

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Christmas Time Is Here (Vince Guaraldi & Lee Mendelson) *Steve Falk, Brian & Jules Pastoor*

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SECURING OUR MINISTRY CAMPAIGN LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion** Brian Walter

INTROIT Comfort, Comfort Now My People
(J.G. Olearius trans. C. Winkworth alt., L. Bourgeois harm. C. Goudimel)

CALL TO WORSHIP Nancy Kerswill
Rejoice!

Joy rises like the sun over a sleeping earth.
It moves softly through the world,
touching the weary and the forgotten,
reminding us that God's promise has come.
Angels sing in hearts ready to receive.
Even in the shadows, joy endures —
a steady flame that cannot be quenched,
a song of hope, a proclamation of love.

***HYMN** All Earth is Waiting p 7

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY
Owen & Kathryn Yearwood

Today we light the Candle of Joy, sometimes called the Shepherd's Candle. We remember the angels' good news of great joy for all people — that in Jesus Christ, God's salvation has come near. Even in trials, we rejoice, for Christ is our everlasting joy. Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion! Shout for joy, people of God! The Lord is in your midst — you shall not fear.

We rejoice in the Lord always. Our hearts are glad,

for God has remembered us.

“The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.’” — Luke 2:10–11
We light this candle as a sign of joy. Though the night is long, the dawn is coming. The Lord's joy is our strength.

(The third candle of Advent is lit — the Candle of Joy.)
May our hearts be light and our spirits glad. Christ our Joy is coming soon.

Come, Lord Jesus — our Joy and our Song.

SUNG RESPONSE We Light This Candle (Pat Mayberry arr. David Kai) **We light this candle for Joy.**

Await the new life within. May our hearts now live each day, so Joy can find a way, so Joy can find a way.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL & THE LORD'S PRAYER
We gather in this time of Advent, O God, awaiting your presence. Give us the wisdom to learn more in these busy days. Give us the courage to wait in times of pain and trouble. Give us the compassion to fully be with one another. Give us the hope to wait for the Saviour even when we cannot hear the angels singing. Give us the love that reaches out when it meets Christ in our neighbour. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to say—Our Father who art in Heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

ANTHEM Creator of the Stars of Night (Jeff Enns)

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Introduction Rev. Tim Dayfoot

***HYMN** O Come, All Ye Faithful p 7

The Beginning of the Story Sophie Zsebik

Video 1: Mary Receives the Message (Schieck Family)

Scripture: Luke 1:26–38

Video Reflection Sophie Zsebik

***HYMN** To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary p 8

Mary Visits Elizabeth Sophie Zsebik

Video 2: Mary Visits Elizabeth (Villalta Family)

Scripture: Luke 1:39–56

Video Reflection Sophie Zsebik

***HYMN** O Little Town of Bethlehem p 8-9

The Journey to Bethlehem Sophie Zsebik

Video 3: The Journey to Bethlehem & the Birth

(Yearwood Family) Scripture: Luke 2:1–7

Welcoming the Animals Rev. Tim Dayfoot

Jesus is Born Rev. Tim Dayfoot

***HYMN** Away in a Manger p 9

Shepherds Hear the Angels Sophie Zsebik

Video 4: Shepherds Hear the Angels (Hwang Family)

Scripture: Luke 2:8–20

Welcoming the Shepherds and Angels Rev. Tim Dayfoot

***HYMN** While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks p 9
(verses 1-4)

Welcoming The Wise Men Szakal Family

***HYMN** The First Nowell p 10

Celebrating the Story *Rev. Tim Dayfoot*

***HYMN** The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy p 10

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Cantic of Joy (Dan R. Edwards)

Bellissimo Handbell Ensemble

***DEDICATION** In the Bleak Midwinter (Tune: VU 55)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him — give my heart.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing**

PRAYER PRELUDE We Call to You, O God (Mayberry/Kai)

**We call to You, O God, in faith and with open heart,
hear our prayer. We call to You, O God, in faith and
with open heart, hear, hear our prayer.
Hear, hear our prayer.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN** Hark the Glad Sound p 10

***COMMISSIONING**

***SUNG BLESSING** Hope Shines as the Solitary Star

Joy shines as the solitary star. MV 220

Faith is the inner light.

**You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.**

POSTLUDE The Christmas Song (Robert Wells & Mel Tormé) *Steve Falk, Brian and Jules Pastoor*

Advent & Christmas Services AUC @ Trinity Anglican Church

Advent 4 (Love) - December 21, 2025 - 11 am

Carols by Candlelight - December 21, 2025 - 4 & 7:30pm

Christmas Eve - December 24, 2025 - 5 pm

Christmas 1 - December 28, 2025 - 11 am

Epiphany (Communion) - January 4, 2026 - 11 am



Mission and Service



Faithful Witness in a Time of Despair

For most children, childhood is a time to dream, go to school, play with friends, and imagine the future. But for children in Gaza, those simple dreams have been replaced by fear and survival. Mission and Service partner Defense for Children International–Palestine (DCIP) shares that the situation in Gaza remains catastrophic. Families face famine, and the lack of access to clean water and medicine. Many have seen their homes bombed and are forced to live in tents or makeshift shelters. Parents spend hours in line each day for a small ration of bread or water, while children go hungry. Hospitals have run out of supplies, and schools have been reduced to rubble. These children have endured unimaginable hardship. Many have been displaced multiple times, separated from friends, and have lost their entire family. Hospitals have run out of medicine. Schools are destroyed. Safe water is rare. Hunger is constant. And yet, through it all, DCIP continues its mission, documenting violations of children's rights, amplifying the voices of those who have been silenced, and calling the international community to act. Their courage ensures that the world cannot look away. Your gifts to M&S help support organizations like DCIP who stand beside children in Gaza with compassion and conviction. When you give, you help make sure their stories are heard. and that the call for justice and protection does not fade into silence.



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**



**ADVENT 3 (Joy)
Christmas Pageant**

**December 14, 2025
11:00 AM**

All Earth Is Waiting VU 5

All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

Thus says the prophet to those of Israel, 'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel.'
One whose name is 'God with us', our Saviour shall be, through whom hope will
blossom once more within our hearts.

Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain, open new highways, new highways
for our God, who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

In lowly stable the Promised One appeared. Yet, feel that presence throughout the
earth today, for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, on arriving, Christ brings us liberty.

O Come, All Ye Faithful VU 60

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, light of light, lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created: **R**

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to
God in the highest: **R**

See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh with
lowly fear; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; **R**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; word
of the Father, now in flesh appearing: **R**

To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary VU 14

To a maid whose name was Mary, the angel Gabriel came. "Fear not," the angel told
her, "I come to bring good news, good news I come to tell you, good news, I say,
good news.

"For you are highly favoured by God the Lord of all, who even now is with you. You
are on earth most blest, you are most blest, most blessed, God chose you, you are
blest!"

But Mary was most troubled to hear the angel's word. What was the angel saying?
It troubled her to hear, to hear the angel's message, it troubled her to hear.

"Fear not, for God is with you, and you shall bear a child. His name shall be called
Jesus, God's offspring from on high. And he shall reign forever, forever reign on
high."

"How shall this be," said Mary, "that I should be with child?" The angel answered
quickly, "The power of the Most High will come upon you shortly, your child shall be
God's child."

As Mary heard the angel, she wondered at his words. "Behold, I am your handmaid,"
she said unto her God. "So be it, I am ready according to your word."

O Little Town of Bethlehem VU 64

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of heaven
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Away in a Manger **VU 69**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning
is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with
you there.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks **VU 75**

While shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground, the angel of
the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

“Fear not”, said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; “glad tidings of
great joy I bring to you and humankind.”

“To you in David’s town this day is born of David’s line a Saviour, who is Christ the
Lord; and this shall be the sign:

“The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped
in swaddling bands, and in a manger laid.”

The First Nowell **VU 91**

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy **VU 73**

The virgin Mary had a baby boy, the virgin Mary had a baby boy, the virgin Mary
had a baby boy, and they say that his name is Jesus.

**He come from the glory, (clap, clap) he come from the glorious kingdom. He
come from the glory, (clap, clap) he come from the glorious kingdom. Oh, yes!
believer! Oh, yes! believer! He come from the glory, (clap, clap) he come from
the glorious kingdom.**

The angels sang when the baby was born, the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born, and they say that his name is Jesus. **R**

The shepherds came where the baby was born, the shepherds came where the baby
was born, the shepherds came where the baby was born, and they say that his name
is Jesus. **R**

Hark, the Glad Sound **VU 29**

Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, your welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.