



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

January 15, 2023 - Order of Worship

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023 in Northern Hemisphere

Wednesday, January 18-Wednesday, January 25

WE GATHER AS UNITED AND UNITING PEOPLE

Prelude: *Chorale Prelude on "Nun danket alle Gott"* - Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

Welcome – Brian Brooks

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Spiritual Focus:

"Dreaming Big to Fulfill God's Purpose Here on Earth..."

Lighting the Christ Candle (Responsive):

One: When our light grows dim,

All: we turn to you, O Holy One.

One: May this small light rekindle our light
and remind us of your Great Light, Love and Life.

All: We trust you today and always. Amen.

(The Christ candle is lit.)

Gathering Call (Responsive)

One: When the ways of the world wear us down with constant demands or unrealistic expectations, we are invited to find refuge in God's Grace.

All: Together, in worship, this is where we find our home.

One: When the morning sun is reflected off the snow and the skies open like a blue gift of joy, we are invited to notice God's creating presence.

All: Together in worship, we are being made new.

One: Come, find refuge find hope. Experience the Spirit naming you Beloved.

All: Together, in worship, let our souls sing praise.

Wendy MacLean, Brockville, ON. (The Gathering 2022-2023 – page 43)

(Please Stand as Able)

Song of Approach: Voices United #87

"I Am the Light of the World"

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

1 When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found
their way home, the work of Christmas is begun:

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!'**

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

- 2 To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth
and good food, to feel the earth below, the sky above!

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

- 3 To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere!

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

- 4 To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth!

Refrain:

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!'**

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

Words and music: Jim Strathdee 1967.
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(Please be seated)

WE SEEK WISDOM

Prayer of Illumination (All)

May we listen with our hearts, Holy God, to the teachings of your son, the guidance of your Spirit, and the law of Love. May we be prepared to turn away from those things that keep us from your way and turn instead to those things that bring your kingdom closer, looking not for personal recognition, but rather to recognize your presence in all around us. **Amen.**

Anna Atkinson, Cedar U.C., Nanaimo, B.C. *(The Gathering 2022-2023 – page 48)*

Time with Youth and Young at Heart:

"What Does it Mean to Follow Jesus?"

Repeating Prayer

Song of Commitment

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (x3)

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
no turning back, no turning back.

Words: attrib. to S. Sundar Singh
Music: "ASSAM": Hindustani melody
Public Domain.

Scripture Reader: Barb Jenkins

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story,

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Isaiah 49:1-6 (NRSV)

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

John 1:29-42 (NRSV)

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who

sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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 – *Soon and Very Soon* - Andrae Crouch; arr. Jack Schrader

Life Lesson "What Are You Waiting For?"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Song of Surrender & Trust with Prayers of Hope and Healing

Voices United # 563 *"Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"*

(v. 1 & Refrain)

The refrain is sung after each portion of prayer is concluded...¹

1. Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.

Refrain:

***O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.***

Dear God.... We trust because you know our desires when we say –
"...you will find there my nets and labour."

VU 563, Refrain - ALL:

**O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling,
have spoken my name; now my boat's left on the shoreline behind
me; by your side I will seek other seas.**

All thanks and praise to you Creator...

"... constant love that keeps on loving."

VU 563, Refrain - ALL:

**O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling,
have spoken my name; now my boat's left on the shoreline behind
me; by your side I will seek other seas.**

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God of Peace... and who helps us to call others

"...my loving friend, as thus you call me."

VU 563, Refrain - ALL:

**O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling,
have spoken my name; now my boat's left on the shoreline behind
me; by your side I will seek other seas.**

Words: Cesáreo Babaráin 1979; trans. Gertrude C. Suppe, George Lockwood, Raquel Gutiérrez-Achón 1987.

Music: Cesáreo Babaráin 1979; harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo 1987.

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Beloved, let us pray the words that Jesus taught his followers... and
sing together with the saints of the past, the present and the future.

The Prayer that Jesus taught His followers (VU 960) (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.**

¹ Prayer portion is written by: Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro – February 9, 2019.

Your Generosity Matters: *"Food and Hygiene Kits for Ukraine"*

Our Offerings – Supporting God's Ministries:

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (All): Isa. 49:6; Ps. 40:8

We give you thanks, O loving God, that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to do your will. Use these gifts to proclaim good news to every nation and restore all people to Christ. **Amen.**

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

(Please stand as able)

Song of Going Forth: Voices United #567

"Will You Come and Follow Me" (Verses 1, 3, & 5)

- 1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free

and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

5 Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Words: The Iona Community 1987.

Music: Scottish traditional; arr. The Iona Community 1987.

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Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: *Finale on "Hyfrydol" - Henry Coleman*

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.

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.

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 Gayle Hutcheson & Cliff Edwards.

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.

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/>

Donation Envelopes for 2023 are out and ready for pick up. PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON YOUR ENVELOPES AS NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED. If you would like envelopes, there is a sign-up sheet available on the table.

Offerings January 2023

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Local	White
Jan 1	48	\$ 2,302.00	\$ 327.00	\$ 25.00	
Jan 8					
Jan 17					
Jan 22					
Jan 29					
PAR					
BMO					

Thank you for your offerings

(PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME & AMOUNT ON YOUR ENVELOPE)

YOGA – Monday nights at 6:00pm and Thomas will be trying out Wednesday afternoon classes at 3:30pm. If interested, you must preregister through his website. www.yoga1000islands.com

Milk Bags for Beds

Please keep your milk bags and bring them to the church. These are being used to make beds for the less fortunate. A box is at the back of the church to put your clean milk bags in.

Freezer needed – one of our freezers has stopped working. If you have a 32cft freezer you would like to donate to the church, please let us know.

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: 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

Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am

V.I.B.E. – NEW SESSION _ STARTS FEB. 8, 2023

Wednesday, January 18th – Session Meeting – ZOOM 7pm

Thursday, January 19th – Stewards Meeting, 1:30 in the hall

Sunday, January 22, Third Sunday after Epiphany, Rev. Takouhi

Official Board Meeting to follow service.

Sunday, January 29th – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, Rev. Takouhi

Sunday, February 5th -Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, Rev. Takouhi

Sunday, February 12th – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany, Rev. Takouhi

Sunday, February 19th – Transfiguration Sunday, Tammy Fergusson

Sunday, February 26th – First Sunday of Lent, Communion, Rev. Takouhi

Friday, March 3 – World Day of Prayer

Sunday, March 5th – Second Sunday of Lent, Rev. Takouhi

Sunday, March 12 – Third Sunday of Lent, Rev. Takouhi

Important Information

Service will also be shown live on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNVYi-R3mmlG7LnX1jKJnEg>

<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.**