

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER

PRELUDE Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (*Adams*)
Tim Birtch, trumpet

**WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgment of Territory/Every Child Matters

INTROIT As of Old Their First-fruits Brought
(*F. von Christiernson, Eng. Trad. melody harm. R.V. Williams*)

CALL TO WORSHIP

The flaming leaves of autumn,
are reminiscent of the fire of God's Spirit.

The bounty of the fields
reflects the fullness of God's love.

Let us share with the world
the blessings of this land;
for there is no thanks
without giving.

As God gives to us,
let us give to others,
in thanks.

***HYMN** Come, You Thankful People, Come **VU 516**
(*see page 7*)

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Creating God, Giver of the harvest, Source of
creation and growth, we turn to you in the midst of
the work of gathering in your bounty, in the midst
of enjoying the beauty of this colourful season and to
offer thanks for our many blessings. As we enjoy the
company of family and friends, we are thankful for
the gifts of our Spirit in this time of change. When

we have forgotten to give thanks, or when we have
squandered our gifts, or when we have kept our gifts
just for ourselves—turn us, loving God—inspire us to
expand the circle of our faith community beyond all
boundaries—in thanks. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

God encourages our growth, in giving.
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE Dance With the Spirit (*J. Strathdee*)
MV 156 **Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day,
work and hope for the new life abornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*We welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism, Fraser John
Malarczyk, son of John and Mackenzie Malarczyk.*

FINDING GOD TOGETHER

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 100 **VU p.824**
2nd Refrain: **Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.**
Debra Hilliard
(Come to God's gates with thanks.)

ANTHEM A Thanksgiving Canticle (*arr. M. Hayes*)
with Tim Birtch, trumpet

GOSPEL John 6:25-35 *p.98 Pew Bible NT*
(Give us bread from heaven for eternal life.)

Come to the quiet...a time for reflection

SERMON Harvest Home

***HYMN** We Plough the Fields **VU 520** (*see page 7*)

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Amazing Grace (*arr. J. Krug*)
EmBellished Handbell Ensemble, with Margaret Heney, piano

***DEDICATION** Take, O Take Me as I Am (*Belle/Maule*)
MV 85 **Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart,
and live in me. (sing twice)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

PRAYER PRELUDE Spirit of Life (*C. McDade*) **VU 381**
**Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN** For the Fruit of All Creation **VU 227**
(*see page 8*)

* **COMMISSIONING**

The God of seed and harvest blesses us—
And we bless each other;
That the beauty of this world
and the love that created it
might be expressed through our lives

to be a blessing to others,⁵ now and always.

***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 We Gather Together/Count Your Blessings
(arr.B.Adams) Tim Birtch, trumpet

The Sacrament of Baptism

Statement of Purpose

Brothers and sisters, let us celebrate the gift of grace known to us in the sacrament of baptism.
**There is one body, and one Spirit,
we have one hope in Christ.**

Presentation of Candidate Nancy Kerswill

On behalf of the congregation of Aurora United Church, I present **Fraser John Malarczyk**, for initiation into the family of Christ through baptism.

Questions of Parents, Sponsors

Do you believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make New, and who works in us and others by the Spirit?

I do, by the grace of God.

Will you join together with your brothers and sisters in this community of faith to celebrate God's presence, and work and minister to a world in need of God's love?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you grow together with your son and offer to teach him The Christian faith, and help him to take his place in the Christian family?

I will, God being my helper.

The Congregation makes a promise: Nancy Kerswill

Let us pledge to this family, our support and care.
As a church following in the way of Jesus, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within this community of faith. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.

The Blessing of the Baptism Water

The water we use in baptism is a symbol of the grace of God—free-flowing, awakening, refreshing, renewing. It is a symbol of the unconditional love that names us and claims us as God's own. It is also a symbol of the faith that we share in common as people of Christ.

Let us pray... **Loving God, bless now this water that we will use in baptism. May it be a sign and promise of new life, not only for Fraser, but also for all who have passed through the waters of baptism. In the Spirit of Christ, who was himself baptized, we pray. Amen.**

The Baptism (What is the name of this child?)

Fraser John, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Fraser John, child of God, with the sign of the cross, you become one with Christ Jesus in the family of God. Amen.

Fraser John, may the blessing of the one God, Mother and Father of us all, be with you today and always. Amen.

**Presentation of Certificate and Cross
Candlelighting**

Sung Blessing MV 214

May God's sheltering wings, God's gathering wings protect you. May God's nurturing arms, God's cradling arms sustain you, and hold you in God's love, and hold you in



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



THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

October 9, 2022

11:00 AM

Lord of the harvest who has given us so much; help us to be generous like you, that the world may know your goodness and blessing. (S.Taylor)

Come, You Thankful People, Come VU 516

Come, you thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home! All is safely gathered in, safe before the storms begin; God, our maker, does provide for our needs to be supplied: come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home!

All the world is God's own field, harvests for God's praise to yield; wheat and weeds together sown, here for joy or sorrow grown; first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear: Harvest-giver, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For God, one day, shall come, and shall take this harvest home; from the field shall in that day all offences purge away; giving angels charge at last in the fire the weeds to cast; but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.

Even so, God, quickly come to your final harvest home! Gather all your people in, free from sorrow, free from sin; there for ever purified, in your presence to abide; come, with all your angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

We Plough the Fields We Plough the Fields VU 520

We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by your almighty hand; you send the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above; we thank you, God, O holy God, for all your love.

You only are the maker of all things near and far; you paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star; the winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed; much more to us, your children, you give us daily bread. **R**

We thank you then, O Maker, for all things bright and good, the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food; accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts, and, what from us you long for, our humble, thankful hearts **R**

For the Fruit of All Creation VU 227

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

For the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

