

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Meditation on Julion (*M.D. Himmelman*)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion*** Louise Procter Maio

CALL TO WORSHIP

As sunlight dazzles on lakes and sunsets
blaze through the sky,

**Let the brilliance of our Creator God's love
guide us to discover God's way for us.**

With the cry of the loon rising up into the dusk
or the shouts of children playing in a field.

**Let the melody of God's love sung through Jesus
help us to receive God's word for us.**

Like granite running jagged through the hills
or creeks flowing from source to sea,

**let the presence of God's Spirit ground us
so we may know God's strength within us.**

Let us worship!

(Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville, Ont. adapted)

***HYMN** O God beyond All Praising *p. 7*

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

**Loving God, we give thanks today for the times
when we have committed together to be a faith
community which has tried to make way for
inclusion, compassion, justice, and care for all.
We celebrate how our United Church has**

**encouraged us to work toward living into right
relationship with each other and mending the world.
We receive your grace when we have tried and
failed to live out this love in action. As we lean into
the future, trusting the Spirit's guidance, we honour
our Church's desire to live into right relations with
First Nations people; its commitment to being the
intercultural and anti-racist church we are
becoming, and the shared joy of journeying
together in hope. God in Community – Holy in One,
we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

In God, we are known and loved!
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Sing, Sing Out! (*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 80 Pt.2 *p. 7*

(Care for the vine.) Bob McRoberts

GIFT OF MUSIC Let There Be Peace on Earth

(*Sy Miller/Jill Jackson*) Bob McRoberts

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 11:29-12:2 *p. 226 Pew Bible NT*

(Th great cloud of witnesses; the race set before us.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Dreaming

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 'Reflection on Bunessan' (*E.Landin*)

***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 Spirit of Life (C. McDade) VU 381

Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart
all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

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

***HYMN** Be Thou My Vision p. 8

***COMMISSIONING**

As you go from this place of worship,
prepare yourself. Get ready.
Be open to dream dreams and experience visions
of what God would have us be doing in this
congregation and as the United Church of Canada.
Get ready.
We are ready.
Don't be afraid.
We are not afraid.
God is working with us and among us.
Thanks be to God!

***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: A Highland Procession (Lester H. Groom)



The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, Moderator U.C.C.

Every three years, when The United Church of Canada's General Council meets, a new Moderator is chosen. The 45th General Council, which took place in person and online at the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre from August 7–11, selected Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath as the next Moderator, after three ballots. Born in Lusaka, Zambia, and raised in Canada, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath was ordained in 1999. She began her ministry in Claresholm-Stavely Pastoral Charge in Alberta and has served Wall Street United Church in eastern Ontario since 2007. Rev. Dr. Heath has contributed to the wider church through leadership roles including Chair of Pastoral Relations in Foothills Presbytery, President of Bay of Quinte Conference, and member of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Transition Commission. She has also lead retreats, workshops, and preaching conferences to support clergy and nurture faith. In sharing her hopes for the church, she says, "As Moderator, I will help to build up the church by deepening faith in Jesus, strengthening what is small and encouraging life-giving connections."

The installation of Rev. Dr. Heath as the 45th Moderator took place at Knox United Church,, Calgary, Alberta, on Monday, August 11th. The Moderator serves as the spiritual leader of The United Church of Canada, heartening and strengthening the whole of the church. The United Church of Canada governance structure installs the Moderator as the elected, presiding officer of the meetings of the General Council, its executive, and its sub-executive.



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 10
August 17, 2025
11:00 AM

Summer is a period of luxurious growth. To be in harmony with the atmosphere of summer, awaken early in the morning and reach to the sun for nourishment to flourish as the gardens do. Work, play, travel, be joyful, and grow into selfless service. The bounty of the outside world enters and enlivens us. (P.Pitchford)

O God beyond All Praising

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honour and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendour in time must surely die, its fragile bloom surrender to you our God most high; but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown, though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown: for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free, and we through him are given the final victory.

Then, hear O gracious Saviour, this song of praise we sing. May we, who know your favour, our humble service bring; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Psalm 80 Pt. 2

R Your face, God, shine on us and give us peace.

Part Two:

Shepherd of Israel, hear us,

you who lead Joseph like a flock, you who are enthroned amidst the cherubin.

Shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh;

stir up you might, come and save us. R

You brought a vine out of Egypt, you drove out the nations and planted it.

You cleared the ground for it, it sank deep roots, and filled the land.

The mountains were covered with its shade, the might cedars with its branches

It stretched out its branches as far as the Sea, and its shoots as far as the River.

Why then have you broken down its enclosure, so that all who go by pluck its grapes?

The boar from the forest roots it up, and beasts of the field devour it. R

Turn to us again, God of hosts, look down from heaven and see.

Bestow your care on this vine, on the stock which your right hand planted.

As for those who set it on fire, who cut it down, may they perish at the frown of your face.

Let your hand rest on the one by your side, on the one you have made strong for yourself.

Then we will never forsake you,

Give us life, and we will call on your name. R

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart; naught be all else to me save that thou art, thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife; I ever with thee, and thou in my life; thou loving parent, thy child may I be, thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight be thou my dignity, thou my delight, thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

