

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Resignation (Irwinton) (Variations)
(arr. James Boeringer)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Martha Bailkowski

INTROIT Jukkeseo wangwiye (The God of Glory/
Le Dieu de gloire) (Ryu Hyung Sun Trans.Donaldson/
Fines/Eckert/Oberman) ‘Then Let Us Sing’ sampler

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to this time of worship
with your stories and your songs,
to share in the Spirit.

**We come, as faithful people have come
for many generations.**

Let your thoughts and concerns
come to life, like a symphony of sound.

**We join together
in one chorus of celebration
and joy for what God has done
and continues to do among us.**

***HYMN** Come Touch Our Hearts (G.Light) MV 12

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire; love strong
enough to overturn injustice, to seek a world more
gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls that we may know and love you, your
quiet presence all our fears dispel; create a space for spirit to
grow in us, let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless
our souls.

Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding, to welcome
truth and wisdom, come touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;
that we may rise to follow and to serve, steady now
our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

**By joining in this time of worship, Creator God,
we are making a choice, a choice to be part of your
transforming love in this world. We are offering
ourselves in body, mind and spirit—to the mending and
tending of your world. We are opening ourselves to be
changed by your compassion working in and through us,
so that all may experience the love you sent in Jesus.
We commit to you, Loving God, that we will share your
love unconditionally, without judgment, freely, without
price. God in Community; Holy in One, we pray in
Jesus’ name. Amen.** (S.Lukey, High River U.C.,High River, Alta. adapted)

WORDS OF GRACE

God’s love embraces us; body, mind and spirit.
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Celtic Alleluia

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 p.203 Pew Bible NT
(We always give thanks to God for you.) Nancy Kerswill

ANTHEM Come Unto Me (Larry Nickel)
Peter Zsebik, recorder

GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22 p. 24-25 Pew Bible NT
(Give to God the things that are God’s.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Old Wounds

***HYMN** Love Is the Touch (A.Robertson/J.Bell) MV 89

Love is the touch of intangible joy; love is the force
that no fear can destroy; love is the goodness we gladly
applaud: God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice; love is the hope that
can make us rejoice; love is the cure for the frightened
and flawed: God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain; love is the will to
be whole once again; love is the trust of a friend on the
road: God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son; love is the kingdom
their will has begun; love is the path which the saints all
have trod: God is where love is, for love is of God.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Notre Père, Notre Mère (*Lambert*)
(TLUS Sampler) The Aurora Choralis

***DEDICATION** Giver and Gift (*B.Wren*) Tune: VU 217

**Praise God the Giver and the Gift,
hearts, minds and voices now uplift:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise, praise the Breath of glad surprise,
freeing, uplifting, opening eyes,
Three-in-Oneness, Love Communing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

PRAYER PRELUDE We Call to You O God (*Mayberry*)
**We call to You O God, in faith and with open heart,
hear our prayer. We call to You O God, in faith and
with open heart, hear, hear our prayer.
Hear, hear our prayer.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER
VU p.910

***HYMN** Come, O Fount of Every Blessing p 7

***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**

May the Peace of God Be Your Peace (*N.McLaren*) MV222

**May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the joy of God be the joy you know,
and may the world that God would see
be found in you.**

POSTLUDE Gothic Minuet on 'Kingsfold'
(*Matthew F. Walicke*)



Thanks & Blessings

*It is true to say that it takes a community to make things
happen, and it was certainly the case for our Affirming
Congregation Celebration on Sunday, October 15th.*

*We thank the Affirming Congregation Committee for their
work to bring us to this historic moment in the life of our
congregation, and for creating a beautiful, creative backdrop
for worship, reflective of the symbol of the rainbow
that speaks to diversity and inclusivity.*

*Many thanks to Margaret Heney, AUC Music Coordinator
and to Lisa Kyriakides, Handbell Ensembles Director, for
their sensitivity in music choices for the day and for the beauty
of voice and instrument so wonderfully expressed by
Tim Birtch, trumpet; the AUC Chancel Choir, and the
Bellissimo & Faith-A-Peal Handbell Ensembles.*

*For those who brought greetings from near and far; for all the
helpers...Welcome Table greeters/ushers; Coffee coordinators
and those who set the tables for our celebration lunch and
cleaned up afterwards...who took photos to mark the day
and to those who 'liked' us on Facebook! Thanks & Blessings!*



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 21
October 22, 2023
11:00 AM

*'The United Church joins with all those praying for a
just peace in the Holy Land and urges global leaders
to work urgently for an end to the current violence,
an end to the ongoing occupation of Palestinian
territories, and a just and lasting peace for
Palestinians and Israelis.'*
(*Rev. Michael Blair, General Secretary, UCC*)

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
call for songs of endless praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger,
precious presence, precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debt
or daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
wander from the love I've known:
here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

