

Welcome
to Aurora United Church
...uniting hearts and hands on the journey.



Pentecost 25
November 14, 2021

With the Church throughout the ages, we speak of God as one and triune: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...and in other ways that speak faithfully of the One on whom our hearts rely, the fully shared life at the heart of the universe. We witness to Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love.
(A Song of Faith: A Statement of Faith of the U.C.C., 2006)

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE 'I was glad when they said unto me' (C.Hubert C.Parry) YouTube
The Cathedral Choir of St. Philip—Atlanta, Georgia

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 Laurie Bentolila, Kathie Blackman, Dawn Horstead

Come and worship—
**greetings to our brothers and sisters
in the faith.**

We come to celebrate God's presence,
**and God's love expressed through
Jesus Christ.**

We come remembering Christ's
life and ministry,
and the life we are called to live.

We come as pilgrim people
searching for ways to live out our faith.

**We come, seeking God's grace
to carry on our journey;
to celebrate God's gift to us!**

Let us worship!

HYMN We Praise You, O God (*J.Cory/Netherlands melody*) VU 218

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'er-take us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

When we look over our shoulders at fear shadowing us today, you go before us into tomorrow, Loving God, making a path through the sea of yesterday's doubts. When our legs tremble from the effort of standing up for what you hope for all creation, you stand at our side, O God, offering your hope's strength. When we turn our hearts into deserts of stony bitterness, you transform them into oases of joy. When we retain barriers to full inclusion in community, you stretch your arms out in welcome. When we would clasp old worries to our hearts, you open our eyes to that hope which paves the path ahead of us. God in Community, Holy One, as you are all to us, so we would offer all we are to you. Amen. *(T.Thurman, Lectionary Liturgies)*

WORDS OF GRACE

God in the world, changes the world and us.
Thanks be to God!

THEME STORY

The Gift of Giving (Celebrating World Kindness Day) [YouTube](#)

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 121 (I lift my eyes to the hills.) VU p.844

Pat Innes

I lift my eyes to the hills.

From where will I look for help?

**My help comes from God,
who has made heaven and earth.**

God will not let your foot stumble;
the One who protects Israel will not slumber.

**The One who protects you
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

It is God who protects you,
your defence at our right hand.

**The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

God will protect you from all evil,
God will protect your life.

**God will protect your going and coming,
now and forever. Amen.**

GIFT OF MUSIC Know My Heart (*B.Harlan*) AUC Chancel Choir

GOSPEL Mark 13:1-8 (...the beginning of the birth pangs.) *NRSV*

¹As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ²Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴"Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birthpangs.

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON *Call the Midwife*

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 I Heard the Voice of Jesus (*H. Bonar*) VU 626

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched,
my soul revived,
and now I live for him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

Glory to God, whose power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
**Glory to God, from generation to generation,
in the church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever.**

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 Celtic Blessing (*Barry Peters*)
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir, N.Y.



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,
Laurie Bentolila, Kathie Blackman, Dawn Horstead, Pat Innes, 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! ☺

Images used in worship video...

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The hymn recordings today are from...

More Voices: Audio CD (The United Church of Canada, 2007) and YouTube.

We Praise You, O God - Gospel Praise of St. Paul's United Church, Kelowna BC.
Sylvia Clerke, conductor & pianist. Reprinted and podcast with permission under One
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Creator God, You Gave Us Life - St. Paul's United Church Choir, Riverview, New Brunswick, Brenda Barnes, director (September 9, 2009). Used with permission. Judith Snowdon, 2004.

I Heard the Voice of Jesus – Peninsula United Church, Surrey BC. February 5, 2021. Public Domain.

I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me (*C. Hubert C. Parry*). The Cathedral Choir of St. Philip. Atlanta, Georgia. May 24, 2021.

Celtic Blessing (*Barry Peters*). Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. New York, NY. March 30, 2020.