



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 11, 2022 - Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Advent – Joy

White Gift Sunday



WE GATHER AS ADVENT PEOPLE

Prelude: Choral Prelude: *In Dulci Jubilo* - J.M. Bach

Choir: *A Christmas Fanfare* - Ross Hastings

Welcome – Denise Wood

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Spiritual Focus:

*“Advent: Learning to Walk in the Dark
with Hope, Peace, Joy, & Love...”*

(Please stand as able)

Gathering Song of Praise & Worship: Voices United #60

O Come, All Ye Faithful

- 1 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;
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
- 2 God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
- 4 See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
- 5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
**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

(Please be seated)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - JOY

One: The light glowing from our Advent wreath is burning brighter.
This radiance warms our hearts and fills us with joy!
The Lord has done great things for us. Let us rejoice.

**All: "May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves"
(Psalm 126:5-6).**

The first three candles are lit (2 purple and pink).

One: Light three candles, see them glow
Brightly, so that all may know
How three candles show the way
Making our darkness bright as God's day.

**All: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

One: Let us Pray in the name of the One who is the Source of ALL Joy.
We pray as one family.

**All: Dear God, we carry many burdens and worry over many
things. Help us to hear your promise in this Season of Advent
that in hearing, we may receive the Spirit's gift of joy.
And may our spirits be kept sound at the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**



Song of Proclamation Voices United #59

"Joy to the World"

- 1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:
let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground:
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the earth with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts 1719, alt.
Music: attrib. George Frideric Handel 1742
arr. Lowell Mason 1836 Public Domain

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Scripture Reader: Julie Price

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story,

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Psalm 146:5-10 (NRSV)

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

Amen.

Reader: 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 – *There is a Light* - Michael Barrett

Life Lesson "In Story & Song..."

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Song for Baptism: Voices United # 644

"I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry"



- 1 I was there to hear your borneing 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.
- 4 If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.
- 5 In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young.
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

- 6 When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.
- 7 I was there to hear your borbning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

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 *Shayne Ann Smith* the daughter of *Christopher Shane Smith &
Breanna Elizabeth Smith* for initiation into the Body of Christ.

COMMITMENT OF PARENTS

Minister: *Christopher & Breanna*, today is a special day. You have
decided to Baptize *Shayne Ann*. The act of Baptism is accepting the
claim that your child is called **Beloved by God**, and you accept this gift
with gratitude. 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, God being our helper.

- ✚ 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, God being our helper.

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

Parents: We will, God being our helper.

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

Parents: We will, God being our helper.

COMMITMENT OF GODPARENTS

Minister: *Brandon Rombough & Henrietta Roi* as godparents will you
grow in faith with *Shayne Ann*, trusting that, "You are not alone,
you live in God's world"?

Godparent: We will, God being my helper.

Minister: Recognizing that many persons nurture and influence the life
of a child, will you support *Shayne Ann* and her parents as she grows in
faith?

Godparent: We will, God being my helper.

Minister: Sharing your faith is the most precious gift to *Shayne Ann*.
We are glad to hear and to 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 nurture and support one another.



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.: *Shayne Ann Smith*, 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 a Bible

INTRODUCTION TO CONGREGATION

Minister: Members of **Grace United Church** I introduce to you, *Shayne Ann Smith* a child of God, member of the Body of Christ. We welcome her into the Household of Faith, with deep 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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Your Generosity Matters:

Anti-Racism App Developed by Young Adults is Set to Launch

Song of Good News 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 the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'
***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, the incarnate deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

***Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'***

3 Hail, the heavenborn 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.

***Hark! the herald angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn King!'***

Words: Charles Wesley 1739, alt. Music: Felix Mendelssohn 1840,
adapt. William Hayman Cummings 1856. Public Domain

Our Offerings – Supporting God’s Ministries:

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

Offertory Prayer: The Prayer that Jesus Taught His Followers (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**

(Please stand as able)

Song of Going Forth Voices United #43

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Saviour's birth!

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

Words: John Wesley Work II 1907

Music: African – American spiritual 19th century, arr. United Reform Church (U.K.)

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Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: *Descant on "Venite adoramus" - David Willcocks*

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, we look in seeing you again.



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 Bonnie Serson

Happy 45th Wedding Anniversary to Dave Charles & Joan MacKinnon.

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. ****

NOTE – Due to privacy laws and confidentiality, the names of people on our list are not printed in the Order of Service.

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

Sign-up for PAR Forms 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/>

Salvation Army – Kettle Drive

Grace United has been asked to man the Kettle on December 21 & 22 at No Frills and the LCBO. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. Please sign up!!

Offerings November 2022

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Local
Dec 4	50	\$ 1045.00	\$ 462.00	\$ 23.00
Dec 11				
Dec 18				
Dec 24				
Dec 25				
PAR				
BMO				

Thank you for your offerings

(PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME & AMOUNT ON YOUR ENVELOPE)

The Stewards of Grace United Church wish to thank all of you for your financial contributions of time and money during the year. As we all get more comfortable in group settings, you will find more activity being held in our church building, with more activity comes an increase in operating costs of hydro, water and heat, please see if you have any room for an increase in your offerings. No amount is too small, thank you so much for all you do to keep this church family strong.

2023 United Church Calendars

The UCW are selling 2023 Calendars for \$10 each and are available this morning in the Narthex. Funds will be used to help cover the costs of making cards for shut ins.



Red Wagon Food Bank & White Gift Sunday

December 11th is White Gift Sunday. We are asking for Monetary Donations to help the Food Bank provide Christmas Hampers to those in Need. This year, the Food Bank is providing Hampers to 175 families, which is a 33% increase from last year. Please give as you are able.



Dec. 18 Treats – Cake mixes, Cookies, Puddings, Jello, Apple snacks, Granola & Cereal bars, Potato Chips, Cheesies, Popcorn, Crackers, etc.

Blue Christmas
A service of remembrance and hope.

We invite you for a service of reflection, comfort and hope for hurting hearts.

Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 pm
Grace United Church,
120 Pine St., Gananoque



All are welcome. Not everyone is up to a 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 Church. 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. Our guest is world renowned speaker and author, Eleanor Glenn – “How Love Continues”. A Few copies of her book will be available, and ALL proceeds will be donated to the Benevolent Fund of Grace United Church. 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 even in the longest night. The Offertory Gifts from this evening will go to the BENEVOLENT FUND. Grace United Ministry that reaches beyond the walls of the church building.

Christmas Market

Thank you to everyone for making the Christmas Market such a wonderful success. A great team effort. Total raised \$5,552.00

Undecorating the Church

Volunteers are needed on January 9th at 10:00 am, to undecorating the church.

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@Terrautopia.ca

Session: Chair: Barb Jenkins

Vice Chair: Marg Worth, Clerk: Susan Barwell

Board of Stewards: Chair: Denise Wood

Vice Chair: Vacant, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

Official Board: Chair: Brian Brooks

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

The 2022 Directory is available in the Narthex

VIBE (Book Study) – Wednesday evenings VIA ZOOM

Sunday, December 18th – Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love

Worship Leader, Rev. Takouhi

Tuesday, December 20, 2022 – Blue Christmas Service 7:00 P.M.

Saturday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Service 7:00 P.M.

Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day Service 10:30am

Casual Service in Sanctuary with coffee & muffins

Sunday, January 1, 2023 – Happy New Year!!

Service will be Virtual - No Service in the Sanctuary

Important Information

Service will also be shown live on YouTube.

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

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

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

Bulletin Dedication

This week's Bulletin is dedicated to the memory of Don Harding, who was an enthusiastic member of Grace Church his entire life. Donald had a quiet and unassuming influence on the lives of countless people in the church and the town.

Lovingly and gratefully remembered by sons Paul and John Harding and families.