SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Christmas Canon Rock (Johann Pachelbel/Paul O'Neill - Trans-Siberian Orchestra) It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (Edmund Hamilton Sears/Richard Storrs Willis) David Pilkey & Steve Falk

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

INTROIT Holy is the Night (Jim Strathdee)

**CALL TO WORSHIP Debra Hilliard & Nancy Kerswill "The Light Has Come"

All waiting is fulfilled.
The stars bow, the earth leans.
The Light has come.
A child cries, and heaven listens.
For love, peace, joy and love converge in the fragile hands of a newborn King.
Lift your eyes — behold Emmanuel: God with us.

*CAROL O Come, All Ye Faithful p. 7

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Debra Hilliard & Nancy Kerswill

Tonight, we light the Christ Candle, celebrating the birth of Jesus — the Light of the World.

All the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love now shine together, for the Promised One has come.

In Him, every promise is fulfilled, every longing satisfied.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.

Christ is born!

Our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, our Love — fulfilled in him forever. (*The Christ Candle is lit.*) The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all!

SUNG RESPONSE We Light This Candle (P.at Mayberry arr. David Kai) We light this candle for Love. Await the new life within. May our hearts now live each day, so Love can find a way, so Love can find a way.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Christmas Eve is finally here.

Our homes glow with the warmth of Christmas lights. The radio is full of carols.

The television is full of Christmas movies, and the shopping and preparing is finally finished. Tonight, in the stillness and in the beauty of this sanctuary- we gather to remember the Christmas story. How you O God came as a baby, how you know the fullness of human life.

how you know the fullness of human life. God hear us.

We come seeking peace for ourselves and others. We come seeking the warmth of your embrace, Meet us God.

In the words of the Bible,

in the words and lives of our neighbours.

Meet us and hold us in your love,

we pray and we join our voices saying:

.... 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

*CAROL Hark! The Herald Angels Sing p. 7

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

ANTHEM Behold the Star (Thomas Cabiness)

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7 p. 58 Pew Bible NT
Debra Hilliard

GIFT OF MUSIC Silent Night (arr. Cathy Moklebust) Jennifer Schafer, handbell tree & Lisa Kyriakides, piano

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-20 p. 58 Pew Bible NT Nancy Kerswill

*CAROL Away in a Manger p. 8

THE BIRTH OF JESUS RETOLD

*CAROL Go, Tell it on the Mountain p. 8

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

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OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY O Come, All Faithful

(arr. Linda McKechnie) Faith-a-Peal 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

OUR CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

We Light Our Candles...

BLESSING

LET THE BELLS RING OUT!

*CAROL Silent Night p. 9

POSTLUDE Noel Toccata (Gordon Young)

Christmas Services AUC @ Trinity Anglican Church

Christmas 1 - December 28, 2025 - 11 am Epiphany (Communion) - January 4, 2026 - 11 am



May God's unfailing love warm your heart today and always. May God's love shine through everything you do this season,

And may the joy of Christ's birth fill your home with love and unity.

Merry Christmas!



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



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2025 5:00 PM

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**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing VU 48

Hark! the herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King, peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!' Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, 'Christ is born in Bethlehem!' Hark! the herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! the herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'

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.

Go, Tell it on the Mountain VU 43

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. **R**

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth! R

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent our salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **R**

Silent Night VU 67

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright round you virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight: glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah, Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.