

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Reflection on ‘Buinessan’ (*Edward Landin*)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters

Louise Procter-Maio

INTROIT I Saw the Rich Ones (*Mayberry/Stubington*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

I am a child of God.

I am a child of God.

We are children of God.

We are children of God.

Learners...and teachers.

Loving...and loved.

By each other...and by God!

We gather at God’s call...

to share what we have

and who we are;

to sing and to pray and

to worship our God.

Let us worship!

***HYMN** Come, Let Us Sing VU 222

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

God of autumn, help us to be more like nature, accepting the changing seasons; like the changing of the trees: not a dying as life sometimes feels, but a stripping bare in preparation for inner growth, knowing that to shed the outer layers will reveal a strength that is hidden underneath. God of

autumn, it’s so hard to let things go: the shields, the camouflage, the flimsy covers. We cannot hide from you; you are our strength, you see our inner beauty. You see beyond the human dressings and wish to clothe us in your love. God, help us to align ourselves with nature, accepting the changing seasons, sharing in this time of great change and beauty. God in community, Holy in One, we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

(*Katrina Crosby. Iona Community, adapted.*)

WORDS OF GRACE

Seasons change—we change—and God’s love remains.

Thanks be to God!

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

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE Philippians 1:21-30 p.196-197 *Pew Bible NT*

(For me, to live is Christ.) Martha Bailkowski

ANTHEM When You Believe (Prince of Egypt)

(*Stephen Schwartz arr. Audrey Snyder*)

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 43:16-21 p. 672-673 *Pew Bible OT*

(I am about to do a new thing; do you not perceive it?)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Reading the Bones

HYMN The Servant Song (We Are Pilgrims) VU 595

SHARING GOD’S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY The Lone, Wild Bird (*McFayden/Haugen*)

(Lisa Kyriakides, Rev. Lorraine, Margaret Heney)

***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

RE-COVENANTING WITH AUC COUNCIL

Congregational Commitment

Will you, the members of Aurora United Church honour the leadership of these persons? Will you assist them through prayer, generous support, and personal example, so that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ?

We will, God being our helper.

PRAYER PRELUDE Spirit of Life (*C.McDade*)

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. (*VU 381*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER

VU p.910

***HYMN** Deep In Our Hearts (MV 154)
 Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
 deep in our hearts there is a common song;
 deep in our hearts there is a common story,
 telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
 deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
 deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
 justice and peace and harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
 deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
 deep in our hearts there is a common current,
 flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
 deep in our hearts there is a common song;
 deep in our hearts there is a common story,
 telling Creation that we are one.

***COMMISSIONING**

Let us go now to bring hope to a hurting world.
We go in hope.
 Let us go now, sharing God's love . **We go in love!**

***SUNG BLESSING** Take Up His Song (MV 213)
Take up his song of love and go into the world.
Take up his song of love in ev'ry moment.
In ev'ry moment of the journey,
we're laying down our lives;
lay them down in love, lay them down,
and take up his song.

POSTLUDE We Praise Thee, O God
 (D.Bortniansky arr. I.Grichetchkine)

News From the Edge



As summer days come to an end and we return to our regular schedules, it is the right time to reconnect and recap on the progress made this summer in the AUC re-building project.

The EDGE Property Committee is pleased to say that Stage 1, the substructure of the building, is close to completion bringing our focus to the next stage – building the above-ground structure from the Yonge Street level and up!

Here are some of the updates we are excited about:
 The Dalton Company has been hired to provide Construction Management Services

Dalton has been diligently working on the preconstruction planning to provide “Value Engineering, Design Assist, and Cost Estimation services to ensure an optimized building design commensurate with the Church’s program, operations and budget”
 The steel contract has been awarded with considerable savings

EDGE looks forward to sharing more exciting progress reports in the months to come. Our design and construction teams have been tasked with finding savings in time and cost to move this project along to the completion of a beautiful church facility that meets our needs and future dreams.



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

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PENTECOST 17
AUC Council Recovenanting
September 24, 2023
11:00 AM

We are called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, loving what he loved, living what he taught, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place. (UCC Song of Faith. 2006)