

**SEEKING GOD TOGETHER**



**PRELUDE** Jesu, Meine Freude (*J.S.Bach*)

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

**Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters/  
Rainbow Candle of Inclusion** Brian Walter

**INTROIT** This is My Beloved Son (*Knut Nystedt*)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God touches the world,  
and the world changes.

God touches us,  
and we are transformed.

In the brightness of day,  
in the deep dark of night;  
on mountain,  
in valley.

Let us climb and descend together—  
to embrace the light of Christ.

Let us worship!

\***HYMN** We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding  
p 7 Tune: 559

**PRAYER FOR RENEWAL**

We bless and thank you for the gift of faith, Loving God. In some of us it is strong, like an ancient tree, rooted deeply and rising proudly. In others of us it is fragile, like a flower, tossed in the wind, bowed by storms. In each of us our faith is your gift, not our own achievement, not something about which

we can boast. It is your gift, one that we have been given to share with others. We thank you for this mystery of faith in our lives, and for its power to transform the everyday. On mountain tops and in the valleys of our lives, you meet us there. God in Community—Holy in One, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**WORDS OF GRACE**

God transforms our every day.  
Thanks be to God!

**SUNG RESPONSE** Arise, Be Clothed in the Light (*VU 886*)

**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** 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 p. 180 *Pew Bible NT*  
(We are bold in our hope.) Marcia Thompson

**ANTHEM** You Raise Me Up  
(*Graham/Lovland arr. Joseph M.Martin*)

**GOSPEL** Luke 9:28-36 p. 69-70 *Pew Bible NT*  
(Jesus is transfigured upon the mountain.)

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

**SERMON** Mountain View

\***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 and 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**

\* **THE CREED** p 7

\* **THE PEACE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**OFFERTORY** Where He Leads Me/He Leadeth Me  
(*J.S. Norris/W.B.Bradbury arr. Brant Adams*) Tim Birtch, trumpet

**DEDICATION** Christ Has No Body Now but Yours  
**Christ has no body now but yours,** *MV 171*  
**no hands but yours.**

**Here on this earth, yours is the work,  
to serve with the joy of compassion.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER & Prayer Shawl Blessing**

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** (on insert)

\***HYMN** Bless Now O God, the Journey p 7

\***COMMISSIONING**

Jesus was transformed before his friends,  
**filled with the Light of God.**

Take courage, for all of life’s uphill journeys;  
**God’s light is ours.**

\***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** A Mighty Fortress is Our God  
(M. Luther arr. B. Adams) Tim Birtch



**The Season of Lent**

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (March 5th), which falls 40 days prior to Easter. Sundays are not included in the count of these days, as each Sunday is considered to be a ‘little Easter’, meant to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection.



**Mission and Service**

Children and mothers in Ukraine are  
Provided rest and renewal

In the Eastern Carpathian Mountains, far from the chaos of war, a retreat in Tukhlya, Ukraine offers rest and renewal to mothers who have given everything for their families. Supported by Mission and Service partner ACT Alliance, ACT member Hungarian Interchurch Aid has welcomed 135 mothers and their children in the “Happy Family” initiative, providing space for healing and resilience.

In early January 2025, 18 mothers and their little ones arrived. All had either been displaced by war or lived near the frontlines. Many are exhausted, burdened by grief and overwhelming responsibilities. “I always thought only about my children—their clothes, food, education,” shares Yulia, a mother of five who lost her husband a year ago. “Here, I was able to stop and think about myself.”

With psychological support, hiking, art therapy, and group sessions, the retreat helps women regain their inner strength. While the women focus on healing, their children participate in creative activities, allowing everyone time for self-care. Many women hesitated before they left home, worried about stepping away from their duties and earnings. “How could I leave everything?” Yulia recalled. “But now I see how much I needed this time to regain my strength and return home with love and energy.”

For many, this is their first experience receiving psychological support. “These exercises helped me understand myself better,” says Nataliya, who fled to Lviv after losing her home. “I learned techniques I can use every day to cope.”

This retreat is made possible with help from your gifts to Mission and Service. While it cannot erase hardship, it offers strength for the journey ahead. Your support provides a space for healing, restoring hope, and empowering those in need.

**Thank you for making a difference.**



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



**TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY  
COMMUNION**

**March 2, 2025**

**11:00 am**

*‘Wherever you turn your eyes the world can shine like transfiguration. You don’t have to bring a thing to it except a little willingness to see. Only, who could have the courage to see it?’  
(Marilynne Robinson, Gilead.)*

### **We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding**

We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place, where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace. Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain, searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.

Light breaks in upon our darkness; splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word; Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet: Christ, with garments drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.

Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline, we like Peter find it tempting to remain and build a shrine. But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess, that our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.

### **The New Creed**

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

To celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God

### **Bless Now, O God, the Journey**

Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make, the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take. The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round, then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.

Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way, whose hope burns through the terrors, whose love sustains the day. We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound.

Together we are seeking the road where faith is found.

Divine Eternal Lover, you meet us on the road. We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow. But waiting not for places, you meet us all around. Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

