

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Come, Now Is the Time to Worship  
*(arr. Carol Tornquist)*

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**  
*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/  
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion** Martha Bailkowski

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Creator God, we give you thanks  
that you are among us.

**We thank you for the gift of your creation;**  
for the gift of family and friends;  
**for the gift of stories;**  
for the gifts of learning and knowledge;  
**for the gifts of question and doubt;**  
for the fire of enthusiasm;  
**for the wind of reason.**

For all we understand,  
for all that remains a mystery,  
for your loving presence in and through it all,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**  
**Let us worship!**

**\*HYMN** This is God's Wondrous World **VU 296**

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

God of Creation, you speak, and when we listen we  
are moved to act and to be who you know we can be.  
You put a song of freedom and love and life deep  
within us. Sometimes we sing that song with  
confidence and courage and at other times it's as

though we have forgotten the words. **Sing to us again,  
O God, in ways that move us and inspire us. Help us to  
discern the rhythms and cadences of your way in the  
world, that we might sing along. God in Community—  
Holy in One, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**WORDS OF GRACE**

God's grace sings to our spirits and we are renewed!  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SUNG RESPONSE** Sing, Sing Out! *(Hannah/Melhorne-Boe)*  
*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*

**FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 24 **VU p. 751**  
(The earth is God's and all that is in it.) Martha Bailkowski

**GIFT OF MUSIC** Adagio Cantabile *(Ludwig van Beethoven)*  
Joanne Banfill, violin

**GOSPEL** Mark 6:14-29 *p. 40-41 Pew Bible NT*  
(The death of John the Baptist.)

*Come to the quiet...a time for reflection*

**SERMON** Truth-Telling

**\*HYMN** Like a Healing Stream *(B.Harding) MV 144*

Like a healing stream in a barren desert, Spirit water  
bringing life to dusty earth, God is trickling through our  
lives as in a dream unfolding, promising revival and  
rebirth...like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden, Spirit water come to  
nourish tiny seed, God is bubbling through the soil to coax  
a new creation, yearning for an end to want and need...like  
a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current, Spirit water  
rushing on to distant shore, God is carving out a channel  
in a new direction, calling for an end to hate war...like a  
river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons, Spirit water with  
a love both deep and wide, God is working in our hearts  
to shape a new tomorrow: God will always challenge and  
provide! Like a mighty sea, like a river strong, like a  
gentle rain, like a healing stream.

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** Be The Centre *(arr. Carol Tornquist)*

**\*DEDICATION** Grateful *(T. Tomaszek) 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** There Is Room For All *MV 62*  
**There is room for all in the shadow of God’s wing;  
there is room for all, sheltered in God’s love.  
And I rejoice and sing, ‘my refuge and my  
rock in whom I trust.’ There is room for all,  
there is room for all.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER**  
*VU p. 910*

**\*HYMN** Though I May Speak **p. 7**

**\*COMMISSIONING**

Go now into the warmth of this summer day  
to live what you know to be true;  
**that God goes with us in all things**

**\*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** O God, Our Help in Ages Past  
*(arr. Victor Labenske)*



**Music leadership today...**

**Lisa Kyriakides** is an experienced soloist, educator, musical director, conductor and adjudicator. Lisa holds a Bachelor of Music (Music Education) and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Western Ontario as well as certificates in Voice, Piano, Theory, Counterpoint and History from the Royal Conservatory of Music. She is the director of the handbell program at Aurora United Church, is a member of the EmBellished handbell quartet, and has been a ringer in *The Bronze Foundation ensemble*, an auditioned handbell ensemble, since 2015. She was a guest conductor at the 2019 and 2023 Ontario Guild of English Handbell Ringers(OGEHR) Festivals. Lisa was chosen to be the Canadian Conductor at the 2022 International Handbell Symposium in Nashville. Lisa is the President of OGEHR and is on the Board of the Handbell Musicians of Canada.

Lisa has conducted the Ballantrae Adult Choir since 2008 and was also the conductor of the Encore Choir in 2023. Lisa has musical conducted many shows including, most recently, *Fun Home*, for Theatre Aurora. Lisa and her family are longtime members of Aurora United Church.

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*\*Be sure to check out our AUC website, [auroraunitedchurch.ca](http://auroraunitedchurch.ca) for summer and fall programming, ministers and staff holidays-news from around the Shining Waters Region and U.C.C. Rev’s Lorraine & Andy will be checking email/voice messages throughout the summer.*



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](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)**

**Rev. Lorraine Newton-Comar & Rev. Andrew Comar**  
**Music Coordinator—Margaret Heney**



**PENTECOST 8**  
**July 14, 2024**  
**11:00 am**

*“Summer is a period of luxurious growth. To be in harmony with the atmosphere of summer, awaken early in the morning and reach to the sun for nourishment to flourish as the gardens do. Work, play, travel, be joyful, and grow into selfless service. The bounty of the outside world enters and enlivens us.”*  
*(Paul Pitchford)*

### **This is God's Wondrous World**

This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is God's wondrous world; I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees,  
of skies and seas, God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world: the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair; in the  
rustling grass or mountain pass, God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?  
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring: God reigns, let earth be glad!

### **Though I May Speak**

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not  
love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by  
love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let  
inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

### **Psalm 24,**

**R Lift up your heads, that God who rules in glory enter may.**

The earth is God's and all that is in it; the world, and those who live upon it.

**For God founded it upon the seas, planted it firm over the  
waters beneath. R**

Who may ascend the mountain of God? Who may stand in God's holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, who have not set their  
minds on deceit, nor made false promises;**

they shall receive God's blessing, righteousness from the God who will save them.

**Such are those who seek God, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. R**

Lift up your heads, you gates!

**Lift yourselves up, you everlasting doors, that the One who rules in glory  
may enter.**

Who rules in glory?

**It is God, valiant and strong, God, who is mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, you gates?

**Lift yourselves up, you everlasting doors, that the One who rules  
in glory may enter.**

Who rules in glory?

**It is God of Hosts, God who rules in glory. R**