

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER



PRELUDE Aria Cantabile (Beethoven arr. Rick Parks)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
Joyce Hagarty

INTROIT Because Jesus Felt (B.Wren/D.C.Damon)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.

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

We come remembering Jesus' life and ministry,
and the life we are called to live.

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

We come seeking the vitality to carry on our journey.

Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

***HYMN** Let Us Build a House (M.Haugen) MV 1

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end division: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

In a busy world, it is good to know that your love is patient, O God. When everywhere we turn we hear hateful words, it is good to know your love is kind. When resentments build up, when our tempers run short and we look at our neighbours with envy, it is good to know that your love bears all things. When we feel worthless, useless, expendable, it is good to know that you believe in us and call us blessed. When our doubts rage, it is good to know that your love is filled with hope—for our lives, for your church, for the world, and for all that lives and breathes upon it. But most of all, when we feel we are at the end of the road, it is good to know that you are the God of new

beginnings and second chances, and that your love has no limit, no boundaries...no end. For all of this we praise you; for this we gather in worship; for this we will live in love all the days of our lives. God in Community, Holy in One, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

God calls us to new awareness—
to new life, again and again.
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE A Light is Gleaming (L.Good) VU 82
**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
is burning bright, living in the light.**

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 111 *insert p 7*
(I will thank you, God, with my whole heart.) Charles Truax

ANTHEM May I Be Still (Brian Tate)

GOSPEL Mark 1:21-28 p.36-37 *Pew Bible NT*
(Jesus speaks with authority and heals a man.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Rise

***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.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Acclamation (Patricia Helburt)
 EmBellished Handbell Ensemble

***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**

PRAYER PRELUDE Light of Christ (Mayberry/Kai)
**Light of Christ shine in and through me.
 Light of Love be with me now.
 Take these hands, healing hands.
 Light of Christ flow through me now.**

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

***HYMN** One More Step Along the World I Go **insert p 8**

***COMMISSIONING**
 And now, may God's blessing be ours:
**a blessing of loving kindness,
 a blessing of hope and courage,
 a blessing of listening and love.**
 God's blessing be ours, and ours to share.
(R.Burgess, Winter.)

***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 Prelude and Fugue in e minor BWV 533
(J.S. Bach)



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

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

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





EPIPHANY 4
January 28, 2024
11:00 AM

We sing of a church seeking to continue the story of Jesus by embodying Christ's presence in the world. 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 Statement of Faith)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 111

R Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah

I will thank you, God with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in their assembly.

Great are your works, O God, studied by all who delight in them.

Honour and majesty are your work; your righteousness endures forever.

You have won renown for your wonders; you are gracious and full of compassion. R

You give food to those who fear you; you keep your covenant always in mind.

You have shown your power in action, giving your people the heritage of nations.

The works of your hands are faithful and just; all your precepts trustworthy.

They stand fast forever and ever; grounded in justice and truth.

You sent redemption to your people;

you decreed your covenant forever. Holy and awesome is your name. R

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom;

those who practise it have good understanding. May your praise endure forever. R

One More Step Along the World I Go

One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go, from the old things to the new, keep me travelling along with you: And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corner of the world I turn, more and more about the world I learn; all the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me: **R**

As I travel through the bad and good, keep me travelling the way I should; where I see no way to go you'll be telling me the way, I know: **R**

Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough, leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you: **R**

You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me, ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you: And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.

