

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Love of the Father *(David Paxton)*

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE  
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters**  
Nancy Kerswill

**INTROIT** Si el Espiritu de Dios  
(Quand l'Esprit de Dieu/When the Spirit of God)  
*(Anon. Spanish trad. harm. D.Gobel)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Grace to you and peace from the One who is,  
and who was, and who is to come.  
**Grace to you and the peace of Jesus Christ,  
the faithful witness and bearer of truth.**  
Lift your voices in praise and thanksgiving,  
**for the end is no longer the end,  
but the beginning.**  
Shout your alleluias,  
**so we may renew our world with the vision  
of peace and justice that God would  
have us live.**  
God is the Alpha and the Omega,  
the beginning and the end,  
**the One who is and who was  
and who is to come. Alleluia!**

**\*HYMN** Make a Joyful Noise *insert p 7*

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

**Mighty and tender God, voice of the voiceless, power of the powerless: we praise you for your vision of a community of wholeness, a realm of peace in which all who hunger and thirst are nourished, in which the stranger is welcomed, the hurting are healed, and the captives set free. Guide us by your truth and love, until we and all your people enact your reign of justice and compassion. We pray in the name of your Anointed One, to whom with you and the Spirit, one God, be honour, glory and blessing this day. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**WORDS OF GRACE**

God creates new hearts within us.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SUNG RESPONSE** Celtic Alleluia

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

**FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**SCRIPTURE** Ephesians 1:15-23 *p. 192 Pew Bible NT*  
(May God give you a spirit of wisdom, revelation and hope.)  
Kathie Blackman

**ANTHEM** Non Nobis Domine *(R.Kipling/R.Quilter)*  
*(In loving memory of Aubrey Foy (AUC Music Director 1997-2003))*

**GOSPEL** Matthew 25:31-46 *p.29 Pew Bible NT*  
(When you helped the least of these, you helped me.)

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

**SERMON** When Looking is Seeing

**\*HYMN** Christ of Compassion *(P.McDonough)*  
(Tune: Tenderness VU 307)  
Christ of compassion, Christ of all giving, our hearts are full with our comfort and care. Love's living presence, Spirit of Sharing, nourish and strengthen the faith that we bear.

Love for our neighbour, friend to the stranger, gently we open a place in our heart. Peace to the fearful, hope to the lonely, spirits renewed through the care we impart.

Travelling companions, friends on the journey, sharing our kindness, our joy to increase. Truth gives our faith its courage and wisdom, shaping our world with the love we release.

We who would hunger, thirsting for justice, through faithful action our love is made real. Bread of abundance, cup of renewal, our lives seek meaning through this sacred meal.

Love from the heart, the sweetest expression, tells of the Spirit alive in this place. Spreading that love to people around us, touching our living, with honour and grace.

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

**\*THE NEW CREED** *insert p 7*  
**\*THE PEACE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** Little David Play on Your Harp *(arr.P.Cota)*  
EmBellished 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**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** (*on insert*)

**\*HYMN** O World of God *insert p 8*

**\*COMMISSIONING**

And now, may God who brings to birth  
 and sustains all life, sustain you;  
**may Christ who fashions hope  
 and strengthens faith, strengthen us.**  
 May the Spirit who empowers  
 and inspires action, inspire you;  
**today and in the days to come.**

**\*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** Tuba Tune (*Mark D. Himmelman*)



## Mission and Service

The Christmas Parade is one of London Community  
 Chaplaincy’s most popular traditions.

When you think of the word “tradition,” what comes to mind?  
 At this time of year, many of us think of gathering with friends  
 and family as we share stories over a warm meal.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas with our loved ones, it is  
 heartbreaking to think of families who are unable to afford a  
 warm meal or a small gift for their children. While we  
 recognize this season as a time of joy, for many  
 underprivileged families it is a difficult reminder of their  
 struggle.

For Mission and Service partner London Community  
 Chaplaincy (LCC), bringing joy and community-building fun  
 to the social housing complexes they serve goes hand-in-hand  
 with creating and sustaining traditions.

The Christmas Parade is one of LCC’s most popular traditions.  
 Children’s eyes gleam with excitement as their stockings are  
 filled with candy canes, books, and toys. There is music, food,  
 and of course a visit with Santa Claus! With full bellies,  
 children play together, filling the air with excitement and  
 laughter while their parents connect, support each other, and  
 share their stories.

Your gifts to [Mission and Service](#) help partners like the Lon-  
 don Community Chaplaincy as they nourish spirits in their  
 communities.

Thank you.



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)





**REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY**  
**November 26, 2023**  
**11:00 AM**

*We sing of Jesus, a Jew, born to a woman in poverty  
 in a time of social upheaval and political oppression.  
 He knew human joy and sorrow. So filled with the  
 Holy Spirit was he that in him people experienced the  
 presence of God among them. We sing to God  
 incarnate. (UCC Statement of Faith, 2006)*

## **Make a Joyful Noise – Psalm 100**

**R Make a joyful noise all the earth!  
Worship your God with gladness.  
Make a joyful noise all the earth.  
Come to this place with a song!**

Know that your God has made you.  
Know it's to God we belong.  
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.  
Worship your God with a song! **R**

Enter these gates, thanks giving.  
Enter these courts with praise.  
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.  
Worship your God with a song! **R**

Ages through endless ages,  
seasons of endless years,  
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.  
worship your God with a song! **R**

## **THE NEW CREED**

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

To celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.

We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God

## **O World of God**

O world of God, so vast and strange,  
profound and wonderful and fair,  
beyond the utmost each of thought  
but not beyond our Maker's care!

We are not strangers on this earth  
whirling amid the suns of space;  
we are God's children, this our home,  
with those of every clime and race.

O world where human life is lived,  
so strangely mingling joy and pain,  
so full of evil and of good, so  
needful that the good shall reign!

It is this world that God has loved,  
and goodness was its Maker's plan,  
the promise of God's triumph is  
a humble birth in Bethlehem.

O world of time's far-stretching years!  
There was a day when time stood still,  
a central moment when there rose  
a cross upon a cruel hill;

in pain and death love's power was seen,  
the mystery of time revealed,  
the wisdom of the ways of God,  
the grace through which our hurt is healed.