. Clarke

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GOD'S BANQUET... OUR PARTICIPATION...¹

One: Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit.

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love:

We praise you for Jesus Christ,

who reminds us that even in fear-filled days,
cloaked with the powers of death,
your eternal love arises, and never leaves us.

We rejoice with all your people and with the angels,
because *Love* is stronger than death!

**All: Holy is Jesus, God Incarnate, the Risen Christ,
whose mercy gathers us together in community,
whose grace meets us in our brokenness,
and whose loving faithfulness gives us renewed hope.**

One: In this meal, we remember Jesus, his promises,

and the price he paid for who he was, what he said,
and what he did; for our benefit.

On the night before Jesus died,

He took a loaf of bread,

Gave thanks, broke it, and said,

"Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.

Do this, in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup and poured, saying,
"This is the cup of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for all people.
Do this in remembrance of me."

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**All: We remember Christ's life of love, and friendship, and teaching,
We remember Christ's dying, and rising to life again.**

One: Bless this bread and this cup,
the wheat and the grape,
the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the Sower.

These simple elements are shared in community,
so that we may taste and see your goodness
and become *the United and the Uniting* body of Christ.

For it is through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
that all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forevermore.

¹ Adapted from UCC – USA – April 2, 2023 – written by: Rev .Dr. Sheila Harvey Guillaume, pastor of Union
Congregational United Church of Christ in West Palm Beach.

The Prayer of Jesus (ALL):

At this time, we proclaim the glory of your name
with the saints of the past, the present and the future
and we come to you as our Mother and...

**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.**

One: The body of Christ,

All: the bread of life.

One: The essence of Christ,

All: the cup of blessing.

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sharing of the elements –

Jesus the Bread of Life – Bread for the Journey. (*Gluten Free Bread*)

Jesus the True Vine – The Cup of the New Covenant.

Post-Communion Prayer (Responsive):

One: O Christ, we thank you for this feast of life.

Fed by your love, and strengthened by your life;
we humbly accept your call to go
into this world to live with hope,
and to share your joy.



**All: You commission us to
feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,
and love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Offertory Song: Voices United # 164

"The Day of Resurrection"

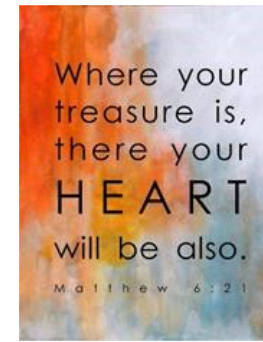
1. The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness, the passover of God!
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
2. Our hearts be free of evil, that we may see aright
the Christ in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and, listening to the accents, may hear so calm and plain
Christ's own 'All hail!' and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.
3. Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ indeed is risen, our Joy that has no end.

Words: John of Damascus ca. 750, trans. John Mason Neale 1862.

Music: Gesangbuch der Herzogel. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle 1784,
alt. 1868.

Public Domain

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



In this economic climate, fear is the greatest obstacle to generosity: fear that there isn't enough to go around; that if we give away what we have, we won't be able to take care of our own needs. Fear is like a big stone standing between us and the experience of the resurrection miracle. So "who will roll away the stone?" We will, through the gifts we now give.

Our Offerings are Received - 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 & Dedication:

God of new life, we offer these gifts and those given through PAR and online, acknowledging our fear but stretching beyond it to generosity. Thank you for your empowering love. **Amen.**

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

Song of Going Forth: Voices United # 173

"Thine is the Glory"

1. Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.
Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

2. Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting.
Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

3. No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Words: Edmond Louis Budry 1884, trans. Richard Birch Hoyle 1923
Music: Harmonia Sacra ca. 1753, arr. from George Frideric Handel 1747
Public Domain

Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Brass and Organ



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.

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 Anniversary to Jim & Dianne Wallbridge and Paul & Carolyn Scott.

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

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.

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 March 2024

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Benevolent (SGM)	Count Your Blessings
March 3	39	\$ 1307.50	\$ 212.50	\$ 45.00	
March 10	39	\$ 1300.30	\$ 212.5	\$ 25.00	
March 17	45	\$ 1337.50	\$ 212.50	\$ 55.00	
March 24	44	\$ 1179.50	\$ 202.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00
March 31					
PAR		\$ 1790.00	\$ 258.50	\$ 57.50	
BMO		\$ 550.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00	

Thank you for your generosity.

Our thanks to the members of our Brass Quintet, who have added so much to our service of celebration this morning. Trumpets: Gillian MacDonald, Todd Wright; French Horn: Cathy Redsell; Trombone: Kim Gudlauski; Tuba: Marc Moeys

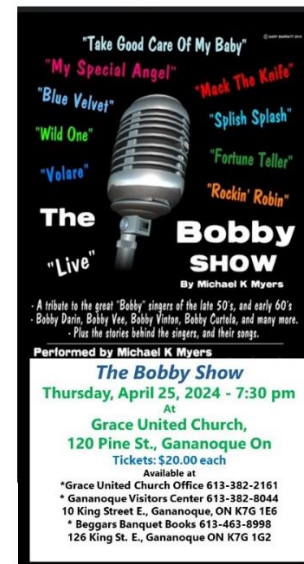
The performance of our musical guests is kindly provided by the generosity of Grace United Church member Michèle Denis. If you would like to support special events in our music program, please speak to our Music Director, Paul Harding.

Rev. Takouhi will be away for the week of April 1 & 8, for a much-needed time to refresh and rejuvenate.

Next Week, April 7, Worship Celebration will be led by Liz Church, Who will also cover for Pastoral Care Emergencies (April 1-17), she can be reached at: 902-441-5357

Worship on April 14 will be led by Barb DeJeet.

May you ALL be Blessed by the True Meaning of Easter, which is Life Altered to the better by the Spirit of God. Amen.



Concert – Thursday, April 25th at 7:30pm
 Featuring, Michael Myers, Tim Hallman and more...
 Join us for a tribute to the Great Bobby Singers of the 50s & 60s.
 All are welcome
 Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the church office, Beggars Banquet Books, the Gananoque Visitors center or online through the following link.
[The Bobby Show - CanadaHelps](#)

Coming up this week at Grace United....

Sunday, March 31 10:30 am Worship Easter Sunday/Communion	Office Closed Worship Leader, Rev. Takouhi
Monday, April 1 6:00pm	Office Closed YOGA
Tuesday, April 2 9am – 12pm	Office 8am – 1pm Quilters
Wednesday, April 3 10:30 am	Office Closed Seniors French Class
Thursday, April 4 10:30 to 12 pm 1:30 – 2:30	Office 8am – 1pm Choir Practice (10:30 – 12pm) Seniors – MELT Fitness
Friday, April 5	Office 8am – 1pm
Saturday, April 6	Office Closed
Sunday, April 7 10:30am Morning Worship	Office Closed Worship Leader, Rev. Takouhi
Monday, April 8	Office 8am – 1pm Eclipse Day