

# *Welcome to Aurora United Church*

*...uniting hearts and hands on the journey*



## *Pentecost 3*

### *Indigenous Day of Prayer/Father's Day*

*June 21, 2020*

*The hardest thing on earth is to choose what matters.*  
*(Sue Monk Kidd, The Secret Life of Bees)*

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE**      The Water (*Johnny Flynn*)      Steve & Sally Falk (ukulele, guitar and harmonica)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

***Acknowledgment of the Territory***

*Here we are, residing on land, cared for by the people of the William Treaty First Nations (Chippewas of Beausoleil First Nation), Georgina Island First Nation, Rama First Nation, Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, and the Scugog First Nation. Where we now live, generations gathered long before Europeans landed on these shores. The original inhabitants of this land, known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island, took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creature. This morning we pray our thanks for their conservancy; we exist in this place because of the lessons they continue to teach. Let us come before the Creating One as we offer our prayers, hear holy story, and sing sacred songs.*

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**      *Lighting of the Christ Candle*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**      The Clark Family  
Creator God, Great Spirit, we pray our thanks  
for the opportunity to come to worship in the spirit of community.  
In this time, we are most aware of your Creation....  
here we are most aware of the gift of wind:  
**and the four directions from which it comes.**  
In this time, we are most aware of the gift of sun:  
**and the four directions on which it shines.**  
In this time, we are most aware of the gift of humanity:  
**and the four directions in which we exist.**  
In this time, we are most aware of the gift of Creation:  
**and the four directions which support our living,  
breathing and being.**  
This day we pray thanksgiving for the First Nations,  
Inuit, and Metis people of Canada;  
**and we commit ourselves to be people of reconciliation  
in the tradition of our beloved Jesus. We pray in his name. Amen.**

**HYMN** Sing Your Praise to God Eternal VU 244

Sing your praise to God eternal, sing your praise to God the Son,  
sing your praise to God the Spirit, living and forever One.  
God has made us, God has blessed us, God has called us to be true.  
God rules over all creation, daily making all things new.

Join the praise of every creature, sing with singing birds at dawn;  
when the stars shine forth at night-fall, hear their heavenly antiphon.  
Praise God for the light of summer, autumn glories, winter snows,  
for the coming of the spring time and the life of all that grows.

Praise God on our days of gladness for the summons to rejoice;  
praise God in our times of sadness for the calm, consoling voice.  
God our Maker, strong and loving, Christ our Saviour, Leader, Lord,  
living God, Creator, Spirit, be your holy name adored!

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

We would sing glad songs to you, Commissioning God, as we enter your heart with thanksgiving on our lips, for you are that love which never ends; that joy which overflows; that faith which is always full. We would proclaim our praise to you, Voice of compassion, as you would send us into the world in which we live, for you are the Word we can speak to power; the healing we can offer to the broken; the justice which can replace oppression. We would offer our hands and hearts to you, Imaginative Spirit, as you teach us new steps in this dance we call life, for you are the healer of our hurting hearts, the breath of hope for shallow lungs, the password for access to grace. With our hearts, voices, bodies, souls, we offer all that we are; God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God works in us and among us to transform the world.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**THEME STORY** Be a Mr. Jensen YouTube

**FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 72 (Part One) VU p.790 Noah Comar

Give the ruler your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the royal heir,  
**for judging your people rightly,  
and upholding the poor with justice;**  
that the mountains may bring forth peace for the people,  
**and the hills, prosperity with justice.**

May your anointed defend the cause of the poor among the people,  
save the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.

**May your anointed live as long as the sun endures,  
as long as the moon from age to age.**

May your anointed be like rain falling upon the grass,  
like showers that water the earth;

**may your anointed be one in whose days  
justice shall flourish and peace abound till the  
moon is no more.**

**GIFT OF MUSIC** Kindness (Cypress Tree) (*Reina del Cid*)  
Steve & Sally Falk (ukulele, guitar and harmonica)

**GOSPEL** Matthew 10:24-39 (Discipleship: lose your life to find it.) NRSV

“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! “So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. “Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

*Come to the quiet...a time for reflection*

**SERMON**     In this Time

**HYMN**     Each Blade of Grass (*Keri Wehlander*)    MV 37

Each blade of grass, every wing that soars, the waves that sweep across a distant shore,  
make full the circle of God. Each laughing child, every gentle eye, a forest  
lit beneath a moon-bright sky, make full the circle of God.

Each silent paw, every rounded stone, the buzz that echoes from a honey'd come,  
make full the circle of God. Each fire-brimming star, every outstretched hand,  
the wind that leaps and sails across the land, make full the circle of God.

Each icy peak, every patterned shell, the joyous chorus that the dawn foretells,  
make full the circle of God. Each cosmic hue, every creature's way, all form the  
beauty of this vast array, making full the circle of God.

### **SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

*A Statement about the gifts we bring in worship for the life of the church....*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN**     As a Fire Is Meant for Burning    VU 578

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.  
Not to preach our creeds and customs, but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness mid earth's peoples, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

### ***COMMISSIONING & BLESSING***

So let us go in peace into all that this day brings.

**We embrace the day in faith and hope.**

And now, may the blessing of God, giver of every good and perfect gift;  
the blessing of Christ, the Redeemer of the lost and broken;  
the blessing of the Holy Spirit, God's presence in our lives,  
be with each one of us and all whom we love and serve. Amen.

***POSTLUDE***    The Lord Bless You and Keep You (*John Rutter*)    YouTube



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast are on traditional Territories of Indigenous Peoples.



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### ***Participating in Worship today...***

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar & Rev. Andrew Comar

The Clark Family, Steve & Sally Falk, Noah Comar

***With thanks to...*** Bob Kyriakides, worship video editing  
Noah Comar videographer...and to all who are filming at home in order  
to participate in worship in some way! ☺

***The hymn recordings today are from...***

More Voices: Audio CD (The UCC, 2007)

Voices United-Accompaniment Collection Volume 4 (The UCC, 2009)

