SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Soliloquy (Healey Willan)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Janice Nolan

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/Rainbow Candle of Inclusion Bruce Miller

INTROIT My Life Flows On (Robert S. Lowry)

CALL TO WORSHIP Marcia Thompson

As a people who yearn for new opportunities to put our faith into action,
we give thanks for God's presence in our lives.
As a congregation that seeks to build community and serve with a common purpose,
we give thanks for the Spirit's presence in our lives.
As individuals who seek to follow the teachings of Jesus and make a difference in the world,
we give thanks for Christ's presence in our lives.
We seek to share both hope and love with others as we live our purpose and offer our service.
Thanks be to God.
Come, let us worship, in the presence of God:
Creator, Christ and Spirit.
(Bill Steadman, Copper Cliff U.C., Copper Cliff, Ont.)

****HYMN*** We Praise You, O God **p. 7**

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL AND LORD'S PRAYER
Dawn Horstead

Let us pray . . .
Loving God, we pray for openness.
Open us to the practical needs of those closest to us and give us the determination to respond.
Loving God, we pray for openness.
Open us to opportunities to encourage the downhearted and take our hesitation away.
Loving God, we pray for openness.
Open us to a renewed vision of our faith community, and inspire us with a willingness to serve.
Loving God we pray for openness.
Open us to fresh ways of looking at our planet and the challenges that it holds, and remind us of the part we might play in its renewal.
Loving God, we pray for openness.
That we may end our reluctance and be ready to act boldly.
And so we come to you, as your children, and as a community, saying, **Our Father, who art in heaven… Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Good News of the gospel is always this: God wants more than anything to be in relationship with us. God seeks us out and welcomes us back, even before we ask. We are forgiven, we are restored.
Thanks be to God. *(Beth W Johnston, Collaborative Ministry, River Philip and Springhill, N.S)*

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 Tracey Keffer-Lyon

Love, Love, Love (Lois & Herbert Brokering)

Love, love, love
That's what it's all about.
'Cause God loves us we love each other
Mother, Father, Sister, Brother
Everybody sing and shout!
'Cause that's what it's all about.
It's about love, love, love.
It's about love, love, love.

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 150 **p. 7**
David Lever

ANTHEM This is the Day (Dan Forrest)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 22: 34-40 Yvonne Speck

REFLECTION Music Matters Colleen Abbott

****HYMN*** Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet **p. 8**

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD Craig Arnold

OFFERTORY Be Still And Know *with* Be Still My Soul (Finlandia) (arr. Mark Hayes)

****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 Peter Zsebik

HYMN When in Our Music God is Glorified **p. 8**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

George Collins

Let us go out into the fields of life, knowing that God is always with us. Let us resist the temptation to join in banning or ignoring diversity but instead practise God's way of inclusiveness and gracious acceptance. Let us go forth to love our neighbours as ourselves.
(Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC)

SUNG BLESSING When You Walk From Here **(VU 298)**

When you walk from here, when you walk from here, walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.

POSTLUDE Little Prelude in G Minor (Paul K. Taylor)

Mission and Service
Campus Connections

For many young adults, post-secondary education extends beyond studying and getting through exams. It's a pivotal time when they'll figure out who they are, what they believe, and what they hope their future will look like. Campus Ministry at Algonquin College in Ottawa, Ontario provides a place for students and staff to explore those questions and find support along the way. Campus Ministry is an ecumenical chaplaincy serving approximately 20,000 students and staff. Since 1993, it has offered pastoral care, spiritual counselling, workshops, and opportunities to explore faith in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Since 2006, our gifts through M &S have helped support a part-time campus minister. Yuriy Derkach has served in the role since 2011. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, the ministry provided support to international students from Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus, as well as Ukrainians arriving in Ottawa on temporary visas. This included connecting people with language courses and helping them find support with housing, employment, and education. The ministry also offers practical care during particularly stressful times. At the end of each fall and winter semester, "Pause Break" tables are set up in the Student Commons. In partnership with local congregations, including United Churches, Campus Ministry provides free refreshments and encouragement to students during final assessment week. Like many post-secondary institutions, Algonquin has faced program and staffing cuts in response to declining international enrolment. Students are concerned about losing program options, while staff face uncertainty about their jobs. As overall anxiety increases, more members of the college community are seeking support from Campus Ministry. The impact of this ministry also continues long after students leave campus. A former student recently wrote to express gratitude for the prayers and encouragement they received from Campus Ministry years ago, sharing that the support helped them find their vocation, their life partner, and a church community where they continue to grow in faith. Our gifts to M &S help allow us to be present in the lives of young adults as they navigate questions of faith, relationships, education, work, and their future.

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

Supervising Minister – Rev. Linda Wheler
(appt. by Shining Waters Regional Council)

Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney

Pentecost 22

October 25, 2026
11:00 AM

We Praise You, O God VU 218

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers, through trial and tempest, companion and guide. When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us, but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing, to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Psalm 150 VU 874

Refrain: Praise to the lord, hallelujah! Everybody praise the Lord.
Praise God in the holy temple!
Praise God for mighty deeds!
Praise God for bountiful mercies,
Praise God who meets all our needs! **R**

Praise God with sound of trumpet!
Praise God with lute and harp!
Praise God with timbrel and dancing!
Praise God wherever you are! **R**

Praise God with holy cymbals!
Praise God with strings and pipes!
Praise God with clash of cymbals!
Praise God with all your might! **R**

Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet VU 245

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet, praise the Lord with the harp and lute, praise the Lord with the gentle-sounding flute. Praise the Lord in the field and forest, praise the Lord in the city square, praise the Lord anytime and anywhere. Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine, praise the Lord in the dark of night, praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light. Praise the Lord in the deepest valley, praise the Lord on the highest hill, praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal, praise the Lord with the pipe and string, praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing. Praise the Lord on a weekday morning, praise the Lord on a Sunday noon, praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon. Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow, praise the Lord in the time of joy, praise the Lord every moment, nothing let your praise destroy. Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet, praise the Lord in your work or play, praise the Lord everywhere in every way!

When in Our Music God is Glorified VU 533

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried Hallelujah!

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Hallelujah!

So has the church in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue, Hallelujah!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Hallelujah!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always Hallelujah!