



Grace United Church

120 Pine St. Gananoque, ON K7G 1C7

Ordained Minister

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro B.A., B.Th., M.Div.

Minister Emeritus: Rev. J. Harry Seeley B.A.

Director of Music

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

Office Administrator

Laurie Cadue

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent – HOPE

World AIDS Day – December 1

Baptism & Communion Sunday

Order of Worship



WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF GRACE

Prelude: *Medley of Advent and Children's Hymns*

Welcome: Cheryl O' Leary

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Spiritual Focus:

"Blessed Are Those Who Believe..."

Call to Worship

Song of Hope: Voices United # 6 (v. 1)

"A Candle is Burning"

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,

A candle of hope in December's dark night.

While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,

Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is night.

Words: Sandra Dean, 198

Music: James R. Murray, 1887

Used with the kind permission of Mrs. Sandra Dean, Ottawa



Advent Candle Lighting Ritual - Hope – Tom Currie

Reader: As we begin the Advent Journey we light
the first candle – the candle of HOPE.

(Light the first candle.)

Reader: We kindle it with Hope because we long for HOPE.

We pray that God of the Universe will be evident to us once
again, and break through the chaos with HOPE.

With this HOPE we pray, as one family:

All: Creator God, break through all that keeps us from you.

**We ask that Your Mercy reforms us in your image,
once again. Through this Advent Season and always,
may we experience you in our midst once again and
be filled with Hope. Amen.**

WE SEEK WISDOM

Song of Illumination: Voices United # 2

Tune: Hyfrydol VU 333

"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.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**
2. **Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
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

Life Lesson: *"What is Advent All About?"*

Special Music: *"Bless this House"*

May Brahe, lyrics by Helen Taylor 1927

Soloist: Doug Gifford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

WE SHARE GOD'S BANQUET

Communion Prayer

Our Faith Cries Out, Resilient! A Communion Prayer for Advent 1

Invitation to The Table

One: The prophets foretold it: the desert burst into bloom...we gather at this Table prepared for us and turn to the Creator as our Mother and...

The Lord's Prayer (ALL)

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.

Blessing of the Bread and the Cup

THE GIFTS OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD SHARING THE ELEMENTS

One: Jesus, Bread for the Journey and the True Vine

All: Thanks be to God.

¹ Adapted from: **Our Faith Cries Out, Resilient** written by the Rev. Penny L. Lowes, United Church of Christ.

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion (All):

Holy Creator, Bread of Life, Everlasting *HOPE*, a light shines in the night and the night will not overcome it. With this meal we are replenished and strengthened, by your *HOPE*. We will boldly carry this *HOPE* into the world. Thank you for recharging our batteries and reviving us with your everlasting *HOPE*. You are the power source that never gives out - eternally renewable and sustainable. Thank you, God, Thank you Christ, Thank you, Spirit. **Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Song for Baptism: Voices United # 644 (vv. 1-3)

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"



- 1) I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.**
- 2) I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.**
- 3) When you heard the wonder of the word,
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
To whom you now belong.**

Words and Music: John Ylvisaker 1985 Music: Ron Klusmeier 1974

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Minister: (*Mark 10:13-16*) People were bringing little children to Jesus. The disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus saw this and said to them

All: "Let the little children come to me..."

Minister: Members and friends in and through Christ, today we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism through the Gift of Grace. Ordinary element such as water helps us experience a Sacred moment through The Spirit.

All: We are one body and one spirit.


Our Hope is rooted in the Creator, who continues to create in, through and with us.

Minister: There is One God, One Faith, One Baptism,
One Creator of us all.


Session Rep.: On behalf of the congregation of **Grace United Church**, I present *Austin Robert Goff* the son of *Ryan & Taralynn Goff* for initiation into the Body of Christ.

COMMITMENT OF PARENTS

Minister: *Ryan & Taralynn*, you have decided to Baptize *Austin*. The act of Baptism is accepting the claim that your child is called **Beloved**, and you accept this gift with gratitude, from the Holy Creator. As parents, you are entrusted to nurture and guide your child in the path of God's Light. I ask you now, in the presence of God and of this community:

-  Do you confess your faith in God as Creator; Jesus the embodiment of God's Love; and the Spirit God's presence in and among us?

Parents: We do.

-  Do you commit yourselves to follow the way of Love as demonstrated in the life of Jesus in your private and public life?

Parents: We do.

- ✚ Will you support the life and work of the church in this community and/or wherever you are found?

Parents: We will.

- ✚ Will you share your faith with your child, and ensure that the Compassionate Teachings of Jesus are planted in him?

Parents: We will.

COMMITMENT OF GODPARENTS

Minister: *Kevin & Ruth-Ann*, as godparents will you grow in faith with this child, trusting that, "You are not alone, you live in God's world"?

Godparents: We will, God being our helper.

Minister: Recognizing that many persons nurture and influence the life of a child, will you support *Austin* and his parents as he grows in faith?

Godparents: We will, God being our helper.

Minister: Sharing your faith is the most precious gift to *Austin*. We are glad to hear and witness your commitment.

COMMITMENT OF CONGREGATION

Minister: As a baptized and baptizing church let us covenant with this family, one another, and God.

All: As a baptized and baptizing church, we commit ourselves anew to one another, and God.



Minister: Let us say together the **New Creed**

**All: 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.

A New Creed - The United Church of Canada, General Council, 1968

Pouring of Water



Prayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

Minister: Creator God, you formed this world out of the dark waters of chaos. And time and again you have saved us as we have passed through the dark waters of life.

All: We remember the flood and your gracious promise sealed in the rainbow. We remember Jesus, and the way he was protected by the waters of Mary's womb. We remember John, and the way he baptized. We remember the disciples, and the way in which they shared in the ministry of Jesus, his death, resurrection, and the sharing of the Gospel throughout the world.

Minister: So we come before you today, grateful for the promise and the power of water. We pray that your Holy Spirit blesses this gift and this child who will receive it. Embrace her in your Love and Cover her in your Peace.

All: Amen.

Baptism in the Name of the Triune God

Blessing

Marking with the Sign of the Cross

Laying On of Hands – Prayer



PRESENTATIONS

Session Rep.: *Baptismal Candle & Baptism Certificate*

(The baptismal candle is lit from the Christ Candle, signifying the light of Christ, and presented to the parents on the child's behalf)

Session Rep.: Austin Robert Goff, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works for the glory to God. **Amen**

Caring & Sharing Team Member: *Prayer Blanket*

Minister: Presentation of Bible

INTRODUCTION TO CONGREGATION

Minister: Members of **Grace United Church** I introduce to you, *Austin Robert Goff* a child of God, member of the Body of Christ. We welcome him into the Household of Faith, with Joy and Thanksgiving.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Song after Baptism: Voices United #: 452

"You Have Put On Christ"

You have put on Christ,

In Christ you have been baptised.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Words: from the Rite of Baptism ICEL, ca 1969. Music: Howard Hughes 1977
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Our Offerings – Make Miracles Evident

*Let us partner up with God and give Generously
with Joy and Gratitude.*

Offertory Prayer

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

Going Forth: Voices United # 5

"All Earth is Waiting"

- 1. All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling,
seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.**
- 2. Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel."
One whose name is "God with us," our Saviour shall be,
through whom hope will blossom once more within
our hearts.**
- 3. Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,
open new highways, new highways for our God,
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.**
- 4. In lowly stable the Promised One appeared.
Yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today,
for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, on arriving, Christ brings liberty.**

Words: Catalanian, Albert Taulé 1972, Eng. trans. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987, alt. Music: Alberto Taulé 1972, harm. Skinner Chivez-Melo 1988. Words and music copyright © 1993 Centro de Pastoral Liturgic.. Trans. Copyright © 1989 The United Church Publishing House
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Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: "Count Your Blessings" Irving Berlin 1954

Soloist: Doug Gifford

Welcome

as we gather for worship this Sunday morning. If you are a visitor or newcomer to this Community of Faith, we extend a warm greeting. Thank you for joining us virtually.

Celebration Candle



Today we send Blessings of Joy to all who are celebrating Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special Events in the coming week.

Happy Birthday, Denise Wood and Happy 54th Wedding Anniversary to Brian & Linda Brooks.

May Joy abound and Love Multiply.

Would you like your Birthday or Anniversary added to our announcements? Please contact Laurie at the church Office and give her the details. Birthdays or Anniversaries can only be added with your written consent.



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 the church office if there is someone you know who is ill, in hospital or in need of pastoral care. ****

Thank you to our Guest Musician & Organist, Doug Gifford. We appreciate your time and talents.

Sunday Offerings

November 21st, 2021

Attendance: 33

General	\$ 1,338.00
Mission & Service	\$ 162.00

Thank you for your offerings

Write your name & amount on envelopes.

2022 Envelopes will be out shortly.

If you would like envelopes, please contact Laurie in the Office 613-382-2161

There are many ways you can contribute to Grace United Church and our causes.

e-transfer to grace.gan@outlook.com

by cheque -120 Pine ST. Gananoque, On K7G 1C7 -
Sign-up for PAR Forms

https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/form_par-authorization.pdf (Control & Click to open link)

by Credit Card through CanadaHelps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118944701RR0001-grace-united-church/> (Control & Click to open link)

Call the church office if you have any questions.

Fundscrip Orders

DATE CHANGE FOR DECEMBER

Fundscrip Orders & Payments for December will be accepted up to **December 5th**, this will allow time for the cards to be in before Christmas. There are also several specials for December which gives more money back to Grace United. Order forms are available on the table in the Narthex. Please take a form and have a look, there are many great stores included.

Lions Club

Complimentary (FREE) Christmas Dinner, Take out or Delivery. Friday, December 10th – 5pm to 6:30pm



To sign-up call Dave at 613-463-9406 or text 989-488-3177

Annual Red Wagon Food Drive

The tradition of our advent Red Wagon food drive continues this year.

Here is the list of items being collected each Sunday. Cut the list out and keep it handy for reference. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.

Dec 5th: Personal Hygiene items, Shampoo, Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Feminine products, Disposable Razors, Toilet paper, Laundry & Dish detergent.

Dec 12th: Canned goods – Vegetables, Fruit, Soups, Pork & Beans, Tuna, Salmon, Ham, Stews, Juices boxes

Dec. 19th: Treats, Cake mixes, Cookies, Puddings, Jello, Apple snacks, Granola & Cereal bars, Potato Chips, Cheesies, Popcorn, Crackers, etc.

Broadview Subscriptions and Renewals.

It is time to renew our Broadview Subscriptions.

The cost for a yearly subscription is \$25 per subscriber for a group of five or more. If you would like to renew your subscription or start to receive the Broadview, there is a form on the table in the Narthex. Fill out the information required and drop a cheque or cash in the offering plate marked

BROADVIEW or send an e-transfer for \$25 to

grace.gan@outlook.com.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Contact information:

Office (Laurie) 613-382-2161 grace.gan@outlook.com
Church Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:00am to 1:00 p.m. (Closed on Wednesdays)

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

Email: RevTakouhi@Terraautopia.ca

Session: Chair: Paul Scott,

Vice Chair: Rhea Roantree, Clerk: Joan Shaw

Board of Stewards: Chair: Carolyn Scott,

Vice Chair: Denise Wood, Secretary: Mary Haussler

Official Board: Chair: Brian Brooks

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

December 5th – Second Sunday of Advent - PEACE

Red Wagon – Personal Items

Fundscrip Orders DUE

December 12th – Third Sunday of Advent – JOY

White Gift Sunday

Red Wagon – Canned Goods

December 19th – Fourth Sunday of Advent – LOVE

Final Red Wagon – Treats, cookies, chips, etc.

December 24th – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00pm

Sunday, December 26th – NO SERVICE

January 2nd, 2022 – 10:30am Service - Epiphany Sunday

Worship Leader; Barb Dejeet

Important Information

Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am

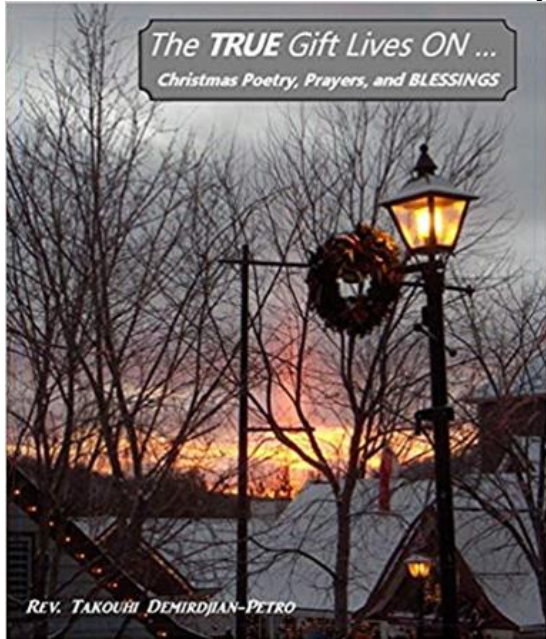
Service is also Broadcast live on YouTube at 10:30 am each Sunday.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNVYi-R3mmIG7LnX1jKJnEg>

The service from the previous week will be shown on COGECO channel 13 or 700HD at 10:30 am Sunday mornings.

**Copies of Rev. Takouhi's book,
"The True Gift lives ON..." are available for purchase.**



Copies are on the table in the Narthex.

A wonderful gift.

**The cost is \$20, with \$10 from each purchase going
towards Grace United Church, "Spirit of Giving"**

This Community of Faith acknowledges all traditional territories, all ceded and unceded lands that we live upon - and give thanks for all the generations of people who have taken care of these lands before us and still do with us today. May we be open to historical truths and may we continue to learn from the past, shape our present time and build a better world with All People.



(Picture: Credit to Indigenous Ministries and Justice – The United Church of Canada)