

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER



PRELUDE Orfeo's Lament
(Christoph Willibald Gluck, Trans. Christopher Ruck)
Susan Guido, trumpet

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion** Katie Armitage

INTROIT You Tell Me That the Lord Is Risen
(Eng. Trad./R.Johns)

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that God has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Let every day be a day
to give thanks to our maker.

**Let every greeting be a chance
to share words of love.**

Let every flower be a cause for a song of joy.

**Let every meal be a time to do this
in remembrance of Christ.**

We are here and in our homes
expecting the risen Christ in our midst.

Let us celebrate divine love and grace.

Let us worship God!

***HYMN** Joy Comes With the Dawn *p 7*

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

God of grace, you are able to transform our lives
by your holy presence. Refresh our spirits in this
time of worship. Move us from frustration to
purposeful engagement. Bless us that we might

become a blessing to others. Open our eyes to the
strength we have to make a difference in our homes
and in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus, who
turns the ordinary into a time of celebration. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

Believe the good news! Christ is risen, and is at work in
the world. Life is more than living. We are more than our
old selves. Renewal is ours through God's forgiving love.
**Thanks be to God for the gift of new life
in the risen Christ!**

SUNG RESPONSE Celtic Alleluia (C. Walker)
**Alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia!** (*sing twice*)

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 150 *p 7*
(Praise God with the sound of trumpet!) Laurie Bentolila

ANTHEM The Wind Beneath My Wings
(L. Henley/J. Silbar arr. T.Fettke/T.Grassi)

GOSPEL John 20:19-31 *p. 115 Pew Bible NT*
(Thomas doubts until he sees Jesus for himself.)

SERMON When Does Easter Come for Everybody?"
(The Rev. Tim Dayfoot)

***HYMN** The Risen Christ *p 8*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Minuet (G.F. Handel arr. R. Walters)
Susan Guido, trumpet

***DEDICATION** God We Praise You *VU 415*
**God, we praise you for the morning,
hope is born with each new day.
Hearts and hands reveal your promise,
accept our gifts now we pray.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing**

PRAYER PRELUDE Dear Mother God *VU 270*
**Dear mother God, your wings are warm around us,
we are enfolded in your love and care; safe in the
dark your heartbeat's pulse surrounds us, you call
to us, for you are always there.**

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

HYMN Now the Green Blade Rises *p 8*

***COMMISSIONING**

***SUNG BLESSING** Take Up His Song *MV 213*
**Take up his song of love and go into the world.
Take up his song of love in every moment.
In every moment of the journey,
we're laying down our lives;
lay them down, in love, lay them down,
and take up his song.**

POSTLUDE Resurrection Medley (arr. Marty Parks)
Susan Guido, trumpet

Welcome

Today we welcome the Rev. Tim Dayfoot to the pulpit of Aurora United Church. Rev. Tim was engaged in full or part-time United Church ministry for thirty-eight years before his full retirement in April 2023. Rev. Tim and his wife, Leta, are now a part of the Aurora United Church community of faith, and they have enjoyed singing in the choir these past two years.



*Don't think
I'm not afraid
there is such an unleashing
of horror.*

*Then, I remember:
death comes before
the rolling away
of the stone.
Mary Oliver*



MISSION AND SERVICE

A story of Cultural Resilience

Storytelling has always been a powerful way to preserve history, share experiences, and shape understanding. The theatre production *Bunk #7* did just that, leaving significant impact on both the cast and the audiences who witnessed its profound narrative.

Bunk #7 tells the true story of six boys who, in the early 1960s, stood up against the systemic mistreatment and abuse they endured at Edmonton Indian Residential School in St. Albert, Alberta. Written by the late Nisga'a MLA Larry Guno, the play drew from his own experience as a student at the residential school. *Bunk #7* was named after Guno's bunk number—a personal touch that connected the story to the heart of the playwright's lived truth.

The play was brought to life by an exceptional cast of Indigenous youth and young adults, creating a space for both performers and audiences to learn, reflect, and share the story of cultural resilience. The production premiered at Raven Theatre in British Columbia in November 2021, where it was met with overwhelming support. This response led to a transformative tour throughout northwestern BC in the fall of 2023. Each performance continued to resonate deeply with audiences, showing the lasting impact of this remarkable piece of theatre.

Bunk #7 continues to echo through the hearts of those who experienced it. The powerful message of survival, resilience, and resistance against injustice lives on, sparking important conversations and encouraging deeper understanding of the Indigenous experience.

Your gifts to Mission and Service helped create opportunities for stories like *Bunk #7* to be shared, heard, and honored in a way that fosters healing and transformation.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping these important stories alive.



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



EASTER 2
April 27, 2025
11:00 AM

*Come! Dancing out of winter's gloom. Enliven us
with your radiant hope. Lure us through the closed
doors of our doubt. Celebrate with us the wonder of
the risen life. (Joyce Rupp. The Circle of Life)*

Joy Comes With the Dawn

**Joy comes with the dawn;
joy comes with the morning sun;
joy springs from the tomb
and scatters the night with her song,
joy comes with the dawn.**

Weeping may come; weeping may come in the night,
when dark shadows cloud our sight. **R**

Sorrow will turn, sorrow will turn into song,
and God's laughter make us strong. **R**

We will rejoice, we will rejoice, and give praise,
to the One who brings us grace. **R**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 150

**Praise to the lord, hallelujah!
Everybody praise the Lord**

Praise God in the holy temple!
Praise God for mighty deeds!
Praise God for bountiful mercies,
Praise God who meets all our needs! R

Praise God with sound of trumpet!
Praise God with lute and harp!
Praise God with timbrel and dancing!
Praise God wherever you are! R

Praise God with holy cymbals!
Praise God with strings and pipes!
Praise God with clash of cymbals!
Praise God with all your might! R

The Risen Christ

The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.

The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe,
new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.

May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.

Now The Green Blade Rises

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days
has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been: love is come again, like wheat
arising green.

In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would never wake
again, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is come again, like wheat
arising green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had
lain; raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; love is come again, like wheat
arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life
again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; love is come again, like