

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER



PRELUDE Where God Is (Richard A. Williamson)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Kathryn Yearwood

INTROIT Hope of Abraham and Sarah (Duck/Snowdon)

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the presence of the Creator, we gather this day in a spirit of gratitude.

Gratitude for all the gifts of Creation - the air, the water, the land, the change of seasons as we move into summer.

Gratitude for all the creatures that walk, swim, fly, and crawl on this earth.

We gather seeking wisdom to help us live a generous and compassionate life.

We gather seeking wisdom to help us live together with respect and humility.

We gather seeking hearts and minds that are open to new possibilities and new beginnings.

Let us come in worship!

***HYMN** Come and Find the Quiet Centre (see pg 8)

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (To the four directions.)

We give thanks for the knowledge you give to us through all the traditions of the world. Help us to honour the gifts that each tradition offers.

We seek to take the path of love.

We give thanks for the east, for the sun that rises to begin each new day. We give thanks for new life, for youth.

We give thanks for new learning and new experiences.

We seek to take the path of love.

We give thanks for the south, for the growth of the summertime in our lives, for the teachings to be kind to ourselves and others. Help us, who are elders, love and respect children and youth, Help us to care for the elderly and those who cannot care for themselves.

We seek the path of love.

We give thanks for the west, for the understanding of how to care for the earth. Creator, help us to use this understanding to bring joy and new life to the world.

We seek to take the path of love.

We give thanks for the north. Help us to receive gifts of wisdom and new perspectives from all peoples. Help us to grow our roots of compassion deeper as we journey.

Together we will take the path of love for ourselves and for each other. Amen.

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WORDS OF GRACE

God's love is multiplied throughout the earth when we love one another.

Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Dance With the Spirit (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 a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 98 2nd refrain (see pg 7)
(Sing to God a new song.) Craig Arnold

ANTHEM River in Judea (Marcus/Feldman/Leavitt)

GOSPEL Matthew 9:35-10:8 p.9-10 Pew Bible NT
(Jesus and the disciples preach and heal.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON A Place in the World

***HYMN** Like a Healing Stream (Bruce Harding) MV 144

Like a healing stream in a barren desert, Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth, God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding, promising revival and rebirth...like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed, God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation, yearning for an end to want and need... like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current, Spirit water rushing on to distant shore, God is carving out a channel in a new direction, calling for an end to hate and war... like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons, Spirit water with a love both deep and wide, God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow: God will always challenge and provide! Like a mighty sea, like a river strong, like a gentle rain, like a healing stream.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY New Life (Kevin McChesney)
EmBellished Handbell Ensemble

***DEDICATION** We Are An Offering (D. Liles)
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours;
we are an offering, we are an offering.

**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 -

An Indigenous Lord's Prayer
Great Spirit, our Creator, who is in all places,
Sacred is your name.
May your wisdom guide us,
your will be done in our lives as it is throughout Creation.
Provide for us today the nourishment we need,
and forgive our wrongs, as we forgive those
who have wronged us.
Lead us on the path of understanding and respect,
and protect us from ignorance and harm.
For you are the source of all power, beauty, and love,
from generation to generation, forever and always.
Amen.

HYMN To Show by Touch and Word (see pg 8)

***COMMISSIONING**

And now, may God bless the roads we travel—and may
we, in turn, bless all those we meet along the way.

***SUNG BLESSING** VU 962 (M.T. Winter)

May the blessing of God go before you. May God's
grace and peace abound. May God's Spirit live
within you. May God's love wrap you 'round.
May God's blessing remain with you always.
May you walk on holy ground.

POSTLUDE New Life Epilogue (Kevin McChesney)
EmBellished Handbell Ensemble



*Thank you to the Chancel Choir for their exceptional
leadership throughout this year. We wish them all the best
for the summer, and look forward to their return in
September after a well-earned rest!*



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

An Affirming Congregation

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

Church Office 905-727-1935
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INDIGENOUS DAY OF PRAYER
Pride/Indigenous History Month/Fathers Day
June 18, 2023
11:00 AM

*Indigenous Day of Prayer is an opportunity to
celebrate First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people's
values, customs, languages and cultures.*
(The United Church of Canada)

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 98

R All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God

Sing to God a new song,

for God has done marvellous things.

Your right hand and your holy arm have brought victory.

You have made known your salvation, and revealed before the nations your saving power.

You have remembered your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;

all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. R

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

break into joyous praise, sing psalms.

Sing psalms to God with the harp,

with the harp and melodious voice.

With trumpets, and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before our sovereign God. R

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,

the world, and its inhabitants.

Let the rivers clap their hands,

the hills sing together for joy before God.

You come to judge the earth, O God.

**to judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity. R**

Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

To Show by Touch and Word

To show by touch and word devotion to the earth, to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth, we need, O God, the will to find the good you had of old in mind.

Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most, our hearts to long for truth till ride of self is lost. For every challenge that we face we need your guidance and your grace.

Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm, and let our lives portray your word in human form. Now come with us that we may have your wits about us where we live.

