

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Intermezzi 4 & 5 (*Hermann Schreoder*)

WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters
As we come into worship today, we acknowledge that we reside and worship on the traditional lands of the people of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation...and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. Laurie Bentolila

INTROIT Call To Worship (*Jane Best*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing praises to God, you faithful, give thanks to God's holy name!

Weeping may linger for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

You turn our weeping to dancing, God; you remove the garments of mourning and clothe us in gladness.

May we praise you and not be silent! We give thanks to you, O God, forever!

***HYMN** As Comes the Breath of Spring *VU* 373

As comes the breath of spring with light and mirth and song, so does your Spirit bring new days brave, free, and strong. You come with thrill of life to chase hence winter's breath, to hush to peace the strife of sin that ends in death.

You come like dawning day with flaming truth and love, to chase all glooms away, to brace our wills to prove how wise, how good to choose the truth and its brave fight, to prize it, win or lose, and live on your delight.

You come like songs at morn that fill the earth with joy, till we, in Christ newborn, new strength in praise employ. You come to rouse the heart from drifting to despair, through high hopes to impart life with an ampler air.

You breathe and there is health; you move and there is power; you whisper, there is wealth of love, your richest dower. Your presence is to us like summer in the soul; your joy shines forth and then life blossoms to its goal.

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Dear God, we praise you that we are not being deceived when we believe that the Spirit of Christ is found in this world. Oh, we know how easy it is to be deceived. The difference between promise and performance can be very large. The confusion sown by those intent on misleading can be crazy-making. And, yet we have experienced moments of saving grace. We have been touched by an unexpected kindness; or a crisis was averted, or a risk brought a resolution that served. And, we wondered, "How did that happen? Whose shepherding skill enabled that rescue?" We praise you, God, that you dwell amongst us, full of grace and truth and that you are teaching us to pray, to depend upon you. Today through your Word and Way, reveal to us your purpose as individuals and collectively as this community of faith. In Jesus' name and to God's glory. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

Let the scales fall from your eyes. Unplug your ears. God is claiming you as a beloved friend. Warm to the community that surrounds you. Reach out to feed and care and follow where Christ leads. You are forgiven, claimed and sent.

SUNG RESPONSE Halle, Halle, Halle (*Iona*) *VU* 958
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah! Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE Psalm 30 (pg. 757 *VU*/pg. 7 online bulletin)
Kathie Blackman
(A song of thanksgiving.)

ANTHEM Down to the River to Pray (*arr. Sheldon Curry*)

GOSPEL John 21:1-7, 19b
(Jesus appears to seven disciples.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON To Follow Today
The Rev. Ross Carson

***HYMN** We Meet You, O Christ *VU* 183

We meet You, O Christ, in many a guise:
Your image we see in simple and wise.
You live in a palace, exist in a shack.
We see You, the gardener, a tree on Your back.

In millions alive, away and abroad;
Involved in our life You live down the road.
Imprisoned in systems, You long to be free.
We see You, Lord Jesus, still bearing Your tree.

We hear You, O Christ, in agony cry.
For freedom You march, in riots You die.
Your face in the papers we read and we see.
The tree must be planted by human decree.

You choose to be made at one with the earth;
The dark of the grave prepares for Your birth.
Your death is Your rising, creative Your word:
The tree springs to life and our hope is restored.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Song of Hope (*Cynthia Dobrinski*)
Bellissimo Handbell Ensemble

***DEDICATION** What Can I Do? (*Rumbolt/McCarthy*)
MV 191 What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

PRAYER PRELUDE Dear Mother God *VU 270*

Dear Mother God, your wings are warm around us,
we are enfolded in your love and care; safe in the dark
your heartbeat's pulse surrounds us,
you call to us, for you are always there.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN** We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection
VU 586

We shall go out with hope of resurrection, we shall go
out, from strength to strength go on, we shall go out and
tell our stories boldly; tales of a love that will not let us
go. We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted,
We'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed,
We'll weave a cloth of all the world united within the
vision of new life in Christ.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken, we'll
find the words for those whose lips are sealed; we'll
make the tunes for those who sing no longer, expressive
love alive in every heart. We'll share our joy with those
who are still weeping, raise hymns of strength for hearts
that break in grief, we'll leap and dance the resurrection
story, including all within the circles of our love.

*** COMMISSIONING**

As Jesus said to Peter, so Jesus asks us, "Do you love
me?"

Yes, Jesus, you know that we love you.

He commissions us to feed his lambs, to tend his sheep.

Let us serve God in peace and fortitude.

***SUNG BLESSING** Take Up His Song (*Herman/King*)
MV213

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 Intermezzo 6 (*Hermann Schreoder*)

Welcome

We welcome the Rev. Ross Carson into the pulpit
Today. Ross and his wife Ann are members at Trinity
United Church in Newmarket. Ross is known to AUC
previously serving as pulpit supply and is brother-in-law
to Kathie Blackman.



*The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its
buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast,
are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.*

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**AURORA UNITED
CHURCH**

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



**May 1, 2022
11:00 AM**

*We sing of a church seeking to continue the story
of Jesus by embodying Christ's presence in the world.
(A Song of Faith: A Statement of Faith, UCC, 2006)*

Psalm 30

***Refrain: Though tears flow for a night, the morning
brings new joy.***

I will extol you, O God, for you have lifted me up;
you have not let my enemies triumph over me.
O God, my God, I cried to you for help, and you restored
my health.
**You brought me back from the dead; you saved
my life as I was going down to the Grave.**
Let all your servants sing praises to you, and give thanks
to your holy name.
**Your anger is but for a moment, but your
kindness is life eternal. *Refrain***

In my prosperity I said,
**“I shall never be shaken; your favour, O God,
has made me as firm as any strong mountain.”**
You turned your face away from me, and I was greatly
dismayed. I called to you; I made my appeal:
**“What profit is there in my death, in my going
down to the Grave?**
Will the dust give you praise?
Will it proclaim your faithfulness?
**Hear, O God, and be gracious to me; O God, be
my helper.” *Refrain***

You turned my mourning into dancing;
**you stripped off my sackcloth and clothed me
with joy,**
so that my heart will sing your praise without ceasing.
**O God, my God, I will give thanks to you
forever. *Refrain***