

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**

**PRELUDE** Gott ist Mein Hirt (*Franz Schubert*)  
Mehraeen Safari, violin

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

*Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/  
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion* Paula Hanna

**INTROIT** Jesus Laughed Out Loud (*Daniel C. Damon*)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather together seeking God’s  
guidance for our lives.

**We gather seeking wisdom  
That we may walk in God’s way.**

We gather together seeking hope  
for a broken world.

**We gather seeking justice  
for all people.**

Come, let us worship God—

**In whose word we find abundant life!**

**Let us worship.**

**\*HYMN** God Who Give to Life Its Goodness **VU 260**

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

**God of autumn, help us to be more like nature,  
accepting the changing seasons; like the changing  
of the trees: not a dying as life sometimes feels, but  
a stripping bare in preparation for inner growth,  
knowing that to shed the outer layers will reveal a  
strength that is hidden underneath. God of  
autumn, it’s so hard to let things go: the shields,**

**the camouflage, the flimsy covers. We cannot hide from  
you; you are our strength, you see our inner beauty.  
You see beyond the human dressings and wish to clothe  
us in your love. God, help us to be more like nature,  
accepting the changing seasons, sharing in this time of  
great change and beauty. God of Community-Holy in  
One, we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

*(K. Crosby. Iona Community, adapted.)*

**WORDS OF GRACE**

Seasons change. We change, and the love of  
God remains constant. **Thanks be to God!**

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

**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 36 VU p.762

*(In your light do we see light.)* Martha Bailkowski

**ANTHEM** Who Will Teach the Children?

*(John D.Parker/Anna L.Page)* Mehraeen Safari, violin

**GOSPEL** Mark 9:30-37 *p.45 Pew Bible NT*

*(Whoever welcomes a child, welcomes me.)*

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

**SERMON** Turning the World Upside Down

*(The Life & Legacy of Lois Wilson)*

**\*HYMN** Spirit, Open My Heart (*R.Duck*) *MV 79*

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,  
Spirit, open my heart.*

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that’s kind and  
tender. All my coldness and fear to your grace I now  
surrender. *Spirit, open my heart...*

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my  
story. In each thought, word, and deed, may my living  
bring you glory. *Spirit, open my heart...*

May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister,  
brother. In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one  
another.

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,  
Spirit, open my heart.*

**SHARING GOD’S LOVE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** He Shall Feed His Flock (*G.F.Handel*)

Mehraeen Safari

**\*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*

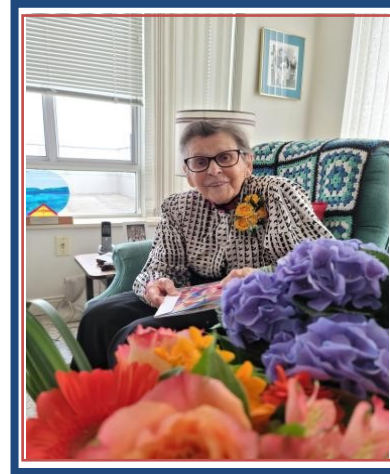
**\*HYMN** Go To the World **VU 420**

**\*COMMISSIONING**

And now, may the Creator within you  
and around you,  
**above us and below us**  
bless you and keep you—  
**now and forever.**

**\*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** Ballade (*Ricky Hyslop*) Mehraeen Safari



The Very Rev., The Honourable Dr. Lois M. Wilson

1927-2024

28th Moderator of the United Church of Canada, 1980-1982.

*'I hardly ever had an original idea myself, but I would always respond to what the community called me to do. None of them were my ideas. But I was able to respond to them because I saw that they were in continuity with what I understood as the purposes of God in the world.'*  
*(Interview with CBC's Sean Foley on 'Ideas', February 2024)*



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

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





**PENTECOST 18**  
**September 22, 2024**  
**11:00**

*God of the seasons, you surround us with beauty and wonder; you smile in the ripening fruit, you dance in the tumbling leaves. Teach us to dance with you, to act justly and to share fairly, to love you in friend and stranger all the moments of our nights and days.*  
*(Ruth Burgess. Acorns and Archangels. Iona Community)*

## God Who Gives to Life its Goodness

God who gives to life its goodness, God creator of all joy, God who gives to us our freedom, God who blesses tool and toy: teach us now to laugh and praise you, deep within your praises sing, till the whole creation dances for the goodness of its King.

God who fills the earth with beauty, God who binds each friend to friend, God who names us co-creators God who wills that chaos end: grant us now creative spirits, minds responsive to your mind, hearts and wills your rule extending all our acts by Love refined.

## Go to the World

Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptising as the sign of our rebirth. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go into every place. Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace. Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day. As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you 'til the age shall end, when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen!' Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

## Psalm 36

**R Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens**

Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mountains, O God, your judgements are like the great deep; all living things you save. R**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of our house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. R**

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

**Continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright in heart. R**

