

**Thank you to our Worship Leader this morning, Tammy Fergusson, next Sunday, Rev. Erin Burns will lead our service.**

---

**Contact information:**

**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)**

---

**Boards of Grace United**

**Session : Chair :** Colleen Harding

613-382-2405      [colleen.g.harding@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.g.harding@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: TBD      Clerk: Julie Price

**Board of Stewards: Chair:** Vicki Leakey

Vice Chair: Cliff Edwards,      Secretary: Mary Haussler

**Official Board: Chair: Chuck Galway**

613 532 1217      [lyndwayhills@gmail.com](mailto:lyndwayhills@gmail.com)

Vice Chair: Dave Charles,      Secretary: Diane Nuttall

**Treasurer: Vicki Leakey**

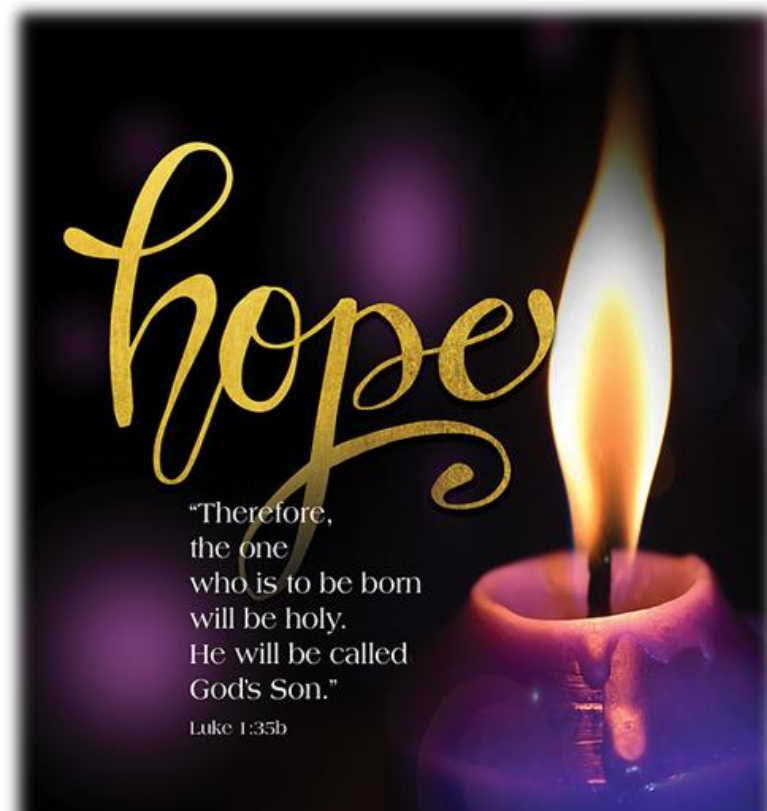
613-484-6197      [vickileakey@gmail.com](mailto:vickileakey@gmail.com)

---

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

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 the Family  
and 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

### Director of Music

Mr. Paul Harding, B.Mus., B.Ed.

### Office Administrator

Laurie Cadue

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

Tammy Fergusson B.A, B. Ed, LLWL



### We Gather as A Grateful People

**Prelude:** *Meditation on "Away in a Manger"*

**Welcome:** Colleen Harding

### Land Acknowledgement

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 and Anniversaries

## Centering Music

*We Centre Our Hearts for Worship.*

### **Advent Wreath Hymn: Voices United #6**

**"A Candle Is Burning" Verse 1**

### **Advent Candle Lighting** *(Responsive)*

One: On this first Sunday of Advent,  
we come with hope.

**All: We watch, we wait, we wonder.**

One: We come in hope for God's praise  
to bring light to this world.

**All: We wait in hope for the coming of Jesus,  
the Christ Child.**

One: As we light the first candle in our wreath,  
we take a moment to breathe in the  
Spirit of Hope.

### **Advent Prayer**

**O God of Hope,**

**On this first Sunday of Advent, fill us with hope for  
the world and for the church, knowing that Jesus,  
the Christ Child, brings the light of hope.**

*Irma Nadeau, Trinity U.C., Winnipeg, Man.*

### **Spiritual Focus**

The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up  
and awake to what God is doing! *The Message Romans*  
13:11-14

## **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

### **Call to Worship** *Isaiah 2:1-5*

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord  
For God rises above all else!  
Let the swords be beaten into plowshares,  
And the spears transform into pruning hooks.  
For we are ready and willing,  
To learn a new way of living.

### **Gathering Hymn: Voices United #314** **"Come Now, Almighty King"**

### **Prayer of the Day** (Responsive)

One: Today we begin a new journey  
in a new Christian year  
a journey of waiting, hoping, and anticipating.

**All: With God, we embark on a journey of hope.**

One: Today we seek new insights  
and new understandings.

**All: We give thanks  
for the ways in which God has brought us  
to this moment.**

One: Today we are clear that we are not alone.  
God is among us, drawing us into a time  
of renewal and opening us to a moment of grace.

*B Steadman. Gathering. pg.28*

## **We Reflect on the Sacred Stories**

### **Welcoming A New Member**

**Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

**Statement of Purpose**

**Presentation:** Chair of Session

**Commitment of New Member**

**Congregational Commitment** *Responsive*

One: Dear friends in Christ,

Let us pledge to Gerri Heath  
our support and care.

**All: As your friends in Christ,**

**We rejoice in the gifts you bring to us.**

**We pledge to you our love and our support.**

**With God's help, we will together live out**

**The mission and ministry of Christ's church.**

### **Corporate Profession of Faith:**

#### **Voices United #918 - A New Creed**

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.



We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

*The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968, alt.*

## **Welcome**

### **Song of Illumination: Voices United #509**

**"Here I Am, Lord"**

### **Scripture Reader: Vicki Leakey**

**Reader:** Listen for the Sacred Story,

**All: our ears and hearts are open.**

### **Scripture Reading: Matthew 24: 36-44**

#### **The Necessity for Watchfulness**

<sup>36</sup> 'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son,[a] but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days

before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day[b] your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

**Reader:** Here ends today's reading.

For the Sacred Story is God's story,

**All: for the Sacred Story is our story,**

**Reader:** for the Sacred Story is our source and inspiration.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** *Calypso Carol – Perry*

**Morning Message:** *It's Hard to Wait! ...*

*Tammy Fergusson*

## **We Respond to God's Grace**

### **Song of Assurance: Voices United #708**

#### **My Lord, What A Morning**

### **Prayers of Hope and Healing**

### **Lord's Prayer: (Sing) Voices United #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  
forever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Your Generosity Matters:**

#### ***Faithful Witness in a Time of Despair***

### **Invitation to Offering**

Grace United is certainly a place to witness Christ in our lives. Just come to the church on a weekday morning to see all the activity down in the fellowship

hall! God encourages us to keep up the good work through discipleship, through invitation, through action. You are invited to help by placing a contribution on the Offering Plate, by using PAR or by going online at Canada Helps. Come, let us get ready and prepare!

### **The Offering Will Now Be Received**

### **Offertory Hymn: Voices United #544**

**"In Gratitude and Humble Trust"** (tune: Amazing Grace)

In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.

Words: Frank von Christienson 1960, alt.

Music: from Virginia Harmony 1831.

### **Offertory Prayer**

**All: We never know, living Christ,  
whether what we offer is enough.  
Still, we present these gifts for your work  
in the world, trusting that you will bless them,  
and us, for your purpose.  
May these gifts find the hour of your need.**

*Gathering, pg.30*

## God Sends Us into the World To Be The Church

### Hymn of Going Forth: Voices United #512

#### **"Lord, You Give The Great Commission"**

(tune: Hyfrydol, Voices United #333)

### Commissioning

Today we are watchful and waiting  
Filled with God's hope  
To carry on our journey  
Throughout this week  
And as we go,  
May we offer God's vision of hope to all we meet  
This Holy Blessing to be received and shared  
As we anticipate Christ to be born in all of us.

### Choral Amen

**Postlude:** *St. Anthony Chorale - F.J. Haydn*

### 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 Birthday to Denise & Steve.**

**Happy Anniversary to Brian & Linda.**

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

## **Advent Bible Study –Wednesdays at 10:00am**

### November/December Speakers

Dec. 7 Rev. Erin Burns (Communion – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Advent)

Dec 14 Rev. Erin Burns (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Advent)

Dec. 21 Donna Norman (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Advent)

Dec. 24 Rev. Erin Burns (Christmas Eve)

Dec. 28 Tammy Fergusson (Baby Shower)

## **Offerings – November 2025**

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Benev. (SGM)
Nov 2	34	\$ 1657.50	\$ 127.50	\$ 37.50
Nov 9	24	\$ 1517.50	\$ 127.50	\$ 47.50
Nov 16	27	\$ 682.50	\$ 122.50	\$ 2.50
Nov 23	23	\$ 1557.5	\$ 127.50	27.50
Nov 30				
BMO				
PAR				

Thank you for your generosity.





All money received for White Gift will be used to purchase Grocery Store Gift Cards. These cards will be given to our local police to distribute to those in need.

**Baby Shower for Jesus**  
**Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:30 am**

You are invited to a baby shower for Jesus. This informal celebration will be held downstairs in the auditorium with carols, readings, prayers, coffee and treats.

Please bring a wrapped gift suitable for a young child, or a monetary gift. These gifts will be passed on to a local family.

Come and bring a friend!  
 Let's fill the manger!

**Grace United Church**  
 120 Pine St., Gananoque  
 (613) 382-2161

**Melodia Christmas Concert Fundraiser for the Food bank. "A Lighthearted Christmas" – Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. At Grace United Church.**  
**Admission by donation**

**Grace Church – FREE Movie Matinee**

Grace United Church  
 Gananoque

**FREE MOVIE MATINEE**

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**  
*Silent night, hold on tight.*

Free popcorn & juice

**Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**2:00 pm matinee showing - FREE**  
 Children 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult.  
 Grace United Church - 120 Pine St., Gananoque