

Contact information:

Office

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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

Session : Chair : Colleen Harding

613-382-2405 colleen.g.harding@gmail.com

Vice Chair: TBD Clerk: Julie Price

Board of Stewards: Chair: Vicki Leakey

Vice Chair: Cliff Edwards, Secretary: Mary Haussler

Official Board: Chair: Chuck Galway

613 532 1217 lyndwayhills@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Dave Charles, Secretary: Diane Nuttall

Treasurer: Vicki Leakey

613-484-6197 vickileakey@gmail.com

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

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

**PLEASE – check to doors when you leave.
With the cold weather, snow & ice, the doors
are not always latching. Push the door shut
and give it pull from the outside.**

**WELCOME
TO
GRACE UNITED CHURCH**



***Where Everyone is Part of the Family
and
Worship is a Lifestyle NOT an Event***
*(Remember to pass this bulletin to someone else
You never know how you will Bless them)*



Grace United Church
120 Pine St. Gananoque, ON K7G 1C7

Director of Music

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

Office Administrator

Laurie Cadue

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

The Rev. Stephen C. Shay, BSc, MDiv

We Gather as A Grateful People

Prelude: *Meditation on "Morecambe"*

Welcome: Diane Hayward

Land Acknowledgement *(read by Lay Person)*

One: Grace United Church takes seriously the commitments made to First Nations communities through the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, especially through the Calls to Action to churches like us.

All: Therefore, we acknowledge this day, that we gather for worship on the traditional territories of the original nations of this land, and we acknowledge with respect, their history, their spirituality and their culture.

Community in Action - Birthdays and Anniversaries

-1-

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

Spiritual Focus

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (One)

We are here Lord, to bow down and worship You in Spirit and in Truth. For if the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead is living in us, he who raised Christ will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his Spirit, and that is Good News!

Prayer of the Day (Unison)

Most merciful God, who by the life, death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ openly offered to deliver and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered and died on the cross, we may through in the power of his victory; for it is through our faith in Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever that we pray. Amen

Collect Prayer for the Day (Responsive)

One: Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:

All: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of His

-2-

victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

One: Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world:

All: **lead us to ponder the mysteries of His passion, that we may know eternal peace. Amen.**

Gathering Hymn of Praise: Voices United # 334

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive) *(From Psalm 130)*

One: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

All: **Lord, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading!

One: O LORD, if You took our faults and wrong actions into account, Lord, who could stand before you?

All: **But in you there is a deep well of forgiveness, so that you may be held in holy awe.**

One: I wait for you, O LORD, I wait with deep longing, and in your word I stand, waiting in hope.

All: **My deep longing for the Lord is more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who wait for an end to the night.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive) *(from Psalm 130)*

One: Our hope is in you, O LORD!

For with you there is steadfast love, and great power to save.

All: **It is the LORD God who will save us from all our sin. Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: *Without His Cross – Joseph Martin*

We Reflect on the Sacred Stories

Song of the Month: More Voices #115

Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New

(twice through)

Behold, behold, I make all things new beginning with you, and starting from today. Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true. for I am Christ the way.

Words and music: John L. Bell, 1995

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Prayer before Scripture Reading (One)

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: bless and empower us through the reading

and hearing of your Word this morning and lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may life and love like Jesus, and know eternal peace. **Amen.**

Scripture Reader: Chuck Galway

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story,

All: Our ears and hearts are open.

Scripture Reading: John 11:1-45

The Death of Lazarus

11 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister

Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not

stumble, for they see by this world's light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus^[a]) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Jesus Comforts the Sisters of Lazarus

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles^[b] from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

²⁸ After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

³⁵ Jesus wept.

³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

The Plot to Kill Jesus

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit

Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Reader: Here ends today's reading.

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.

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn of Assurance: Voices United # 378

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Morning Message: Rev. Stephen Shay

Prayers of Hope and Healing

Lord's Prayer (Sung by all) Voices United # 960

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.**

Your Generosity Matters:

Local Knowledge, Global Transformation

Invitation to Offering

We give as able to spread God's Love with JOY!

The Offering is Received

Offertory Hymn: Voices United #326

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (Verse 1 & 5)

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.**
- 5 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.**

Words: Charles Wesley 1739, alt.

Music: Carl Gotthelf Glaser ca. 1828.

Adapted and harmonized Lowell Mason 1839.

Public Domain

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

God Sends Us into the World To Be The Church

Song of Going Forth: More Voices #18

Lord Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary (twice through)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Amen: All

Postlude: *St. Anthony Chorale - F.J. Haydn*

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.

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 all those who are celebrating this week.

Would you like your Birthday or Anniversary added to our announcements contact Laurie at the church Office and give her the details.

Thank you to our Worship Leader this morning, Rev. Stephen Shay. Our Worship Leader for March 29th, Palm & Communion Sunday is Rev. Erin Burns.

Offerings –March 2026

Date	Attend	General	M&S	Benev. (SGM)
Mar 1	16	\$ 575.00	\$100.00	
Mar 8	18	\$ 767.50	\$ 127.50	\$ 27.50
Mar 15	28	\$ 832.50	\$ 147.50	\$ 27.50
Mar 22				
Mar 29				
BMO				
PAR				

Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Offerings go to the UCW to help cover the costs associated with their programs, such as Edna's Café and other ventures. Envelopes are available for your Lenten Donation on the table in the narthex.

Schedule for Guest Speakers

March 29th – Rev. Erin Burns

(Palm Sunday/Communion)

April 3rd – **Good Friday** - Walk of the Cross

April 5 - **Easter Sunday** – Paul Whiteley

April 12 – Elaine Farley

April 19 Tammy Fergusson - **Joint service at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**

April 26 -Tammy Fergusson

Sunday, April 5th is Easter, and we will have a Brass Quintet joining us for worship and a pre-service mini recital. If you would like to contribute to the cost of this special music, please contact the Church Office or speak to our Director of Music. Your continued generosity is appreciated

NEXT SUNDAY – March 29th

Grace United is hosting a FREE Movie Matinee
Tell your friends and neighbours.



Grace United Church
Gananoque

**FREE
MOVIE
MATINEE**

Sunday, March 29, 2026
2:00 pm matinee showing - FREE
Children 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

THE
FOURTH WISE MAN

Free popcorn & juice

Grace United Church - 120 Pine St., Gananoque

CONCERT

Wednesday, March 25th.

The sounds of Celtic, Irish and Folk music
with "Seventh Town"
Tickets are available this morning.



Enjoy the Sounds of Celtic,
Irish & Folk Music
with
SEVENTH TOWN

Wed. March 25th, 2026
7:30pm
Grace United Church,
120 Pine St. Gananoque

Tickets \$25 in Advance (\$30 at the Door)
Available at Beggars Banquet Books,
Gananoque Visitors Center
and Grace United Church Office.

Visit our Facebook page for a link to tickets online