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Church Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
8:00am to 1:00 p.m. **(Closed on Wednesdays)**

Boards of Grace United (2022)

Session: Chair: Barb Jenkins:

613-583-2077 barbjenkins1@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Marg Worth, Clerk: Tammy Fergusson

Board of Stewards: Chair: Denise Wood:

613-876-7739 seelion89@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Vacant, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

Official Board: Chair: Brian Brooks

613-382-2385 brooksb525@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Bruce Wilson, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

The 2023 Directory will be out soon

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

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.

*Welcome
To
Grace United Church
Sunday, February 26, 2023
First Sunday of Lent
Communion Sunday*





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

February 26, 2023 - Order of Worship

First Sunday of Lent

Black History Month

Black History (or African Heritage) Month has been recognized in Canada since February 1996, to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent.

WE GATHER AS UNITED AND UNITING PEOPLE

Prelude: "Wayfaring Stranger" 19th century, authorship unknown

Welcome – Denise Wood

Community in Action – Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Spiritual Focus:

*"The **Season of Lent** Reminds Us of **Who We are** and to **Whom We Belong...**"*

Acknowledging the Historical Territories - by Rev. Cindy Casey

Lighting the Christ Candle

(The Christ candle is lit.)

Gathering Call (Responsive) Matt. 4:1–11

One: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

All: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

One: People of God, in this time of temptation,
how will you live?

All: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

One: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

All: We worship the Lord our God alone.

(Please Stand as Able)

Gathering Song of Praise: Voices United #108

"Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights"

- 1 Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter Day.
- 2 The pilgrim Christ, the Lamb of God,
who found in weakness greater power,
embraces us, though lost and flawed,
and leads us to his Rising Hour.
- 3 We bear the silence, cross and pain
of human burdens, human strife,
while sisters, brothers help sustain
our courage till the Feast of Life.
- 4 And though the road is hard and steep,
the Spirit ever calls us on through
Calvary's dying, dark and deep,
until we see the coming Dawn.

- 5 So let us choose the path of One
who wore, for us, the crown of thorn,
and slept in death that we might wake
to life on Resurrection Morn!
- 6 Rejoice, O sons and daughters! Sing
and shout hosannas! Raise the strain!
For Christ, whose death Good Friday brings
on Easter Day will rise again!

Words: James Gertmenian

Music: Misikalisches Mandbuch, *Hamburg 1690*

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(Please be seated)

Invitation to Prayer of Confession:

Prayer of Confession (All): Gen. 2:15–17; 3:1–7

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil.

You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life.

You know our nakedness, and you know our shortfalls.

We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your

providence and care and relying on our own cleverness.

Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with the
bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness:

WE SEEK WISDOM

Time with Youth and Young at Heart: *“What is Lent?”*

Repeating Prayer

(Please stand as able)

Song of Devotion: More Voices #8

“And on This Path” (x2)

1- And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

2- So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open Wide!
The gates are open wide!

Words: Lynn Bauman

Music: Linnea Good 2003

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(Please be seated)

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Scripture Reader: Vicki Leakey

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story,

All: our ears and hearts are open.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 (NRSV)

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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.

Life Lesson "Born Identity"

WE SEEK PEACE & COMMUNION

Anthem – *At The Table of the Lord* - Jay Althouse

GOD'S BANQUET... OUR PARTICIPATION...

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks,
Creator God, for you made the world and all that is in it. You
called us into relationship with you, providing all we need for an
abundant life..... With the faithful of every time, of every
generation and every place, we pray the words of Jesus:

The Prayer of Jesus (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.**

One: You are Holy God, and blessed is Jesus. He turned away from violence, teaching the world the way of peace. He rejected power that corrupts, choosing instead to live as a servant among us. He did not turn stones into easy bread but instead offered us the bread of life—justice, freedom, spiritual health, and unconditional love—so that we might never be hungry again. Showing the depth of your love, he offered us the cup of the new covenant, sealed with his Life.... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours. **Amen.**

Sharing of the elements –

Jesus the Bread of Life – Bread for the Journey.

Jesus the True Vine – The Cup of the New Covenant.

Post-Communion Prayer (All): God of the grain and the ground. In this wilderness of life, you feed us with heavenly bread and satisfy our thirst with the True Vine. We praise you for this banquet, simple yet abundant. May we go forth from here and feed all who hunger and quench the thirst of all who thirst in the name of Jesus, the True Bread of Life. **Amen.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

(Please stand as able)

Song of Devotion: Voices United #545

"You Nourish Us" (x2)

You nourish us with food, O God,
for body and for soul;
our love and service is our thanks,
for life that's free and whole,

Words: Flora Litt and Wayne Irwin 1979

Music: from Virginia Harmony 1831, harm. Adriano Secco

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Your Generosity Matters: *Your Generosity Revitalizes Languages*

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):

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for the free and abundant gift of grace you have given us in Jesus Christ. Let the simple gifts of our lives be a sign of our unending gratitude for your undying love. We pray humbly and sincerely. **Amen.**

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

(Please stand as able)

Song of Going Forth: Voices United #585

"Jesus Bids Us Shine"

- 1 Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
like a little candle burning in the night.
In this world is darkness, so let us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.
- 2 Jesus bids us shine first of all for him;
well he sees and knows it if our light grows dim:
Jesus walks beside us to help us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.
- 3 Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around;
many kinds of darkness in the world are found:
sin, and want and sorrow; so we must shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.

Words: Susan Warner 1868, alt. Music: Edwin O. Excell. Public Domain.

Sending Forth & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: "Whose Garden Was This?" 1970, Tom Paxton. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.

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.

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 Diane Revelle

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.

DONATION RECEIPTS

2022 Donation Receipts are ready for pick-up at the back where the Donation envelopes are. Please confirm the information on the receipt including your mailing address.

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 Pre-Authorized Remittance (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/>

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON YOUR DONATION ENVELOPES

If you would like envelopes, there is a sign-up sheet available on the table in the Narthex.

Offerings February 2023

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Local
Feb 5	31	\$ 827.00	\$167.00	\$15.00
Feb 12	32	\$ 1275.00	\$ 372.00	\$15.00
Feb 19	27	\$397.50	\$37.50	\$55.00
Feb 26				
PAR		\$1210.00	\$323.50	\$32.50
BMO		\$450.00	\$75.00	\$25.00

Thank you for your offerings.

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.

Pancake Supper Update

Thank you everyone for their support of the Pancake Supper held on Tuesday Night. The proceeds were \$814.00

There are a few supplies left and available by donation.

2 unopened maple syrup containers (1 Lt size)

2 tubs of unopened Ice Cream 1 chocolate, 1 Vanilla