

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER



PRELUDE Prayer (Mark Davis)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion** Susan Sue-Ling

INTROIT Creative Spirit, Come To Us
(Latin 9th Century trans. J.Wootton/arr. H. Willan)

CALL TO WORSHIP

How shall we call God’s Spirit?

Water. Fire. Wind.

Infinite in mystery,

and as intimate as a friend.

How shall we know God’s Spirit?

Water. Fire. Wind.

Untamable. Unstoppable.

Come and dwell within.

How shall we serve God’s Spirit?

Water. Fire. Wind.

With courage and compassion.

Let our journey now begin

in worship!

***HYMN** I Feel the Winds of God Today p 7

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Holy, sprightly Spirit of God, we delight at your dancing among us, filling the world with joyful possibility, revealing the music of the Creator. We rejoice at your daring spontaneity and find ourselves caught off guard by your unexpected

communications. In a world that can seem confusing and unpredictable, you spark into being, new possibilities. In a world that can seem drab, you weave your ever-changing patterns into the fabric of our beings. In a world that can appear purposeless, your vitality shouts out a mighty ‘yes’ to life and declares the source of all living to be the One from whom you proceed, the Father and Mother, Creator and Lover of us all. We make our prayer in the name of Jesus, who promised your coming and reigns with you in the eternal kinship of the Creator. God in Community— Holy in One, we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

(Iona Community, adapted.)

WORDS OF GRACE

All the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Sing, Sing Out! (Hannah/Melhorne-Boe)
MV 180

**Sing, sing out! Sing a new song.
Sing oh people as one voice! Sing, sing out!
Sing a new song. Sing of God. Each heart rejoice!**
Repeat

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 104 insert p 8
(How great are all God’s works?) Janice Nolan

ANTHEM On That Day of Pentecost (Douglas Nolan)

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-21 p.119 Pew Bible NT
(The coming of the Holy Spirit.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Spirit, Wind & Flame

***HYMN** Spirit God, Be Our Breath (B.Harding) MV 150
Spirit God: be our breath, be our song. Blow through us, bringing strength to move on. Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn...Spirit God, be our song.

Patient God: soothe our pride, calm our fear. Comfort us. When we know you are near we grow more certain, our vision is clear. Patient God, calm our fear.

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer. Reaching out, joining hands as we share, we seek your guidance through friendship and care. Loving God, be our prayer.

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song. Blow through us, bringing strength to move on. Through change, through challenge, we’ll greet the new dawn...Spirit God, be our song.

SHARING GOD’S LOVE

* **THE NEW CREED** VU p,918

* **THE PEACE**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Draw the Circle Wide (G.Light)
Just The Three of Us —Brian & Jules Pastoor, Myles Heney

***DEDICATION** Grateful (T. Tomaszek) MV 182
**Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son, joyful in your Spirit flowing over all,
O God of love. Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word, joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION *(on insert)*

***HYMN** She Comes Sailing on the Wind p 7
(Refrain, vss 1&2, Ref, vss 3&4, Ref, vs 5, Ref.)

***COMMISSIONING**

And now, the Maker's blessing be yours—
**on our road, on our journey—
guarding us, cherishing us.**
The Son's blessing be yours—
**wine and water, bread and stories—
feeding us, challenging us.**
The Spirit's blessing be yours—
**wind and fire, joy and wisdom—
comforting us, disturbing us.**
(Iona Community)

***SUNG BLESSING** Wherever You May Go 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 The Rock of Salvation *(Franklin Ritter)*

The Season of Pentecost

Pentecost is celebrated on a Sunday 50 days after Easter (counting Easter Sunday. Pentecost comes from the Greek word *pentekoste* meaning 50th (day). Pentecost is a reference to the Jewish festival Shavuot or the Festival of Weeks, which is held on the 50th day after the second day of Passover. The festival celebrates the giving of the Torah to the Israelites at Mount Sinai. The colour for Pentecost is **Red!**



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.



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



PENTECOST
(Communion)
May 19, 2024
11:00 am

Before he left, Jesus told his friends he would send them the Advocate, the Comforter. Now we see this Comforter coming as wind, as flame, reminding us that comfort is not always comfortable, for it makes itself known in community, where we find the most searing challenges—and the deepest blessings we will ever know. (J.Richardson)

I Feel the Winds of God

I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift, though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn with many a rift; if hope but light the water's crest, and Christ my bark will use, I'll seek the seas at his behest, and brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears, until with braver thoughts shall rise the purer, brighter years; if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be, O let me feel your freshening breeze, and I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown, lift high the blood-red flag above; it bears your name alone. Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift. I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift.

She Comes sailing on the Wind

She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun; on a journey just begun, she flies on. And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night, full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.

Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth, like an empty cradle waiting to be filled. And from the heart of God the Spirit moved upon the earth, like a mother breathing life into her child.

Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given sight when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form. Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts found new delight, and then down the ages still she flew on. **R**

To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she came, a whisper softly calling in the dark, the promise of a child of peace whose reign would never end, Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart.

Flying to the river, she waited circling high above the child now grown so full of grace. As he rose up from the water, she swept down from the sky, and she carried him away in her embrace. **R**

Long after the deep darkness that fell upon the world, after dawn returned in flame of rising sun, the Spirit touched the earth again, again her wings unfurled, bringing life in wind and fire as she flew on. **R**

Psalm 104 (pt. 2 ref. 1)

R Hal-le-lu-jah, Hal-le-lu-jah, Hal-le-lu-jah!

O God, how manifold are your works!

With Wisdom at your side you made them all, the earth is full of your creatures. R

There lies the great and mighty Sea, teeming with living things both great and small
Upon it sail the ships, and there is Leviathan, the monster you made to play in it

All these look to you, to give them their food in due season.

What you give them they gather up. When you open your hand, you fill them with good things.

But when you hide your face they despair. When you take away their breath, they die, and return to dust.

But when you send out your spirit, they live again, and you renew the face of the earth. R

May your glory, O God, endure forever.

May you rejoice, O God, in your works.

When you look at the earth it trembles,

when you touch the mountains they smoke.

I will sing to God as long as I live

I will praise my God while I have being. R