

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**



**PRELUDE** Trio & Basse et Dessus de Trompette  
ou de Cornet Separé, en Dialogue (*Suite Du Premier Ton*)  
(*Louis-Nicolas Clérambault*)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

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

**INTROIT** By the Well, a Thirsty Woman  
(*Elizabeth Stillborn/Diana Wilcox*)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Through the waters of baptism,  
Jesus was called.

**Through the sacrament of baptism,  
we too feel God's call.**

By the voice from heaven,  
Jesus was claimed as God's own.

**We too find ourselves marked  
by the love of God.**

By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
Jesus was commissioned to his ministry.

**By the Spirit's breath,  
we too take our place as God's servants.**

We gather—called, claimed, and commissioned  
as God's people.

**Thanks be to God!**

(*F.Flook, Emo/Devlin P.C.,Emo, Ont.*)

**\*HYMN** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *pg. 7*

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

Creative and compassionate God, you give a vision  
to us and to our world. It is a vision of a world where  
nations will live in peace; where the poor will hear the  
good news that there will be enough for all; where  
those who oppress will lose their power. We come,  
acknowledging that the vision has not yet  
become a reality. For the times and places we have  
added to the hurt and not the healing, we pray for new  
resolve and commitment to shine as Christ's light in  
the world, for the transforming of the world. God in  
community, Holy in One, we pray in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

**WORDS OF GRACE**

God is at work in the world,  
creating new possibilities in every day.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SUNG RESPONSE** Arise, Be Clothed in the Light *VU 866*

**Arise, be clothed in the light.**

**Arise, be clothed in the light.**

**Your light has come,  
your light has come.**

**Hallelujah!** (*repeat*)

**FINDING GOD TOGETHER**

**SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 43:1-7 *p.672 Pew Bible OT*  
(I have called you by your name.) *Craig Arnold*

**ANTHEM** At the River (*A. Copland arr. R.Wilding-White*)

**GOSPEL** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 *p. 60 Pew Bible NT*  
(Jesus is baptized by John.)

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

**SERMON** Beloved

**\*HYMN** I Have Called You by Your Name  
(*Damon/Fines*) *MV 161*

I have called you by your name, you are mine;  
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine. I will not  
abandon you; all my promises are true. You are gifted,  
called and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go; read it written  
in my people, help them grow. Pour the water in my name,  
speak the word your soul can claim, offer Jesus' body  
given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go; feel it pulsing  
in creation's ebb and flow. Like the woman reaching out,  
choosing faith in spite of doubt, hold the hem of Jesus'  
robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine; I have given you my  
Spirit as a sign. With my wonder in your soul, make my  
wounded children whole; go and tell my precious people  
they are mine.

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** Somebody Bigger Than You and I  
(*John Lang,Hy Heath & Sonny Burke arr. J.Brimhall*)  
George Collins, Tenor

**DEDICATION** Christ Has No Body Now but Yours  
*MV 171*

**Christ has no body now but yours,  
no hands but yours.  
Here on this earth, yours is the work,  
to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing**

**PRAYER PRELUDE** Let My Spirit Always Sing  
*MV 83*

**Let my spirit always sing,  
to your Spirit answering,  
through the silence, through the pain  
know my hope is not in vain,  
like a feather on your breath  
trust your love, through life and death.**

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

**\*HYMN** Will You Come and See the Light *pg. 8*

**\* COMMISSIONING**

Let us remember that God is before us today and always.  
**God is the path we follow and the light that guides us.**

**\*SUNG BLESSING** Take Up His Song *MV 213*

**Take up his song of love and go into the world.  
Take up his song of love in every moment.  
In every moment of the journey,  
we're laying down our lives;  
lay them down, in love, lay them down,  
and take up his song.**

**POSTLUDE** Dialogue sur les grands Jeux  
*(Louis-Nicolas Clérambault)*



**Mission and Service  
Empowering Bold Leadership**

**Support youth as they inspire communities  
and engage in leadership**

“I want The United Church of Canada to continue the policies, as well as the vision and the actions that make our slogan ‘Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice, and Deep Spirituality’ truly mean something.”

These are words from Matthew Tyhurst, one of The United Church of Canada’s Youth Forum Leadership Animators. More of Matthew's thoughts on the United Church's Centennial can be found on [YouTube](#).

In July 2024, Matthew was one of eight passionate youth from across Canada who gathered in Calgary. Together, they worked to lay the foundation for 100 young people under the age of 30 to attend The United Church of Canada's General Council 45 in 2025, coinciding with the church's Centennial commemorations.

The group of talented and diverse youth are committed to developing leadership among their peers. After their time in Calgary, they returned to their local communities and regions to work on learning goals and projects for four weeks, but remain engaged throughout the year.

The group focused on building leadership and guiding their peers as they explore their roles in the church. Their placements in local and regional communities are designed to help them grow and prepare for the future.

Your gifts to [Mission and Service](#) support youth as they inspire communities and engage in leadership. 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](http://www.auroraunitedchurch.ca)**

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



**BAPTISM OF JESUS  
January 12, 2025  
11:00 am**

*Becoming the Beloved means letting the truth of our belovedness become enfolded in everything we think, say and do. (Henri Nouwen)*

### **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;  
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and salvation.  
Come, all who hear: brothers and sisters draw near, joining  
in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,  
keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.  
Have you not seen how all you needed has been met by  
God's gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord who will prosper our work and defend us;  
surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us: ponder  
anew what the Almighty can do, who out of love will befriend us.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has  
life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the Amen sound from God's people again: gladly with  
praise we adore him.

### **Will You Come and See the Light**

Will you come and see the light from the stable door? It is shining newly bright, though it  
shone before. It will be your guiding star, it will show you who you are; will you hide, or  
decide to meet the light?

Will you step into the light that can free the slave? It will stand for what is right, it will heal  
and save. By the pyramids of greed there's a longing to be freed; will you hide, or decide to  
meet the light?

Will you tell about the light in the prison cell? Though it's shackled out of sight, it is  
shining well. When the truth is cut and bruised, and the innocent abused, will you hide, or  
decide to meet the light?

Will you join the hope, alight in the young girl's eyes, of the mighty put to flight by a  
baby's cries? When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast, will you hide, or  
decide to meet the light?

Will you travel by the light of the babe new born? In the candle lit at night there's a gleam  
of dawn, and the darkness all about is too dim to put it out: will you hide, or decide to  
meet the light?

