

# *Welcome to Aurora United Church*

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



## *Pentecost 6*

*July 4, 2021*

*It is not you who shape God; it is God that shapes you. If then you are the work of God,  
await the hand of the Artist who does all things in due season.*

*(Irenaeus, 2<sup>nd</sup> century)*

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Away From the Roll of the Sea (*A.MacGillivray, arr.D.Loomer*) YouTube  
Elektra Women's Choir

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

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

***Acknowledgment of Territory/Candle of Remembrance-Every Child Matters***

*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** Jennifer, Damien, Sabrina & Alexis Hanna

At the heart of what we experience  
as our community of faith,  
scattered in these days of change,  
we gather in our homes and at our cottages  
to worship God,

**open to the rhythm of life**

**that surrounds us;**

eager to participate in the joys of life  
that uplift us;

**prepared to face the challenges**

**of life that await us even still.**

May our openness to the way of Christ,  
**allow us to find peace and wholeness,**  
**this day and always.**

**HYMN** Teach Me, God, to Wonder (*W.Farquharson/R.Klusmeier*) VU 299

Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me God to see;  
let your world of beauty capture me.

*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived;  
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

Let me, God, be open, let me loving be;  
let your world of people speak to me.  
*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived;  
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake;  
in your world of loving my place take.  
*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived;  
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,  
see you in my neighbour when we meet.  
*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived;  
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

### ***PRAYER FOR RENEWAL***

**The rumbling of thunder in the distance, the shade of an oak tree in the back yard, the laughter of children splashing in the pool, the stars glittering on a moonless night: all the gifts of the universe fill us with delight in every moment. Great is your imagination, Creator God. Broken, you touch us to make us whole; tear-stained, you share our pain and struggles; giver of peace, you replace our bitterness with hope; teacher of gentle words, you transform our unbelief into service. Great is your love, Christ, Companion of all people! Making hardened hearts as soft as a baby's breath; turning stiffened necks so we can see the poor; placing wandering feet back on the path of discipleship. Great is your compassion, Spirit of grace. God in Community, Holy in One, we lift our prayers to you today in praise and wonder. Amen.** *(T.Thurman. Lectionary Liturgies)*

### ***WORDS OF GRACE***

God hears our words and make us new,  
sending us out to bring hope and joy to all the world.  
**We hear the good news, we believe the good news,  
we will live out the good news.Thanks be to God. Amen!**

***THEME STORY***      Coin Operated *(N.Arioli)* YouTube

**FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**SCRIPTURE** 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 (My grace is sufficient.) NRSV Laurie Marie

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

**GIFT OF MUSIC** Summertime (*Gershwin/Dubose/Heyward/Gershwin arr.Huff*)  
AUC Chancel Choir (200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Concert-May 27, 2018)

**GOSPEL** Mark 6:1-13 (Jesus, rejected in Nazareth, sends out the 12 to teach.) NRSV

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their

belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

## **SERMON** Pigeon-holed

**HYMN** Spirit God, Be Our Breath (*B.Harding*) *MV 150*

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.  
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.  
Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn...  
Spirit God, be our song.

Patient God: soothe our pride, calm our fear.  
Comfort us. When we know you are near  
we grow more certain, our vision is clear.  
Patient God, calm our fear.

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.  
Reaching out, joining hands as we share,  
we seek your guidance through friendship and care.  
Loving God, be our prayer.

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.  
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.  
Through change, through challenge, we'll greet  
the new dawn...Spirit God, be our song.

**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** Soil of God, You and I (*J.Hannah/D.Melhorn-Boe*) MV 174

Soil of God, you and I, stand ready to bear  
seeds of faith nourished by God's tender care.  
Growing in everyone for here God is found.  
All stand together, we are...Holy ground.

Soil of God, you and I, now ready to be  
part of God's promise, for others to see.  
Open to everyone for here God is found.  
All stand together, we are...Holy Ground.

Soil of God, you and I, now called to rebirth,  
joining as partners with all of the earth.  
Living in harmony for here God is found.  
All stand together, this is...Holy ground.

**COMMISSIONING & BLESSING**

In the love of God,  
**may we be welcomed and included.**  
In the way of Jesus,  
**may we be strengthened and made whole.**  
In the breath of the Spirit,  
**may we be encouraged and blessed.**

*(R.Burgess.Adapted)*

**POSTLUDE** And So It Goes (*B.Joel/arr.B.Chilcott*) *YouTube*  
Stay at Home Singers with the King Singers



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  
Jennifer, Damien, Sabrina & Alexis Hanna, Laurie Marie,  
The AUC Chancel Choir

***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 *Sing Hallelujah! Volume 4* (produced by Ralph Milton, The United Church of Canada, 2015)