

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE China (Variations with Canon)
(James Boeringer)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Paula Hanna

INTROIT God lights a lamp (K.Graber/A.L.Thiessen)
From 'Then Let Us Sing' sampler)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and worship—
**greetings to our brothers and sisters
in the faith.**

We come to celebrate God's presence,
**and God's love expressed
through Jesus Christ.**

We come remembering Christ's life and ministry,
and the life we are called live.

We come as pilgrim people
searching for ways to live out our faith.

**We come, seeking God's grace
to carry on our journey;
to celebrate God's gift to us.
Let us worship!**

***HYMN** Sing Your Praise to God Eternal pg 7

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

You are present, O God, in times of fulfillment and joy, and we are thankful. You meet us also when we feel empty and without purpose, or in the midst of

crisis, to comfort us. You bring new life, hope and purpose in these times and for this we are indeed grateful. You meet us also in the ordinary time, in the everyday routine of life, guiding us and encouraging us. Whether our week was fulfilling and joyful, or difficult and painful, or simply ordinary, we acknowledge your constant and nurturing grace. Your love for us is unconditional and unending and we praise you with thanksgiving. God in community, Holy in One, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

God's gifts to us are generous and abundant!
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Celtic Alleluia

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

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 78 (Part 1) VU p.792
(We will teach the next generation.) Colleen Abbott

ANTHEM Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning
(African-American Spiritual arr. G.E.Franklin)

GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13 p. 28 Pew Bible NT
(Parable of the ten bridesmaids and the lamps)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Preparations

***HYMN** Creator God You Gave Us Life (J.Snowdon) MV 27

Creator God you gave us life, your image formed within our souls, yet through the mist of time and space, we search for that which makes us whole. *Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices chanting melody, with words that reach beyond the page, we comprehend your mystery.*

In every flower and every tree, we see your great diversity, yet greater still we see your love, expressed in our humanity. *Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices chanting melody, with words that reach beyond the page, we comprehend your mystery.*

When with our hearts, our hands our minds, we share our gifts with all the world, our spirits soar beyond the veil, to touch the very face of God. *Through hands that paint majestic skies, and voices chanting melody, with words that reach beyond the page, we comprehend your mystery.*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Contemplation (Jason W. Krug)
Faith-A-Peal Handbell Ensemble

***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** Dear Weaver of Our Lives' Design pg 8

***COMMISSIONING**

May compassion rule our lives—
and generosity, our spirits.
May wisdom guide our minds—
let love be our story.

***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 Prelude on 'St. Dunstan's' (*Fred Bock*)



MISSION AND SERVICE

Real-time relief

There is one thing that will never fail us: compassion. Acts of compassion, both big and small, give rise to peace. We can't wave a magic wand and bring about world peace, but with every act of compassion we harness the power of love, the same love Jesus lived and died for and that he promised would move mountains. At a time when it feels like there's a new crisis confronting us each and every day, it's reassuring to know that [Mission and Service](#) partners provide real-time relief around the world on a daily basis.

That's why your generosity matters so much. The food security initiatives, refugee support work, educational programs, and emergency and advocacy efforts your gifts through Mission and Service support aren't just about food, safety, education, and human rights. They are ultimately about compassion, peace, and hope. And in a world where division tears the fabric that binds us together, that's everything.

Jesus put compassion into action every day he lived. He brought hope into every room he walked into. He was literally the calm in the storm. He stretched out his arms in the ultimate sacrifice of love, and the world was never the same. Every act of compassion contributes to a more peaceful world. Thank you for your generosity through [Mission and Service](#). Your gifts truly do help move mountains.



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 24
November 12, 2023
11:00 AM

*And so the spirituality of waiting is not simply our waiting for God. It is also participating in God's own waiting for us and in that way coming to share in the deepest purity of love, which is God's love.
(Henri J.M. Nouwen, The Spirituality of Waiting)*

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 78 (Part 1)

R We will tell new generations of the wonders God has done.

Give heed to my teaching, O my people, turn your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will reveal the hidden meaning of things in the past.

What we have heard and known, what our parents have told us, we will not hide from their grandchildren

but declare to the next generation

the testimony that you gave to Jacob

and the law you appointed in Israel,

which you commanded them to teach their children,

That the next generation might know them, children yet unborn,

And these in turn should arise, and tell their children,

that they should put their trust in you,

and not forget your great deeds,

but keep all your commandments. R

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### **Sing Your Praise to God Eternal**

Sing your praise to God eternal, sing your praise to God the Son, sing your praise to God the Spirit, living and forever One. God has made us, God has blessed us, God has called us to be true. God rules over all creation, daily making all things new.

Join the praise of every creature, sing with singing birds at dawn; when the stars shine forth at nightfall, hear their heavenly antiphon. Praise God for the light of summer, autumn glories, winter snows, for the coming of the springtime and the life of all that grows.

Praise God on our days of gladness for the summons to rejoice; praise God in our times of sadness for the calm, consoling voice. God our Maker, strong and loving, Christ our Saviour, Leader, Lord, living God, Creator Spirit, be your holy name adored!

### **Dear Weaver of Our Lives' Design**

Dear weaver of our lives' design whose patterns all obey, with skillful fingers gently guide the sturdy threads that will survive the tangle of our days, the tangle of our days.

Take up the fabric of our lives with hands that gently hold; bind in the ragged edge that care would sunder and that pain would tear, and mend our ravelling souls, and mend our ravel-ling souls.

Let eyes that in the plainest cloth a hidden beauty see discern in us our richest hues, show us the patterns we may use to set our spirits free, to set our spirits free.

