# **SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Psalm 149 (All Saints' Day)

(Emma Lou Diemer)

#### **WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/ Rainbow Candle of Inclusion Heather Collins

*INTROIT* Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom (Anders Frostenson trans. Fred Kaan, V. Earle Copes)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather from different places.

We come with a variety of stories and share one history here in this place.

We bring different interests and experiences.

# We also come with different hopes and fears.

Whoever we are, whatever our story, whatever hopes and fears we bring with us. Jesus welcomes us and asks us to welcome one another. Let us take a moment and greet someone sitting near us saying, "welcome to worship".

# \*HYMN As the Deer Pants for the Water p. 7

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you; you alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.

**Refrain:** You alone are my strength, my shield, to you alone may my spirit yield;

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you!

I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy; You alone are the real joy giver and the apple of my eye. **Refrain** 

You're my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a king;

I love you more than any other, so much more than anything! **Refrain** 

### PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Eternal God, we come to you with hungry hearts, waiting to be filed with a sense of your presence; with the touch of your spirit; with new energy for service. Come to us, we pray. Be with us. Touch us. Empower us as your people, that we might worship you, in spirit and in truth, and that we might then go back out into the world

and that we might then go back out into the world with a renewed commitment to serve you. And may we regain a strong sense of the community of your saints that surrounds us now and holds us in love and care. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

### **WORDS OF GRACE**

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.

The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.

God is with us even now, accepting, guiding, and forgiving. Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Dance with the Spirit MV 156 Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin', walk with the Spirit through-out the long day, Work and hope for the new life a-born-in', listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

# A TIME FOR ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

# **FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 32 (parts 1 and 2) **p. 7** Colleen Abbott

ANTHEM Who Knows Where the Seasons Go?
(Larry Nickel)

**GOSPEL** Luke 19:1-10 (Jesus dines with Zacchaeus.) p. 82 Pew Bible NT

**SERMON** Rev. Linda Wheler

\*HYMN Spirit, Open My Heart MV 79

**Refrain:** Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living. As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving, Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender. All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. **R** 

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story. In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory. **R** 

May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother. In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.  $\mathbf{R}$ 

# SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD
OFFERTORY All Creatures of Our God and King
(arr. Sandra Eithun) EmBellished Handbell Ensemble with
Joanne Banfill, piano

\*DEDICATION Take, O Take Me as I Am (John L. Bell)
Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart,
and live in me. (repeat)

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing

**PRAYER PRELUDE** Lord, Listen to Your Children (Ken Medema) VU 400

Lord, listen to your children, praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace!

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

At the conclusion of today's prayers you will be invited to come forward to light a candle for the saints in your life... for those who have gone before us and for those who are with us still.

\*HYMN For All the Saints p.8

\*COMMISSIONING

\*SUNG BLESSING May the Blessing of God VU p. 962
(Miriam Therese Winter)

May the blessing of God go before you. May her grace and peace abound. May her spirit live within you. May her love wrap you 'round. May her blessing remain with you always. May you walk on holy ground.

**POSTLUDE** Built on a Rock (Gilbert M. Martin)





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. Tim Dayfoot & Rev. Linda Wheler Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney



PENTECOST 21 All Saints' Sunday

November 2, 2025 11:00 AM

#### As The Deer Pants for the Water VU 766

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you; You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.

Refrain: You alone are my strength, my shield, to you alone may my spirit yield; You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you!

I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy; You alone are the real joy giver and the apple of my eye. **R** 

You're my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a king; I love you more than any other, so much more than anything! **R** 

#### **Psalm 32 VU 759**

Refrain: Be glad in God you righteous. Rejoice, O saints, rejoice.

Blessed are those whose offences are forgiven, whose sin has been put away.

Blessed are those to whom God imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. R

When I kept silence, my body wasted away, while I groaned all the day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night, my strength dried up as in a summer drought.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, my guilt I did not hide.

I said: "I will confess my sins to God"; and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you in time of trouble;

When great floodwater rises, it shall not come near them.

You are a hiding place for me, you will preserve them from trouble;

You will surround me with shouts of deliverance. R

#### For All the Saints VU 705

For all the saints, who from their labours rest, all who by faith before the world confessed, your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might: you were their captain in the well-fought fight; you, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one within your great design. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day the saints triumphant rise in bright array: as God to glory calls them all away. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Hallelujah, hallelujah!