



Northlea United Church

September 24, 2017

Minister – Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

Music Director – David Jafelice

(*) Please stand as you are able.

Bold letters indicate words to be said by the whole congregation.

Please ask one of our greeters if you would like a large- print bulletin, a large-print hymn book or an assisted hearing device.

~ Gathering ~

Before or during the prelude you are welcome to come to the front and light a tea light candle and/or enter your prayer requests in the book provided. Your prayers can be included in the prayers of the people during the service.

Prelude

Welcome

***Gathering Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King (verses 1, 3, and 5)**

Voices United #217

Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship:

Why do we come to this place?

We come to be with God who is Love.

What do we hope for in this time of worship?

We come to learn the teachings of Jesus.

What do we need as we gather in community?

We come to find peace and inspiration.

Sung Response: Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope

More Voices #33

Lighting the Christ Candle

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Greetings of Peace - *The congregation is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another. The children and youth will leave for their Cool Church listening and learning time.*

Sung Response: Put Peace into Each Other's Hands

More Voices #173

Opening Prayer:

**Our hearts are blessed as we gather before you today, O God,
for you have given us freedom from all our transgressions
and joy in exchange for heavy hearts.**

**You are the refuge we seek when we are troubled
and the courage we need when we venture into our days.**

**Bless us today with your steadfast love
as we declare our trust in you.**

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil: for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and
ever. Amen.**

~ Listening ~

***Listening Hymn: God Says**

More Voices #172

Prayer for Understanding:

**Holy One, we pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit you
would open our hearts and our minds to your mystery and grace. Guide
us to the truth and wisdom we most need to hear,
as we listen for your still small voice in our sacred story.
Amen.**

Reading: Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17

Response:

**Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
The Spirit is still speaking, thanks be to God.**

Message: Lord Have Mercy

Anthem: All Things Bright and Beautiful

Arnold Sherman

(Congregation please remain seated)

~ Responding ~

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

***Offertory Response: In Gratitude and Humble Trust**

Voices United #544

Tune: FOREST GREEN

***Offertory Prayer:**

**God of grace, we hear your call to generous giving
in the way you meet our needs each day,
and in the peace you give which passes understanding.
Having received so much, we offer all we have,
our time, talents and money for your kingdom.
Bless these gifts for the work of your church.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Blessing of the Animals

Apprehend God in all things, for God is in all things. Every single creature is full of God, and is a book about God. Every creature is a word of God. If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature, even a caterpillar, I would never have to prepare a sermon so full of God is every creature.

(Meister Eckhart, a 13th century Christian mystic)

Blessing

Congregational Prayer

Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy. Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ. Amen

***Closing Hymn: Sent Forth By God's Blessing**

Voices United #481

***Commissioning**

***Sung Benediction: Amen.**

Voices United #969

Postlude

Love ~ Connect ~ Nurture ~ Serve

Welcoming: Jody Kinsey and Lucy Platt

Reading: Jackie Morris

Sound Technician: Ron Scott

Kitchen Hospitality: Lois and Ron Scott

If you are interested in volunteering to help out with Sunday Morning Ministries, please contact Barb Ferguson in the church office or sign up on the sheets posted outside on the Welcome Board.

Coming Up!

- **Directory Photo Days** - September 26 and 27 from 2:30 to 8:30 and Saturday, October 7 from 10 am to 3:30 pm.
- **Staff Meeting** – Wednesday, Sept. 27, 11 am
- **Lay Worship Circle** - Wednesday, September 27 at 7:30 pm.

The Lay Worship Circle reviews, explores and plans our worship practices. The group receives feedback from the community and considers needs expressed in the future planning of our Sunday morning services, and our Taize, Jazz, Labyrinth and other special or alternative services. Anyone is welcome to join the Lay Worship Circle and no commitment is required. We hope you will join us.

- **Choir Rehearsals** - Thursday, September 28, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Thursday evenings. All Welcome!
- **The Arts Circle** - Thursday, Sept 28 at 1:30 pm.

Is Your Creative Spirit looking for company? A group gets together on Thursdays at Northlea along with their art supplies to draw, paint, create, and to share their love of the arts! All welcome!

- **World Wide Communion Sunday** - Sunday, October 1, 10:30 am

Are you interested in joining a weekly Bible Study?

No experience necessary! Lee-Ann will lead a group on Monday mornings, starting on October 2, at 10:30 am. These gatherings will be for 1 hour and will explore the Narrative Lectionary that Lee-Ann uses on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in joining in, please let [Lee-Ann](#) know. Thanks!

There were about 20 people here at Northlea on Wednesday night walking the labyrinth. It appears that there is a growing interest in this activity! So, here is some information forwarded to us about other walks.

The Great Lakes Water Walk on September 24 –

<http://www.waterdocs.ca/waterwalk/>

Walking with Our Sisters – Poster on the Welcome Board and in NewsBites

Ben McNally of *Ben McNally Books*, presents his “Winter Reads”. Mark your calendars for the evening of Tuesday November 14th and plan to come. Details coming soon!

Chair Exercise Class – 6 Weeks of Fun!

The Wednesday Chair-based Exercise Class starts up again! The classes start at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 4 and will continue weekly until Wednesday, November 8. All are welcome. For more information, contact Joanne Procnier or Anne Medlock through the church office.

At Leaside Presbyterian Church (*Note Time Correction*):

A Fall Luncheon will be on Wednesday, Sept 20, starting at 12:15 pm in the Glebe Parlour. More info posted on the Welcome Board.

The Brain Injury Society of Toronto is a community based non-profit organization supporting those living with the effects of acquired brain injury. On October 1st, they are having a fundraiser at Wilket Creek Park. The BIST 5K Run, Walk or Roll, provides BIST with much needed funds to keep our programs and services running. This includes educational workshops, support groups and community outings. Learn more about this at:

<http://www.bist.ca/5k/>

Lawrence Park Community Church 4th Annual Charity Fundraiser Art Show.

More information: <http://www.lawrenceparkartshow.ca/>



Through **Canada Helps** by going to www.northleaunited.ca

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