SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE When Peace Like a River
(Philip Bliss arr. Jay Althouse) *Tim Birtch, trumpet*

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion Mary Munro

INTROIT God of the Bible
(Shirley Erena Murray/Tony E. Alonso)

CALL TO WORSHIP

****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 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.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven……. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

SUNG RESPONSE Sing, Sing Out! (MV 180)

Sing, sing out! Sing a new song.
Sing oh people as one voice! Sing, sing out!
Sing a new song. Sing of God. Each heart rejoice!
(Repeat)

TIME FOR ALL AGES What a Wonderful World
(George David Weiss/Bob Thiele arr. Mark A. Brymer)

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 114 Janice Nolan

ANTHEM Called By Earth and Sky
(Pat Mayberry arr. Margaret Stubbington & David Kai)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 18: 21-35

SERMON How Many Times? *Rev. Linda Wheler*

****HYMN*** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You **p. 7**

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY This Is My Father's World/
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands (arr. Brant Adams)
Tim Birtch, trumpet

****DEDICATION*** Take, O Take Me as I Am (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. *(repeat)*

****OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing***

PRAYER PRELUDE Spirit of Life (C. McDade) (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 Draw the Circle Wide **MV 145**

**Refrain: Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide.**

God the still-point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns; nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms. **R**

Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small; let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call. **R**

Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door. **R**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SUNG BLESSING Wherever You May Go (MV 216)

**Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.**

POSTLUDE My Faith Has Found a Resting Place/
The Solid Rock (arr. Brant Adams)
Tim Birtch, trumpet

Mission and Service
Education Beyond Classroom Walls

When we think of education, many of us envision a classroom with books and chalkboards. But education extends far beyond that: Through education, we can also learn how the world works and how we work in the world.

The Women and Family Services division at the Church of Christ in Congo provides children with the education and training they need to take charge of their own lives when they leave school. With a combination of traditional education and life skills, they provide each child with the skillset they need to thrive after graduation.

Through funding, livestock and seeds are purchased to teach children sustainable agriculture. Older children have the opportunity to assist with livestock after their classes. They learn to care for chickens and take part in odd jobs in the fields.

Your generosity through Mission and Service helps fund programs that inspire learning and skills for life. Thank you.



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

Pentecost 16

September 13, 2026
11:00 AM

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You VU 232

Joyful, joyful we adore you, God of glory, life and love; hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away; giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays, stars and angels sing around you, centre of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, sound their praise eternally.

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Source of grace and fount of blessing, let your light upon us shine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began; God's own love is reigning o'er us, joining people hand in hand. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife; joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.