

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Be Thou My Vision (arr. Glenda Austin)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Peter & Andrea Drost

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the seed that lies unseen, resting, cold,
and still, God is—

and hope grows.

In the possibilities that await us, unknown,
unimagined, God is—

and life grows.

In the hurt and emptiness, masked, buried,
overlooked, God is—

and healing grows.

In this time of worship, singing, praying,
and being, we come to know this God who is—

and we grow.

We gather to worship and remember that even
in the most barren of times, God is at work.

May the Spirit be our guide and strength.

(Wetaskiwin Writers, Grace Lutheran/First United Churches, Wetaskiwin, Alta)

***HYMN** Teach Me, God, to Wonder VU 299

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

**We praise you, Steadfast Love, for your presence
never abandons us, but is at our side in all of life.**

**There is no cobwebbed corner that is not claimed by
your grace. You we praise, Teller of Parables; your
words challenge us in moments of doubt, as well as**

**in our times of great faith. When we run around in
circles chasing our worries and fears, you whisper
hope to us. You we praise, Spirit who calls to our
hearts. Your voice is that gentle whisper in a world
filled with angry shouts; your joy is that refreshing
rain shower when despair parches our spirits; your
wonder opens our eyes and ears to the gifts which
surround our lives. You we praise, God in Community,
Holy in One; we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

In sorrow so deep we cannot find our way out,

God cradles us in comfort;

in moments so shadowed we trip over our fears,

God lights the way for us;

in joy which cascades into our souls,

God fills us with healing.

Even when we cannot see it, God's hope is all
around us, surrounding us with peace and healing.

Thanks be to God! *(T.Thurman. Lectionary Liturgies)*

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 46 VU p.770 Ref.2
(Be still and know that I am God.) Kathie Blackman

GIFT OF MUSIC Old Time Religion *(arr.Teresa Wilhelmi)*

SCRIPTURE Romans 8:26-39 p.158-159 Pew Bible
(The Spirit intercedes for us when we cannot pray.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Inseparable

HYMN Like a Healing Stream *(B.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 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
***DEDICATION** We Are An Offering *(D. Liles)*
(From 'The Sacred Harp')

**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 Though I May Speak VU 372

***COMMISSIONING**

As we return to this warm, summer day,
let us live out what we know to be true:
that God goes with us in all things.

***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 Shall We Gather At the River/On Jordan’s
Stormy Banks (arr. Glenda Austin)

Visiting Musician

We welcome to AUC this morning, Rebecca Loo...
Rebecca is an accomplished teacher, musician, accompanist,
arranger, clinician, choral conductor, pianist, organist and
harpichordist in the GTA. She completed her ARCT for
Piano Performance at the age of 16, and completed her ARCT
for Organ Performance just a few years later (obtaining the
highest mark in Ontario). She also has associateship Diplomas
in the Royal Schools of Music (London, UK– ABRSM) and
from the Royal Canadian College of Organists (ARCCO).

Rebecca holds a Bachelor of Music Degree
(Theory, Composition) from the University of Toronto. As a
performer, she has won prestigious awards in Music Festivals,
National Competitions, received scholarships, facilitated and
participated in various Masterclasses in North America and
Europe, and studied with distinguished artists. Rebecca has
also been an RCM Piano/Organ Teacher for 30 years,
Ensemble Coordinator for numerous Music Festivals,
Children’s Camp Director and Youth volunteer, Director of
Music in various local churches for over 20 years,
accompanist for orchestras, choirs, singers, auditioning
students and solo instrumentalists.

**Be sure to check out our AUC website, 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.



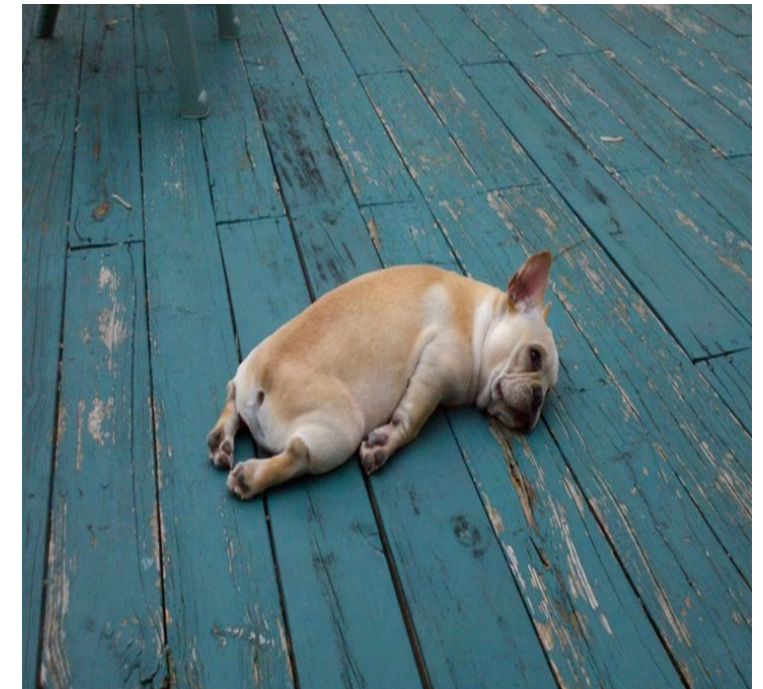
AURORA UNITED CHURCH

An Affirming Congregation

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

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





PENTECOST 9
July 30, 2023
11:00 AM

*In the heated days of summer we seek and sometimes
find that cool, green space, a sanctuary for a weary
soul. A space apart in which to shed the dreariness of
life; a holy place where Creation’s spirit moves and
renewed life begins. (Pat Milliken)*