

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE An Easter Fanfare (David Paxton)

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

*Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion* Alison Heffer

INTROIT This is the Day (Bruce Harding)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

Death has no dominion.

Death is done.

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

God is with us.

We are not alone!

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

(Richard Bott, Grace U.C, Burlington, Ont.)

***HYMN** Jesus Christ is Risen Today **p. 7**

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL & LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."
The Spirit of Christ is here - binding us together as a sign of God's love for the world.**

SUNG RESPONSE Halle, Halle, Halle (VU 958)

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (repeat)

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 118 **p. 7**

(Parts One, Two and Three) Janice Nolan

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 10: 34-43

ANTHEM Lift High Your Easter Praise
(Joseph M. Martin & David Angerman)

GOSPEL READING Luke 24:1-12

SERMON Idle Tales *Reverend Linda Wheler*

***HYMN** We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection
p. 8

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Exuberant Exultation (Kurt Meyer)
Faith-a-Peal Handbell Ensemble

***DEDICATION** Grateful (MV 182)

Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son, joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of Love. Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word, joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing**

PRAYER PRELUDE Spirit of Life (VU 381)

Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN** Thine is the Glory **p. 8**

***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

***SUNG BLESSING** Go Now in Peace (Besig/Price)

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. God now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there surrounding us with love. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

EASTER BELL PEAL Faith-A-Peal Handbell Ensemble

POSTLUDE Hallelujah Chorus (G.F. Handel)
(All are welcome to come forward for the singing of the chorus with the AUC Chancel Choir.)

Mission and Service Rooted and Rising



The stone was rolled away in a small, overlooked place. Not in the centre of power, or a crowded city. Across Canada, in small towns and rural communities, churches continue to be places of discovery and renewed life. In Fort Nelson, British Columbia, Hillcrest United Church has stood on the northern landscape for more than 60 years. In a place shaped by distance and long winters, the church gathers neighbours in prayer, in song, and in everyday acts of care. Traditions are honoured, new life is welcomed, and everyone is invited in.

In Chipman, New Brunswick, volunteers at Chipman United Church prepare meals for neighbours who need them. Young people help lead worship. When some members could no longer attend in person, the church carried worship online—and discovered thousands of people joining to be part of that circle of prayer.

At Tobermory United Church, the building hums with life throughout the week. Community groups gather and space is shared with neighbouring congregations. Down the road, their thrift shop offers affordable goods—and when someone needs help, those items are tenderly given. This is rural ministry. Creative, determined, and deeply rooted in community. These churches are not fading away. They are adapting, experimenting, and opening their doors in new ways so faith and community can continue to flourish.

At Easter, we proclaim that new life can break through even when the future feels uncertain.

Through Mission and Service, we help make that possible. Together, we strengthen communities that continue to serve, welcome, and care in places across this country.

This Easter, please give generously to Mission and Service. We are helping to ensure that hope continues to rise—in rural communities across Canada, and around the world.

International Day of Pink April 8th, 2026

Wear pink and stand in solidarity with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in their continued fight for equality and acceptance.



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





Easter Sunday

**April 5, 2026
11:00 AM**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today VU 155

Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah! our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah! suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!

Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah! unto Christ, our heavenly King,
hallelujah! who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah! sinners to redeem and save.
Hallelujah!

But the pains which he endured, hallelujah! our salvation have procured; hallelujah!
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah! where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!

Sing we to our God above, hallelujah! praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah! praise
our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah! praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

Psalm 118 VU 837**R Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Let Israel now say:

“God’s love endures for ever.”

Let the house of Aaron say:

“God’s love endures for ever.”

Let those who fear God say:

“God’s love endures for ever.” R

God is my strength and my song; God has become my salvation.

There are shouts of joy and deliverance in the tents of the righteous.

The right hand of God does mighty things; the right hand of God raises up.

The right hand of God does mighty things.

I shall not die but live; and I shall proclaim what God has done.

God indeed punished me, but did not give me over to death. R

Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God.

This is the gate of God, through it the righteous shall enter.

I thank you for you have answered me; you have become my salvation.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is God’s doing, marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! R

We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection VU 586

We shall go out with hope of resurrection; we shall go out, from strength to strength
go on; we shall go out and tell our stories boldly; tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted; we'll dream our dreams of hurts
that can be healed; we'll weave a cloth of all the world united within the vision of new
life in Christ.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken; we'll find the words for those whose
lips are sealed; we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer, expressive love
alive in every heart. We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping, raise hymns
of strength for hearts that break in grief, we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.

Thine Is the Glory VU 173

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son: endless is the victory thou o'er death hast
won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes
where the body lay.

**Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son: endless is the victory thou
o'er death hast won.**

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and
gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth:
death hath lost its sting. **R**

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is nought without thee: aid us in
our strife; make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe
through Jordan to thy home above. **R**