

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE In the Garden (George Blake)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion** Martha Bailkowski

INTROIT God of All Good (Albert F. Bayly/Sydney Watson)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Liturgy from Sanctified Art)

If you need good news, settle into this space.

We have good news to share.

If you need a word of hope,

then trust us when we say,

there is hope enough to go around.

If you need a glimmer of joy, then you're in luck!

We have resilient joy abounding.

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

then know that this is God's house.

This is the good news of the gospel.

God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.

Let us worship our with-us God!

***HYMN** Come, O Fount of Every Blessing p.7

CALL TO CONFESSION Margaret Heney

Friends, we are like the disciples. The day that Jesus fed 5,000, his disciples could not imagine a solution to the crowd's hunger. They told Jesus to send the crowds away. We often do the same. Like the disciples, we try to follow Jesus, but when we run into issues, we often cannot imagine how we could play a part. That is why we need the Prayer of Confession. For in this prayer, we remember that we *can* make a difference. So join me in this moment of truth telling. Join me in prayer:

(The third Lenten candle is extinguished.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, with you the impossible is possible. 5,000 can be fed. The blind can see. The hopeless can find hope. With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that. We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done. We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd. We forget that you are always with us. Forgive our small-minded ways. Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come. But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Family of faith, no matter how many mistakes the disciples made,

Jesus still washed their feet, still fed them, still called them beloved.

The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news:

today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God.

We are forgiven. We are called. We are not alone.

What good, good news. Amen!

SUNG RESPONSE Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (VU 121)

We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word, every person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READING John 4: 5-26 Pat Innes

ANTHEM Introit and Kyrie *(from Requiem)*
(Gabriel Fauré arr. John Rutter)

GOSPEL READING John 4: 27-42

REFLECTION Learning to Draw

The Reverend Tim Dayfoot

***HYMN** By The Well, a Thirsty Woman MV 117

By the well, a thirsty woman found the life that you could give, we too, thirst like empty vessels – fill us full that we may live. Jesus, source of living water, Wellspring bubbling deep within, By the waters of our baptism wisdom purpose life begin.

Plant us firm, like trees by water, send our roots down deep in you, quench our parches and thirsty spirits with your water, pure and true. Jesus, source of living water, Nourisher of all on earth, By the waters of our baptism quicken growth and give new birth.

May we be your streams of justice, as the water, may we move through your people – by your Spirit showing mercy, sharing love. Jesus, source of living water, Ground-swell forcing truth to view, By the waters of our baptism set us free to live for you.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger

(arr. Tammy Waldrop) *Jennifer Schafer, Bell Tree and*

Lisa Kyriakides, piano

***DEDICATION** Take, O Take Me as I Am (Bell/Maule)
 (MV 85) **Take, O take me as I am;
 summon out what I shall be;
 set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**
(sing twice)

***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!**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN** My Love Colours Outside the Lines **MV 138**

My love colours outside the lines, exploring paths that few could ever find; and takes me into places where I've never been before, and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

My Lord colours outside the lines, turns wounds to blessings, water into wine; and takes me into places where I've never been before and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.

We'll never walk on water if we're not prepared to drown, body and soul need a soaking from time to time. And we'll never move the gravestones if we're not prepared to die, and realize there are worlds outside the lines.

My soul longs to colour outside the lines, tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine; I want to walk beyond the boundaries where I've never been before, throw open doors to worlds outside the lines. **R**

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***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

***SUNG BLESSING** Take Up His Song (MV 213)
Take up his song of love and go into the world. Take up his song of love in every moment. In every moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives; lay them down, in love, lay them down, and take up his song.

POSTLUDE Pippings (James Southbridge)

An Affirmation of Faith
Written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

**We believe in a table-setting God
 who always has a seat saved for you.
 We believe in an inviting God
 who leaves the porch light on and a hand extended.
 We believe in a radically welcoming God
 who eats with the overlooked and the outcast,
 the hungry and the downtrodden.
 We believe in the good news of the gospel, which reminds
 us that all are welcomed, all are celebrated,
 all are loved, and all are claimed.
 Pull up a seat at God's table.
 There is good news to be shared here. Amen.**



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

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





Lent 3

**March 8, 2026
 11:00 AM**

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing **VU 559**

Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of endless praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come, come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God, came to rescue me from danger, precious presence, precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you. Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known: here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your very own.