

Welcome to Aurora United Church

...uniting hearts and hands on the journey.



TRINITY SUNDAY

Asian Heritage Month

May 30, 2021

The wholeness of scripture testifies to the oneness and faithfulness of God. The multiplicity of scripture testifies to its depth: two testaments, four gospels, contrasting points of view held in tension—all a faithful witness to the One and Triune God, the Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love.

(U.C.C. A Song of Faith. A Statement of Faith, 2006)

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Holy, holy, holy (*H. Parker*) Virtual Choir- Episcopal Diocese of New York
YouTube

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *Lighting of the Christ Candle*

Acknowledgment of Territory

As we come into worship today, we acknowledge that we reside and worship on the traditional lands of the people of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation... and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

CALL TO WORSHIP Charles & Myrtle Truax

Awesome, wondrous God,
dark, deep and Holy One,
we come to feel the mystery of your name.
Green, growing God,
Christ of many stories and disciples,
we come to hear the parable of your love.
Bright, flashing God,
blowing wind and Holy Spirit,
we come to speak the gospel of your fire.
Distant, yet intimate God,
woven, puzzled, grained by time,
we come to find the Trinity of your grace
as we worship!

HYMN God, Whose Almighty Word (*J. Marriott/F. de Gardini*) VU 313

God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight, hear us, we humbly pray, and where the
gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!

Jesus, who came to bring on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight, health to the troubled mind, sight to the
Spirit-blind, O now to human kind let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love, life giving holy dove,
speed forth your flight; move on the water's face, bearing the
lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light.

Blessed and holy three, glorious trinity, wisdom, love,
might, boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide, let there be light.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Loving God, who is both near and far, huge beyond measure and as tiny as a mustard seed: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: to you we come. Help us to open our minds to all that you are; you contain all genders—all melodies—all colours—all languages. Our limited understanding seeks to name who you are and how you are, and all our words and all our images fall short. Keep us mindful, God of our lives, of our relationships, that our language may fall short but that you never do. Open our hearts and minds to you...God in One, God in Three. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

In all things-God is.
Thanks be to God!

THEME STORY What is the Trinity? (What's in the Bible?) YouTube

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE Romans 8:12-17 (We are children of God.) NRSV Linda Henshaw

¹² So then, brothers and sisters,^[a] we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba!^[b] Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness^[c] with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

GIFT OF MUSIC The Heavenly Aeroplane (*J. Rutter*)
AUC Chancel Choir, Steve Cooke, bass guitar and Frank Pulumbarit, drums
200th Anniversary Concert, May 27, 2018

GOSPEL John 3:1-17 (Nicodemus visits Jesus by night.) NRSV

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON *Sea-Change*

HYMN Creator God You Gave Us Life (*J. Snowdon*) *MV 27*

Creator God you gave us life, your image formed
within our souls, yet through the mist of time and space,
we search for that which makes us whole.

*Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices
chanting melody, with words that reach beyond the page,
we comprehend your mystery.*

In every flower and every tree, we see your great
diversity, yet greater still we see your love,
expressed in our humanity.

*Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices
chanting melody, with words that reach beyond the page,
we comprehend your mystery.*

When with our hearts, our hands and minds, we share our
gifts with all the world, our spirits soar beyond the veil,
to touch the very face of God.

*Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices
chanting melody, with words that reach beyond the page,
we comprehend your mystery.*

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 O World of God (R.B.Y. Scott/C.H. Parry) VU 258

O world of God, so vast and strange,
profound and wonderful and fair,
beyond the utmost reach of thought
but not beyond our Maker's care!
We are not strangers on this earth
whirling amid the suns of space;
we are God's children, this our home,
with those of every clime and race.

O world where human life is lived,
so strangely mingling joy and pain,
so full of evil and of good,
so needful that the good shall reign!
It is this world that God has loved,
and goodness was its Maker's plan,
the promise of God's triumph is
a humble birth in Bethlehem.

O world of time's far-stretching years!
There was a day when time stood still,
a central moment when there rose
a cross upon a cruel hill;
in pain and death love's power was seen,
the mystery of time revealed,
the wisdom of the ways of God,
the grace through which our hurt is healed.

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

And so, we journey on.

We journey on.

May the blessings of God—

Creator, Christ and Spirit,

Go with us now—**and always. Amen.**

POSTLUDE Children, Go Where I Send Thee (*R. Williams*) The Sojourners 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
Charles & Myrtle Truax, Linda Henshaw, the AUC Chancel Choir,
Steve Cooke, Frank Pulumbarit.

With thanks to... Noah Comar, videographer, and to Bob Kyriakides, video editor...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 United Church of Canada, 2007) and *YouTube*