

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Prelude on "Servant Song"
(Mark D. Himmelman)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

INTROIT Your Love is Amazing
(Brenton Brown & Brian Doerksen)

CALL TO WORSHIP

God has given us this beautiful earth,
all that grows, all that lives upon it.

Thanks be to God.

God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

Thanks be to God.

God has gathered us into a community of care, worship
and healing.

Thanks be to God.

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

**We are ready to welcome Christ's presence
with joy!**

***HYMN** Oh, a Song Must Rise **MV 142**

**Refrain: Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend
Oh a song must rise once again Singing out God's
praises and glory, the faithful voices blend,
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

From the mountains to the valleys, from the desert to the
sea, a song must rise once again. From the voices of our
leaders, the voice of you and me, a song must rise for the
spirit to descend. **R**

From poverty and riches, from the voice of young and
old, a song must rise once again. From the free and the
imprisoned, the timid and the bold, a song must rise for
the spirit to descend. **R**

From ev'ry house of worship, in ev'ry faith and tongue,
a song must rise once again. From the villages and cities
a new song must be sung, a song must rise for the spirit
to descend. **R**

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL AND LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, we come to worship this morning brought
together by your Spirit.

**It is your Spirit who teaches us to pray
and helps us to be your faithful ones.**

We ask now for your presence.

**Come to us as wind and fire,
as bubbling laughter,
as healing touch,
as the still small voice of peace.**

Come into each heart, each prayer, each song;

Come into each life here today.

**so that we may live and love with purpose,
with courage, and with enthusiasm,
serving our world.**

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

WORDS OF GRACE

The Holy Spirit, the divine interpreter, counsellor,
comforter and friend, is with us, bringing us the wisdom
to live in fullness of life and with respect in creation.
May the loving forgiveness of God and the peace of
Christ be with you always!

Thanks be to God!

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)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 16:2-15
(After leaving Egypt, the people complained.) Colleen Abbott

ANTHEM Here Am I, Send Me (John Purifoy)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 20:1-16
(Grumbling against fairness and generosity.)

SERMON Grumbling in Paradise *The Rev. Tim Dayfoot*

***HYMN** You, Creator God, Have Searched Me **MV 131**

You, Creator God, have searched me and you know my
ways. You perfectly understand me. It's my cause of
praise. I cannot escape your presence in air, land or sea.
Your arms of love and protection are always with me.

**Refrain: You know me, O God, you have made me.
I am so proud of the work of your hand. In my
waking and sleeping moments, with my being I will
praise your name.**

You created light and darkness and you love them both.
You blessed the womb of my mother, you brought me
to birth. In your image and your likeness wonderfully
made. I will lift my voice to praise you, you are
God indeed. **R**

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Turn, Turn, Turn (Pete Seeger)
Steve Falk & Margaret Heney

***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** O For a World p. 7

***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 Peace Train (Cat Stevens)

Steve Falk, Margaret Heney & AUC Choir

Mission and Service Crossing Class Lines



One of the most meaningful parts of our small group Crossing Class Lines: Bridging Team program, which ran from February to April 2026 in Peterborough, ON, was very simple: we shared a meal together before we did anything else. Each week began around the table with a hearty, home-cooked meal prepared by one of our co-facilitators. Our facilitation team included four facilitators—three with lived experience of poverty—and the meals reflected the care and hospitality they brought to the program. We planned menus that accommodated dietary needs so everyone could feel welcome. A few participants also chose to bring food to share, offering what they could as a way of contributing to the community we were building together. The meal did far more than fill empty stomachs. It created a level playing field. Before conversations about poverty, privilege, and social class began, everyone gathered around the same table, eating the same food. It reminded us that we all have basic human needs, and that sharing food has a remarkable way of breaking down barriers and helping strangers become neighbours. It was about creating a space where everyone could both give and receive, and where relationships could grow across economic differences with dignity and mutual respect. More than half of the participants in this program were living in poverty. Many spoke openly about the rising cost of groceries and how difficult it had become to afford healthy food. Once we had eaten together, we spent the afternoon learning from one another about the realities of poverty and privilege – the importance of stable housing, access to education, meaningful relationships, and mental health support. The conversations were richer because trust had already begun to grow around the table. At the end of each week, participants living on low incomes received a \$50 grocery gift card in recognition of the invaluable expertise they brought through their lived experience. Their stories and insights were not simply welcomed—they were essential to the learning of the entire group. In a time when many people feel increasingly isolated and divided, we have witnessed how something as ordinary as sharing a meal can become an extraordinary act of community building.



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 17

**September 20, 2026
11:00 AM**

O For a World VU 697

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.