

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** I Worship You Almighty God  
(Sondra Corbett-Wood)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE  
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters**  
Joyce Hagarty

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Like a seed growing  
in the darkness of the soil,  
**our faith puts down roots  
and breaks through into sunlight.**

Like a mustard seed  
starting out small and insignificant,  
**our faith can grow to be  
far more than we imagined.**

Our God is with us;  
**encouraging our faith and growth.**  
God is in this place.  
**We come in worship!**

**\*HYMN** God, We Praise You for the Morning  
VU 415

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

**In this summer season of warmth, Creator God,  
we confess those times when we have been cool in  
relationships and distant in our friendships. In this  
summer season of relaxation, we confess those  
times when we have not let go of attitudes that cut  
others off and have not kept to ourselves, words**

**that wound. In this summer season of plenty, we  
confess those times when we have hoarded our  
gifts, not always mindful of those who stand in great  
need, even for the bare necessities. In this summer  
season of growth, O God, coax us into newness, into  
wholeness, into life. Amen.**

**WORDS OF GRACE**

As close as our next-drawn breath—God is.  
**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 65 VU p.782  
(Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion.) Pat Innes

**GIFT OF MUSIC** O Love That Will Not Let Me Go  
John and Mackenzie Malarczyk (G.Matheson)

**GOSPEL** Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 p.13-14 Pew Bible NT  
(The Parable of the Sower and the Seed.)

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

**SERMON** Sown

**HYMN** Touch the Earth Lightly VU 307

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** Lord, Reign in Me (B.Brown)  
John and Mackenzie Malarczyk

**\*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 & LORD'S PRAYER**  
VU p.910

**HYMN** Called by Earth and Sky (Mayberry/Fines) MV135

**Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life  
sanctified, called by earth and sky.**

Precious these waters, endless seas, deep ocean's dream,  
waters of healing, rivers of rain, the wash of love again.  
***Called by earth and sky...***

Precious this gift, the air we breathe; wind born and  
free. Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place, our  
gathering and our grace. ***Called by earth and sky...***

Precious these mountains, ancient sands; vast fragile  
land. Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,  
creation's faithful song. ***Called by earth and sky...***

Precious the fire that lights our way, bright dawning  
day. Fire of passion, sorrows undone, our faith and  
justice one...

***Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life  
sanctified, called by earth and sky. Called by earth  
and sky.***

**\*COMMISSIONING**

For the sowing to be effective,  
the seeds must be scattered broadly and in quantity.  
**And so we go into the world, sowing the love of God  
by scattering our love unconditionally far and  
wide among our neighbours.** (G.Allan. Adapted)

**\*SUNG BLESSING** Wherever You May Go (D.Kai)  
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** In All Things Give Thanks (arr. Bryce Inman)

**Our Musician for Worship today...**

**Lisa Kyriakides** is an experienced soloist, educator, musical director, conductor and adjudicator. Lisa holds a Bachelor of Music (Music Education) and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Western Ontario as well as certificates in Voice, Piano, Theory, Counterpoint and History from the Royal Conservatory of Music. She is the director of the handbell program at Aurora United Church, is a member of the EmBellished handbell quartet, and has been a ringer in *The Bronze Foundation ensemble*, an auditioned handbell ensemble, since 2015. She was a guest conductor at the 2019 and 2023 Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers (OGEHR) Festivals. Lisa was chosen to be the Canadian Conductor at the 2022 International Handbell Symposium in Nashville. Lisa is the President of OGEHR and is on the Board of the Handbell Musicians of Canada.

Lisa has conducted the Ballantrae Adult Choir since 2008 and was also the conductor of the Encore Choir in 2023. Lisa has musical conducted many shows including, most recently, *Fun Home*, for Theatre Aurora. Lisa and her family are longtime members of Aurora United Church.

Lisa will be filling in for Margaret again next week and also August 20th.

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*Be sure to check out our AUC website, [auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://auroraunitedchurch.ca) for summer and fall programming, ministers and staff holidays-news from around the Shining Waters Region and U.C.C. Rev's Lorraine & Andy will be checking email/voice messages throughout the summer.*



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  
[www.auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)



***PENTECOST 7***  
***July 16, 2023***  
***11:00 AM***

*We're all given gifts in this life; it's what we do with them that shows us what we've learned. (L.L. Loomer, Greenhouse Hygge: the House of My Growing Dreams)*