

**Contact information:**

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

Rev. Takouhi (direct Line) 613-777-0880

Email: [RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca](mailto:RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca)

Office (Laurie Cadue) 613-382-2161 [grace.gan@outlook.com](mailto:grace.gan@outlook.com)

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 8:00am to 1:00 p.m.

**(Closed on Wednesdays)**

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**Boards of Grace United**

**Session: Chair: Barb Jenkins:**

613-583-2077      [barbjenkins1@gmail.com](mailto: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      [brooksb525@gmail.com](mailto:brooksb525@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson,      Secretary: Diane Nuttall

**Treasurer: Vicki Leakey**

613-382-4015      [vickileakey@gmail.com](mailto:vickileakey@gmail.com)

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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-](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNVYi-R3mmlG7LnX1jKJnEg)

[R3mmlG7LnX1jKJnEg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNVYi-R3mmlG7LnX1jKJnEg)

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceUnitedChurchGananoque>

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



*(A\_Thrill\_of\_Hope\_-\_Advent\_in\_a\_Box\_Vol\_2\_-\_2024\_-\_Lectionary\_Graphics - Used by Permission)*

***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

## December 8, 2024 - Order of Worship

Second Sunday of Advent - PEACE

**We Remember the fourteen women who were killed on  
Dec. 6, 1989, at Montreal's École Polytechnique,  
simply because they were women.**

### WE GATHER AS ADVENT PEOPLE

**Organ Prelude:** *Meditation on "Richmond"* - Thomas Haweis

**Welcome – Diane Nuttall**

### 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**

-1-

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

### Spiritual Focus:

*"Advent is the anticipation of God's Peace...  
... to be evident EVERYWHERE..."*

### Lighting the Christ Candle

*(The Christ candle is lit.)*

*(Please stand as able)*

### Gathering Song of Praise Voices United #29

*"Hark, the Glad Sound"*

*(Please be seated)*

### Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy - Advent II<sup>1</sup>

**Second Sunday of Advent** (We focus: Isaiah 40:1–11)

**Reader:** O God, we light the second candle of Advent.  
*(With the first candle already burning, the second candle is lit.)*

**Reader:** We seek your comfort. Both mighty and tender, you come. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you.

**Reader:** Isaiah announced God's coming to a people exiled in a broken and parched wilderness. He declared that God's redemption would make a highway in the desert and change the rough places into plain. God would come as a shepherd—feeding, leading, and cradling the weary flock. This Advent, we seek such a God.

**All: Saving God, look upon your world and heal your land and your people. Prepare us to be changed. This Advent, teach us to be tender and just, as you are. Amen.**

-2-



<sup>1</sup> [https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/worship\\_worship-ways\\_year-a\\_ace\\_advent-liturgy-for/](https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/worship_worship-ways_year-a_ace_advent-liturgy-for/) November 24, 2024

*(Please remain seated)*

**Advent Candle Lighting Song - Voices United #1**

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

**WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES**

**Prayer of Illumination (All):** As we praise and bless you today, O God, through this worship. We ask that you plant seeds of Hope and Peace within us once again. May our ears open and our hearts awake, as we hear scripture. May these words we are about to hear bring us courage, comfort and, also challenge. May we grow with Your Spirit and into Your Likeness. **Amen**

**Time with Youth and Young at Heart**

*"Peace from within..."*

*(Please stand as able)*

**Song Voices United #6**

*"A Candle is Burning" (verses 1 & 2)*

*(Please be seated)*

**Scripture Reader: Mary Haussler**

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

**All: Let us listen for that Living Word of Reconciliation and Peace.**

**Gospel of Luke 3:1-6 (NRSVAV)**

**The Proclamation of John the Baptist**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother

Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Reader: Here ends today's reading.

**All: May the Spirit of Peace add understanding to our hearing.**

**Anthem:** *Our Hope is in This Child - Judith Snowdon*

**Life Lesson:** *"Advent: God's Peace is Everywhere!"*

*(Please stand as able)*

**Song of Assurance - Voices United #44**

*"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*

*(Please be seated)*



## Prayers of Hope and Healing



*We Remember the fourteen women who were killed on Dec. 6, 1989, at Montreal's École Polytechnique, simply because they were women.*

*This Memorial plaque is found on the exterior wall of École Polytechnique (Montreal, Quebec).*

### **The Lord's Prayer (sung VU 960)**

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:** *Gananoque & Area Community Kitchen*  
- **Marian McLeod** -

### **Our Offerings – Supporting God's Ministries:**

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



*(Please stand as able)*

### **Offertory Song: More Voices # 33 (verse 1 & 2)**

*"Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope"*

- 1 Jesus came bringing us hope,  
Jesus came bringing us hope,  
Jesus came bringing us hope,  
hallelujah forever more!
- 2 Jesus came bringing us peace,  
Jesus came bringing us peace,  
Jesus came bringing us peace,  
hallelujah forever more!

Words and music: traditional song. Cameroon, arr. More Voices, 2007  
Arrangement copyright © 2007 The United Church of Canada  
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## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

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

### Song of Going Forth: Voices United #5

*"All Earth is Waiting"*

### **Commissioning & Benediction**

### **Choral Amen**

**Postlude:** *Gavotte in G - G.F. Handel*

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*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.*

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### 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.**

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## 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 Paul & Bonnie.**

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

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### **WRITE YOUR NAME & THE AMOUNT ARE ON YOUR DONATION ENVELOPE**

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

#### **Offerings December 2024**

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Benevolent (SGM)
Dec. 1	40	\$ 2024.65	\$ 227.50	\$ 26.50
Dec. 8				
Dec 15				
Dec 22				
Dec 24				
Dec 19				
BMO				
PAR				

**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](mailto: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](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/>

**Daily Prayers for Advent:** the UCW are selling devotional pamphlets for \$5 each. A daily read during Advent. These are available at the back of the Church

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**UCW Christmas Lunch.**

The UCW Christmas lunch is scheduled for Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm at the Gananoque Curling Club. Lunch is \$20 and will include Chicken pot pie, salad & dessert. *(All the ladies of the church are welcome to attend, you do not need to be a UCW member.)* There will also be a Secret Santa for those who wish to participate (max \$20). Contact Denise by December 10<sup>th</sup> to confirm your spot. 613-876-7739

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Rev. Takouhi has taken a new position serving Trinity United Church in Smiths Falls. This will be much easier for her, as it is closer to her family. Rev. Takouhi's last service for Grace United will be on Christmas Eve.

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> following service there will be a farewell luncheon for Rev Takouhi, catered by the Roast Beef Company. All are invited. Cost by donation.

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Don't forget about our FundScrip Program. By ordering gift cards, you also give back to Grace United Church. There are order forms in the Narthex and some great promotions on now. Gift card order can be sent right to your home. Need help, ask Denise Wood or Laurie.

**White Gift Sunday – December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

This year, your white gift donations will go to *The Gananoque and Area Community Kitchen*. They continue to offer cooking events here in our own kitchen once a month on the 3rd Wednesday. Numbers are increasing and they now feed about 25 to 30 participants who come from all walks of life and different needs such as help with cooking, loneliness, hunger, and community togetherness. They are working towards becoming a registered charity and are in need of funds to purchase supplies for their classes. Of course they also could use extra volunteers.

**Red Wagon Food Bank**

Red Wagon Food Bank Continues this week with canned goods. Next week, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> is the final week for the Red Wagon. Thank you everyone.

**December 8<sup>th</sup> Canned Goods**

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

**December 15<sup>th</sup> - Snack Items & Miscellaneous.**

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

***NOTE: Cash Donations are always appreciated.***

**NEWSLETTER – Grace's Chatter**

There are copies of the latest edition of Grace's Chatter available at the entrance of the church. With the mail strike on right now, please take a copy to someone you know would enjoy it.

## Christmas Memory Tree

Again this year we offering a special way for you to remember loved ones, who have passed from us. They can be a special part of our church worship during this Christmas season. With a small donation you may purchase a wooden ornament. Have your loved ones name printed on it and hang it on our Memory Tree. It will remain there all through the Christmas season. This idea was brought forth last year by a dear member, Cheryl O'Leary . Sadly, Cheryl has now passed but the tree lives on her memory. Money raised will go to support the work of Grace United Church.



**Blue Christmas Service**  
**Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.**  
**7:00pm**

**For those who are feeling a little down, the lose of a loved one.**  
**A special service on reflection.**  
**All are welcome.**



**DECEMBER 18, 2024**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**"Blue Christmas"**  
 Grace United Church  
 (120 Pine Street, Gananoque, ON)  
**All are welcome.**  
 Not everyone is up for cheery Christmas Season. People face different situations at different times of life. If you have said goodbye to a loved one, or grieving any other situation, you are invited to Grace United.  
 Attend this gathering to take time to breathe in Love and Exhale Gratitude - reflect upon the Heart of Christmas, which is **Hope** in the middle of hardships; **Peace** in the middle of chaos; **Joy** in the middle of grief; and **Love** in the middle of loneliness.  
 This gathering is for ALL - it is a gathering in honesty about grief, hearing the consolation found in God's presence and love.  
 Join us as you are. **We will name our losses and remember those whom we have loved and lost from this physical world.** Take time to reflect upon the Spirit of Christmas and the True light of Christ. **And be reminded that there is Life and Light even in the longest night.**



Artwork by Jan Richardson - <http://www.janrichardson.com>

## **Coming up at Grace United....**

<b>Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup></b> <b>9 to 10 am</b> <b>6 – 7 pm</b>	<b>Office 8 to 1pm</b> <b>Better Balance</b> <b>YOGA</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>9am – 12pm</b> <b>5:30 – 6:30</b>	<b>Office 8am – 1pm</b> <b>Quilters</b> <b>PILATES</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup></b> <b>9 to 10 am</b>	<b>Office Closed</b> <b>Better Balance</b>
<b>Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>10:30 am</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Office 8am – 1pm</b> <b>Choir Practice</b> <b>Melodia Food Bank Fundraiser</b>
<b>Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup></b> <b>9 to 10 am</b> <b>2:00pm</b>	<b>Office 8am – 1pm</b> <b>Better Balance</b> <b>FoxRun Chaple Service</b>
<b>Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>December 15<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Third Sunday of Advent - JOY</b>	<b>Office Closed</b> <b>Worship Leader: Rev. Takouhi</b> <b>Lunch for Rev Takouhi following service.</b> <b>All Welcome – Cost Donation</b>

**Melodia Carol Christmas**  
**Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**  
**A Fundraiser for the**  
**Gananoque Area Food Bank**  
**Admission – by Donation**  
**At Grace United Church**