

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Oblivion (Astor Piazzolla)
Susan Guido, trumpet

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

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

INTROIT Oh, Sing to Our God
(Brazilian folk song, trans. Gerhard Cartford arr. John L. Bell)

CALL TO WORSHIP

The family of faith has gathered for worship:

**old and young,
healthy and ill,
married, single, married again, single again –
here together in this place of welcome
and friendship.**

We have come at Christ’s own invitation
**that we might share life with one another
and deepen faith with Christ
and live in the world in hope and friendship
for all God’s people.**

Come, let us worship God.

***HYMN** Would You Bless Our Homes and Families
p.7

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL AND LORD’S PRAYER
**O God, who in Christ shared a home with Mary and
Joseph: hear our prayers as we gather on this
Christian Family Sunday. Hear our joys and our
concerns as we welcome one another. As we gather in
front of the font of baptism this, and every Sunday,
may we hear your voice welcoming each of us, once
again into your family. Our Father... Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

Believe the good news! Christ is risen, and is at work in the world. Life is more than living. We are more than our old selves. Renewal is ours through God’s forgiving love.

Thanks be to God for the gift of new life in the risen Christ!

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

GOSPEL READING John 14:15-21
(God’s Spirit will abide with us always.) Bill Newman

ANTHEM The Size of Your Heart
(Eleanor Daley/Charles Miller)

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Ruth 1:6-18
(Ruth clings to Naomi.)

SERMON When Love Will Not Let Go
The Reverend Tim Dayfoot

***HYMN** Let Us Build a House MV 1

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God’s children dare to seek to dream God’s reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God’s grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they’ve known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God’s face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from the floor to rafter: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

SHARING GOD’S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Softly and Tenderly
(Will L. Thompson arr. Gary Lanier) *Susan Guido, trumpet*

***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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN** Now Thank We All Our God 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.

POSTLUDE “Love Theme” from Cinema Paradiso (Ennio Morricone) Susan Guido, trumpet



**Mission and Service
Held in Hope**



On Mother’s Day, we give thanks for mothers and for all those who carry a mother’s love. Those who nurture, protect, and keep going through great responsibility, often while carrying more than they can easily name.

In January 2025, in the Eastern Carpathian Mountains of Ukraine, a retreat in Tukhlya offered mothers and children a chance to step away from the pressures of daily survival and receive care. Through ACT Alliance, ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid welcomed families who had been displaced by war or were living near the frontlines into a space of rest and support.

Many of the mothers arrived exhausted, carrying grief, uncertainty, and the constant demands of caring for their children in difficult circumstances. At the retreat, they were offered psychological support, time in nature, and creative activities, while their children were cared for through play and art. For many, it was the first time they had been able to focus on their own wellbeing.


One mother shared that she had spent so long focused on her children’s needs that she had forgotten her own. In this space, she was able to rest, reflect, and begin to regain strength for the journey ahead.

Through Mission and Service, initiatives like this become possible. Our gifts help create spaces where caregivers can receive care, where resilience can be renewed, and where hope can be strengthened even during ongoing hardship. On this Mother’s Day, we remember the strength of mothers everywhere, and the importance of supporting that strength in return.

Our gifts to Mission and Service help make this care possible, make your gift today.



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

Reverend Tim Dayfoot
Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney





Easter 6/Christian Family Sunday

**May 10, 2026
11:00 AM**

Would You Bless Our Homes & Families VU 556

Would you bless our homes and families, Source of life who calls us here; in our world of stress and tension teach us love that conquers fear. Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays; teach us when we face our troubles, love's expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding, let us use the time that's ours to delight in simple pleasures, sharing joys in gentle hours. When our way is anxious walking and a heavy path we plod, teach us trust in one another and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured, with the love that shapes us there, teach us, God, to claim as family every one whose life we share. And through all that life may offer, may we in your love remain; may the love we share in families be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries of our daily thought and care till the family you have chosen spills its love out everywhere. Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays; teach us when we face our troubles love's expressed in many ways.

Now Thank We All Our God VU 236

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given, the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.