

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Bist du Bei Mir (*J.S.Bach arr. N.Rawsthorne*)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters

INTROIT I Know Your Word (*Simeí Monteiro*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Creator God, you have made the earth
so that all may share in its yield
and have abundant life.

**Among your gifts to your people
are the soil and the water and the means
to sow and reap.**

You plant in your people the seeds of compassion
so they may share the earth's bounty with those in need.

**You keep us mindful that the world's people
have the right to food and the means to produce it.**

In this time of harvest, O God,
gather us in.

Gather our care for each other,
and for your people everywhere.

As we lift our voices in prayer, word and song,
let us worship in gratitude.

***HYMN** Now Thank We All Our God **VU 236** (pg. 7)

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Loving God, in the stories and prayers of scripture,
we hear the longing of our ancestors for a world of
justice, a world where those in poverty are fed,
where strangers are welcomed. Your people hunger
and thirst for righteousness, for the simple kindness

that honours all people, for your guidance and healing
and wisdom. You satisfy our hunger with moments of
awareness in our daily life: meeting us at table when
we are fed, meeting us in the hand that is reaching out,
meeting us in the call to pray for each other and in the
baptism of a child. Great Spirit, remind us that you have
chosen us to feed those in poverty, to care for those
bereaved, to welcome the stranger and the refugee.
Feed us with your stories this day. Amen.

(*W.MacLean, Christ U.C., Lyn, On. Adapted*)

WORDS OF GRACE

We are held in the embrace of God
who loves us.

Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Dance With the Spirit (*J.Strathdee*)

MV 156 **Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
work and hope for the new life abornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 *p.213 Pew Bible NT*
(Those with itching ears will turn away from the truth.)
Lisa Kyriakides

ANTHEM Look at the World (*J.Rutter*)

GOSPEL Luke 18:1-8 *p. 81 Pew Bible NT*
(The parable of the widow and the unjust judge.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Of Justice and Persistence

***HYMN** Soil of God, You and I (*Hannah/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.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Call of the Water (*K.Wissinger*)
Faith-A-Peal Handbell Ensemble

***DEDICATION** Take, O Take Me as I Am (*Bell/Maule*)
MV 85 **Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart,
and live in me. (sing twice)**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER
PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING**

PRAYER PRELUDE Spirit of Life (C.McDade) VU 381

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN** O World of God VU 258 (pg. 8)

* **COMMISSIONING**

God of the changing earth,
root us deep.
God of the ripened fields,
harvest our compassion.
God of us all,
let love and justice be known in us
as we travel on.

***SUNG BLESSING** Wherever You May Go MV 216

Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.

POSTLUDE Prelude on 'St.Dunstan's' (Fred Bock)



Minute for Mission

Teetering on the Brink of a Global Hunger Crisis

The Problem is some have too much and others not enough!

Who was Jesus referring to when he advised his followers to pray:
"Give us this day our daily bread?" Who is the "us"?

"When we say the prayer, we often think 'us' refers to ourselves; after all, we are the ones praying. But I think Jesus, who had a broad view of neighbour and family, meant all of humanity," explains Sarah Charters, Director of the United Church's Philanthropy Unit, adding, "so I take it to mean 'Give every one of us our daily bread.'"

God has already come through on that petition. There is enough food on the planet to feed everyone. The problem is that some have too much and others not enough.

It's never been more urgent that we share. Food security has always been an issue, but the pandemic as well as wheat shortages resulting from the war in Ukraine have catapulted us to the brink of a massive hunger crisis.

Right now, more than 50 million people are facing starvation—almost double the number in 2019. One person is dying of hunger every 4 seconds.

In this critical time, your meaningful gifts through Mission & Service are put to work right away helping people meet immediate needs by providing emergency food hampers in times of crisis, stocking shelves at food banks, and serving good, healthy meals through various outreach agencies.

Your gifts also provide longer-term support and systemic change by teaching agricultural techniques, seeding community garden initiatives, and helping neighbourhoods set up systems to cope with the impact of conflict and climate change on their food systems.

As we teeter on the brink of a global hunger crisis, your generosity has never been more needed.

Please choose to do something meaningful this World Food Day, and make a gift through Mission and Service to help those who are most vulnerable.

Together as a United Church we can help build the world Jesus envisioned when he taught us to pray—a world where every one of us has our daily bread.



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

**AURORA UNITED
CHURCH**

Church Office 905-727-1935
www.auroraunitedchurch.ca

Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar & Rev. Andrew Comar
Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney



PENTECOST 19

October 16, 2022

11:00 AM

God of the seasons, you surround us with beauty and wonder: you smile in the ripening fruit, you dance in the tumbling leaves. Teach us to dance with you, to act justly and to share fairly, to love you in friend and stranger all the moments of our nights and days. (R.Burgess, Iona)

Now Thank We All Our God VU 236

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when
perplexed, and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was,
is now, and shall be evermore.



O World of God VU 258

O world of God, so vast and strange, profound and wonderful
and fair, beyond the utmost each 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.

