#### **SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Come, Come, Ye Saints (Marilyn Thompson)

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

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

As the cycle of the year comes to a close, and we get closer to Advent-tide, the nights get longer and colder. The snow begins to fall and the clouds

seem to blanket the sky.

We look for a light to brighten our day. We look for a beacon to lead us on.

With this flame alight in our hearts, we go when Christ's light shines. Alleluia.

Alleluia, Amen. (Richard Bott)

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/ Rainbow Candle of Inclusion Paula Hanna

INTROIT You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd (Sylvia Dunstan/John Van Maanen)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN Rejoice, the Lord is King p.7

#### PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Mighty and tender God, Voice of the voiceless, Power of the powerless;

We praise you for your vision of a community of wholeness, a realm of peace, in which all who hunger and thrust are nourished, in which the stranger is welcomed, the hurting are healed, and the captive set free.

Guide us by your truth and love, until we and all your people make manifest your reign of justice and compassion.

We pray in the name of the anointed one, our servant king, to whom with you and the Spirit, one Holy God,

be honour, glory and blessing this day and forever. Amen.

(A Prayer for the Reign of Christ VU 214)

#### **WORDS OF GRACE**

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 46 p. 7

(Refrain 2) (Be still and know that I am God.) Bill Newman

ANTHEM There is Power in Jesus' Name
(Pepper Choplin) Janice Nolan, Soprano

GOSPEL READING Luke 23:33-43 (Jesus on the cross.) p. 89 Pew Bible NT

**SERMON On the Cross and Still King**The Rev. Tim Dayfoot

\*HYMN Eat This Bread and Never Hunger p.8

## **SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

\* THE NEW CREED p. 918 VU

\* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

**OFFERTORY** Rejoice Exceedingly

(Michael Mazzatenta) Faith-a-Peal Handbell Ensemble

\*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

#### **SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** (on insert)

\*HYMN Crown Him with Many Crowns p. 8

\*COMMISSIONING

\*SUNG BLESSING May the Blessing of God
(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** Festival Voluntary (Richard A. Williamson)



(Stained Glass Window in the Narthex of St. Andrew's United Church, Markham)



# Mission and Service Strengthening Communities

During the 2025 federal budget announcement, Prime Minister Mark Carney delighted many by highlighting a Mission and Service partner: Bissell Centre in Edmonton. Introducing the new *Build Communities Strong Fund*, he said, "We'll build Canada strong with projects that build our communities strong," naming Bissell Centre's work to reduce homelessness as an example of the kind of impact this new investment hopes to strengthen.

Bissell Centre is a trusted community anchor in Edmonton's inner city. Their programs meet people where they are—with supports that help people stay safely housed, employment programs that open doors to long-term stability, community meals that offer dignity and connection, and family supports that ensure children and parents have the care they need. At every step, Bissell walks with people through some of the hardest moments of their lives and helps them build a path toward thriving.

While Bissell Centre's roots go back more than a century, their mission today is urgent and forward-looking: reducing poverty, preventing homelessness, and creating a community where everyone belongs.

Their approach is practical, compassionate, and deeply responsive to local needs.

Being included in the early list of projects for the federal Build Communities Strong Fund highlights how trusted and effective Bissell Centre's work has become. National leaders are taking notice, but the real transformation happens one person, one story, one act of support at a time.

Mission and Service gifts help make this partnership possible. Thank you for supporting ministries that meet people with compassion and help build stronger communities every day.



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 24
Reign of Christ Sunday

November 23, 2025 11:00 AM

-8-

#### Rejoice, the Lord is King VU 213

Rejoice the Lord is King! Your risen Lord adore! Rejoice, give thanks and sing and triumph evermore. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love; when he had purged our sins, he took his seat above. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail; Christ rules o'er earth and heaven; the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice: rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ, the judge, shall come to glorify the saints for their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice; the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

#### Psalm 46

#### Refrain 2 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should quake, and the mountains fall into the depths of the sea. though the waters of the sea rage and foam, and the mountains tremble at the tumult. R

There is a river, whose streams make glad the city of God, sanctifying the dwelling of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved.

God will help at the break of day.

Nations are in tumult, empires are shaken;

for God speaks and the earth melts away. R

Come and see what God has done, the wonders wrought upon the earth.

God makes wars to cease in all the world,

God breaks the bow and snaps the spear, and burns the shields in the fire.

Be still and know that I am God, exalted among the nations, exalted in the earth.

The God of Hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. R

#### Eat This Bread and Never Hunger VU 471

# Refrain: Eat this bread and never hunger, drink this cup and never thirst; Christ invites us to the table where the last become the first.

Asking for a cup of water, Jesus touched forbidden ground; and the woman, with a question, told the world what she had found. **R.** 

Walking down a desert highway, Jesus healed a man born blind; soon the man became a witness to the truth we seek and find. **R.** 

Weeping for his friend at graveside, Jesus felt the pain of death; yet he knew God's power to waken: living water, living breath. **R.** 

#### Crown Him with Many Crowns VU 211

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne: hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own! Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save. His glories now we sing who died and rose on high, who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified. All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me; thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.