



## 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

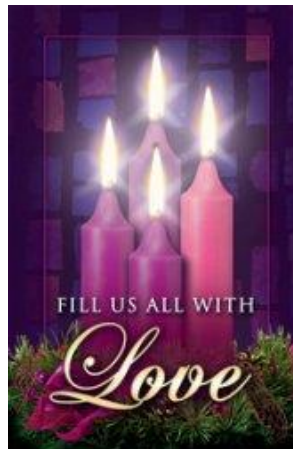
Laurie Cadue

**December 19, 2021**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent – Love*

### Order of Worship

**WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF GRACE**



**Prelude:** *Just As I Am* – Wm Bradbury, arr. Victor Johnston  
**Gillian MacDonald, Trumpet**

**Welcome:** Brian Brooks

**Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries**

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

### Spiritual Focus:

*"Blessed Are Those Who Believe..."*

## Gathering Song Voices United #: 60

### "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

- O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him, born the King of angels;

**Refrain:** O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

- God of God, light of light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten, not created:

**Refrain:** O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

- Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God in the highest:

**Refrain:** O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

- See how the shepherds summoned to the cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draws nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;

**Refrain:** O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

- Yea Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

**Refrain:** O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Words: English trans. Frederick Oakeley 1841 et al.  
Music: attrib. John Francis Wade ca. 1743  
Descant: Sir David Willcocks  
Public Domain

### **Call to Worship: Voices United**

One: Out of little Bethlehem comes the Prince of Peace.

**All: Our spirits rejoice in God the source of Peace.**

One: He shall be great to the ends of the earth.

**All: Our spirits rejoice in God the source of Love.**

One: God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

**All: Holy is God's name!**

### **Song of Hope: Voices United # 6 (v. 1-4)** **"A Candle is Burning"**

1. 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 nigh.
2. A candle is burning, a candle of **peace**,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.
3. A candle is burning, a candle of **joy**,  
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.

4. A candle is burning, a candle of **love**,  
a candle to point us to heaven above.  
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,  
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.

Words: Sandra Dean, 1986  
Music: James R. Murray, 1887  
Reprinted with the blessing of Mrs. Sandra Dean

### **Advent Candle Lighting Ritual – LOVE – Cheryl O'Leary**

One: As we continue to journey through Advent we light  
the fourth candle – the candle of LOVE.

*(Light the fourth candle.)*

One: Love abundant overflows, pouring into our midst.  
Rise, take heart, and love deeply. The glow of God the  
Divine Lover lightens our hearts. We are together and  
never alone. Gathered on this fourth Sunday in Advent  
we witness to God's deep love and tender compassion  
for the whole world. Our witness is love.  
God's love comes to ground, and like an arc, large to  
hold, embrace, heal, and restore.

Let us Pray together as one family:

**All: God-who-never-ceases-to-love, kindle our hearts that  
we may burn anew with your love. Bless us with the  
flame of lively living and believing. Take our words  
and release them to speak of you; take our minds  
and broaden them to reflect your overflowing love;  
take our hearts and set them alight with your desire  
for goodness. In the name of the One full of love.  
AMEN. <sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Advent Unwrapped - 2021

**Song of Illumination: Voices United # 38**

*"Angels We have Heard on High"*

1. Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountain in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.  
**Refrain:** Gloria, in excelcis deo.  
Gloria, in excelcis deo.
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heavenly song?  
**Refrain:** Gloria, in excelcis deo.  
Gloria, in excelcis deo.
3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
**Refrain:** Gloria, in excelcis deo.  
Gloria, in excelcis deo.
4. See him in a manger laid,  
whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while our hearts in love we raise.  
**Refrain:** Gloria, in excelcis deo.  
Gloria, in excelcis deo.

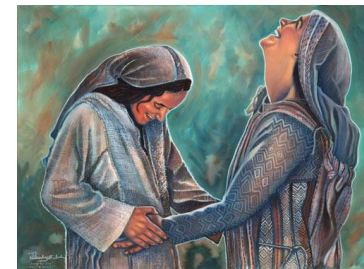
Words: French trad. carol, trans. James Chadwick 1860  
Music: French carol melody, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes 1937  
Public Domain

**Scripture Reading: Pam Shea**

**Gospel: Luke 1:39-55** (NRSV)

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."



**Life Lesson:** "To Be Favoured"

**Song of Celebration: Voices United # 73**

*"The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy"*

1. The virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,  
and they say that his name is Jesus.

**Refrain:** He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
Oh, yes! believer. O, yes! believer.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.

2. The angels sang when the baby was born,  
the angels sang when the baby was born,  
the angels sang when the baby was born,  
and they say that his name is Jesus.

**Refrain:** He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
Oh, yes! believer. O, yes! believer.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.

3. The shepherds came where the baby was born,  
the shepherds came where the baby was born,  
the shepherds came where the baby was born,  
and they say that his name is Jesus.

**Refrain:** He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.  
Oh, yes! believer. O, yes! believer.  
He come from the glory,  
he come from the glorious kingdom.

Words and music: West Indian carol  
arr. John Barnard 1982  
Words and music copyright © 1945 Boosey & Co. Ltd.  
Used by permission of One License A-736946.  
All rights reserved.

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE**

**WE OFFICIALLY WELCOME MEMBERS TO THIS  
COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

**Susan Barwell** (by profession of faith)

**Statement of Purpose**

One: The church is a community of people with varied gifts,  
united by the Holy Spirit...of the church of Jesus Christ.

**Presentation / Commitment of New Member  
Congregational Commitment**

One: Dear friends... our love, care and support.

**All: As your brothers and sisters in Christ,  
we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us.  
We pledge to you our love, care and our support.  
With God's help, we will together live out the  
mission and ministry of Jesus.**

One: Together as one family let us say our corporate  
profession of faith.

**A New Creed <sup>1</sup> (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. AMEN!**

**Welcome / Presentation of Certificate**



**Song of Celebration Voices United Page 958**

**"Halle, Halle, Halle"**

5 Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ia!  
9 Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ia!  
13 Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ia! Hal - le -  
lu - ia, Hal - le - lu - ia! Repeat

Words: trad. liturgical text  
Music: anon., arr. The Iona Community 1890  
Public Domain

**Your Generosity Matters:** - Dave Charles

*"Community is Key to Mental Health on Campus"*

**Our Offerings** – *The Kin-Dom of God is **Justice & Peace**;*  
*therefore, we give, as we are able, for the **Kin-Dom** with **LOVE!***

**Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication (All):**

**You deliver us, O God, from exile, separation, and despair into communion with each other, with you, and with your good news. We thank you for all that draws us close together, astounding us with lives transformed by gratitude.**

**Accept our gifts as signs of our gratitude for what you give us every day and as honor to your presence in our world; for the sake of those who are in need.**

**We pray because of LOVE. Amen.**

## Song of Hope and Healing More Voices # 81

### *"Love Us into Fullness"*

1. Love us into fullness, touch us with your grace;  
Jesus, in your mercy, draw us to your face.
2. Love us into fullness, hold us in your care,  
cheer us with your presence here and ev'rywhere.
3. Love us into fullness, and we will be strong;  
Jesus, walk beside us, fill our hearts with song.

Words: Daniel Charles Damon, 2002

Music: Au Clair de la Lune, French song

Words copyright © 2006 Hope Publishing Company,  
Carol Stream, IL 60188

Used with permission by One License A-736946. All rights reserved.

## Prayers of Hope and Healing / 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.**



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

### Going Forth: Voices United #48

#### *"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"*

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic host proclaim:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
**Refrain:** Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th'incarnate deity,  
please with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
**Refrain:** Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"
3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.

**Refrain:** Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Words: Charles Wesley 1739, alt.  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn 1840  
adapt. William Hayman Cummings 1856  
Descant: Sir David Willcocks

## Sending Forth & Benediction

### Choral Amen

**Postlude:** *O Come, Let Us Adore Him* – arr. David Willcocks

---

## 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 this week to Edna McCuaig, Rev. Harry Seeley, Carol Green and Catherine Mills.

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. \*\***

---

## Sunday Offerings

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Attendance: 76

General	\$ 2135.00
Mission & Service	\$ 632.00
White Gift	\$ 960.00

**Thank you for your offerings**

**Please, write your name & amount on envelopes.**

---

Thank you to all who contributed to our White Gift Sunday. To date \$2035.00 plus food has been collected for the Food Bank.  
\$1535 in Donations from congregation + \$500 from Grace United Special Grace Mission 😊

---

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

e-transfer to [grace.gan@outlook.com](mailto: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](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/118944701RR001-grace-united-church/> (Control & Click to open link)

---

**Attention All Boards & Groups & Representatives**  
**Your annual reports are due the first week of**  
**January.**

**Please submit as soon as possible.**

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

**Contact information:**

**Office** (Laurie) 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)**

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

**Email: [RevTakouhi@TerraUtopia.ca](mailto:RevTakouhi@TerraUtopia.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 19<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Advent – LOVE**

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

**December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Service – 7:00pm**

**Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> – NO SERVICE**

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 – 10:30 am Service - Epiphany Sunday**

**Worship Leader; Barb Dejeet**

**January 10<sup>th</sup> – Undecorating the church at 1:00pm – all  
welcome.**

**Important Information**

*Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30 am. 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.**

2022 Donation envelopes are ready to pick up in the Narthex. If you can not find your envelopes or you would like envelopes. Please contact Laurie at 613-382-2161. **ALSO, some envelope numbers have changed – PLEASE write your name and the donation amount of donation on your envelopes.**

**Updates to the COVID situation and in person services is ever evolving and changes will be posted to our website, Facebook and emailed to people – stay tuned – stay well.**

***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)*