



# Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

Welcome to Northlea! Northlea is proud to be a safe space and accessible for those with mobility assists such as wheelchairs, and scooters. We welcome pets, and invite you to bring your coffee to service! If we can help improve your experience by providing you with assisted hearing devices, a large print hymn book or large print order of service, we have them – just ask one of our *Welcomers*.

Infants, toddlers, and children are welcome as part of our worship in the sanctuary! Following the first part of the service each Sunday, many of our children and youth go with their leaders to “*Cool Church*.” Children who are visiting are invited to join in!

After the service, everyone reconnects in the Community Room over refreshments. We encourage everyone to wear name tags, so if you don’t have one, and would like one, please let one of our *Welcomers* know.

## **Thank You for Helping with Today’s Service:**

Welcoming: Jody Kinsey and Lucy Platt

Reading: Diana Bennett

Sound Technician: Bev Vanstone

Kitchen Hospitality: Susane Orlowski and Anthony Policicchio

*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.*

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

[www.northleaunited.ca](http://www.northleaunited.ca) 416-425-5252 [office@northleaunited.ca](mailto:office@northleaunited.ca)

Minister: **Lee-Ann Ahlstrom** [lee-ann@northleaunited.ca](mailto:lee-ann@northleaunited.ca)

Music Director: **David Jafelice** [david@northleaunited.ca](mailto:david@northleaunited.ca)

Administrative Coordinator: **Barb Ferguson** [barb@northleaunited.ca](mailto:barb@northleaunited.ca)

Facility Manager: **Robert Pringle** [building@northleaunited.ca](mailto:building@northleaunited.ca)

Cool Church Coordinator: **Daniel Stefan** [danielstefanmusic@gmail.com](mailto:danielstefanmusic@gmail.com)

Youth Leader: **Jo Dullard** [jo@northleaunited.ca](mailto:jo@northleaunited.ca)



Through Canada Helps by going to [www.northleaunited.ca](http://www.northleaunited.ca) or by signing up for PAR (Pre-Authorized Debit) through the church office.

## Northlea United Church

November 19, 2017

Leading the Service - Lay Worship Circle

Music Director - David Jafelice

Guests - Karen Seunarine and Catherine Christie

*(\* Please stand if you are comfortable and 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: *Amazing Grace***

**Voices United #266**

*Organ arrangement by Karen Keene*

### Announcements, Joys and Concerns

### Call to Worship:

We come together as the family of God.

**Let us work together to serve our community.**

We are called to share God's message with the world.

**Let us be strengthened in our mission as we worship  
and pray together.**

**Sung Response: *Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Halleluia*  
*Praise Ye the Lord***

### Story and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Karen Senunarine

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: *Where Two or Three are Gathered* More Voices #14**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Father God, we hear your call to go into all the world. Be present with us as we go forward in your service, keep us open to your guidance and teach us your way. Send your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith and enable us to see the way ahead and to follow it faithfully.**

**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 ~

**\*Hymn: *Let There Be Light***

**Voices United #679**

**Prayer for Understanding:**

**Holy One, we pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit you will 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: Ezekiel 37:15-25**

**Response:**

In this reading we hear God's voice.

**The Spirit is still speaking, thanks be to God.**

**Message: Reaching Across Boundaries**

**Anthem: *Christ Be Our Light***

**Bernadette Farrell**

~ Responding ~

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory Music**

**\*Offertory Response:**

**Voices United #537**

*Your work, O God needs many hands  
to help you everywhere,  
and some there are who cannot serve  
unless our gifts we share.  
Because we love you and your work,  
our offering now we make:  
be pleased to use it as your own,  
we ask for Jesus' sake.*

**\*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 treasure for your kingdom. Bless these gifts for the work of your church. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People:\***

O God of wounded heart,  
hear the silent cries of the Han of your people;  
the gags and numbness of all oppressed,  
the despair and horror of all war-bound,  
the hunger and hopelessness of all famine and poverty stricken,  
the fear and anxiety of all refugees and homeless,  
the pangs and scars of all abused and assaulted,  
the fury and rage of all exploited,  
the vulnerability of all discriminated and marginalized.  
God of compassion and healing,  
hear the anguish of Han-ridden people, the Minjung,  
heal the wounds of Han with your healing touch,  
and restore the image and breath of God, Ki, in all your children.  
We pray in the name of the One who bears the Han of the cross,  
transforming it into the Hallelujah of Easter. Amen

—Celebrate God's Presence, 51001, p. 153 by Kay Cho

*\*Han is a Korean concept of frozen and knotted feelings of despair, helplessness, fear and anger, and other negative feelings that have accumulated over a period of time and remained within a person or a group. Ki is spirit, energy, or breath of God. Minjung means the poor, oppressed, marginalized groups of people who are not properly protected by law or society.*

**\*Closing Hymn: *Let All Things Now Living***

**Voices United #242**

**\*Commissioning**

**\*Sung Benediction: *Go Now in Peace***

**VU#964**

**Postlude**

**Today's Guests...**

***Catherine Christie***, ordained in 1988, was settled in the prairies and served in rural churches until 2010 when accepted as overseas personnel and went to Korea. Catherine served for 7 years as overseas personnel with Korean partners the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea and Korean National Council of Churches. This fall, before retiring, she is sharing the story of this M & S partnership. Hear about the work of our partners.

***Karen Seunarine*** is the Stewardship and Gifts Officer for Toronto Conference. Since January 2016, she has provided theological leadership and service to congregations, community ministries and communities of faith throughout the Conference.



***Calling all budding Northlea actors, the Christmas pageant needs you!*** Are you an adult who longs for the chance to recreate the Christmas pageant glory of your childhood when you totally rocked it as Shepherd #2? Now is your chance, because Christmas pageants aren't just for the young, they are also for the young at heart! So if you would like to be part of the pageant this year, please speak to Jo, Daniel

or Lee-Ann and we will make it happen. Kids, make it a family affair and get Mom and Dad to join the cast too.

## Coming Up!

**TODAY - Congregational Meeting starting at 12 pm.**

**Bible Study** - Mondays -10:30 - 11:30 am

All are welcome to join Lee-Ann. If you'd like to, you can do advance text and commentary reading via *workingpreacher.org* or *textweek.com*

November 20 - Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

November 27 - Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Mark 13:24-27

December 4 - Isaiah 40:1-11

December 11 - Luke 1:46b-55

December 18 - John 1:1-18

December 25 & 31 - No bible study

**Staff Meeting** - Wednesday, Nov. 22 - 11 am

**Social Circle** - Wednesday, November 22 - 7 pm

**Trustees Meeting** - Wednesday, November 22 - 7 pm

**Arts Circle** - Thurs.,  
Nov. 23 - 1:30 pm

Bring art supplies to draw, paint, create, and share your love of the arts! All welcome!

**The Christmas Claymation Project with Jo** - Thursday,  
Nov. 23 - 6 pm

Jo will be working with the youth and junior youth to build characters, sets, film and edit a short stop motion video in the Claymation style.

**Choir Rehearsal** - Thursday, Nov 23 - 7:30 pm

**Lay Worship Circle** - Monday, Nov. 27, 7:30 pm

**Refugee Support Group Meeting** - Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00pm.  
*All who would wish to support Northlea United's continuing work among the refugee community in our neighbourhood are warmly invited to attend and share their ideas and inspiration.*

## Advent and Christmas Services and Events

### **White Gift Sunday - Sunday December 10, 10:30 am**



*Please bring a gift on White Gift Sunday to help fill the White Gift wish list for Youth Without Shelter. Items should not be white gift wrapped, but may be decorated with a ribbon or bow. The staff needs to be able to*

*direct items to appropriate recipients. More info on Youth without Shelter: <http://www.yws.on.ca/>*

**Suggested gift items are posted on the Welcome Board and on the church website.**

### **Carolling in the Pines ~ Sunday, December 10th, 7:00 p.m.**

*Sing with friends and neighbours at this annual event! The Metropolitan Silver Band leads the carolling; a special visitor (Ho, Ho, Ho!) will be dropping in, and there will be lots of hot chocolate! It's an outside event, lasting about 45 minutes, so dress warmly and bring a flashlight! (Bad weather location – inside the church!) We are fundraising for Youth Without Shelter - donations are appreciated!*



### **Cookies and Christmas Carols – Monday, December 11, 7 pm**

*Kindred Spirits is a group of women, of all ages, who will come together in an open forum to discuss social issues and explore matters of the heart connected to these issues. The group will hold its first Meet & Greet on Dec*

*11th in the church community room. The theme for the gathering is Christmas! The event will be called Cookies & Stories for Christmas. This is how it works: each participant will bring 2 dozen cookies (of your choice) to be shared with the group. By the time you leave you'll have a variety of cookies to share at your Christmas gatherings. Over cookies and hot coco we'll entertain each other with our favourite stories of "What Christmas means to me". A perfect way to get the ball rolling.*

*We're also fortunate to have Kim Stanbury joining us for the evening. Kim will talk about the outreach ministry she is actively involved with. ARISE Ministry, run and organized by Kim's sister Deborah Rapport, is a mission of*

*the Presbytery of East Toronto and supported by the Presbyterian Church in Canada. ARISE offers outreach, case management and pastoral care to individuals involved in the sex trade. They advocate for the rights, goals and dreams of women, youth and children who have become victims of sex-trafficking and/or have worked in the sex trade. ARISE builds relationships, provides support and offers an intensive case management program to one of our cities most marginalized and victimized populations.*

*During this Christmas season we're hoping Kindred Spirits can help contribute to this worthy cause by way of small donations. Items such as Kleenex packages, hand sanitizer, band-aids, etc...*

*This invitation is extended to the women of the congregation as well as sisters, daughters, mothers, aunties, grandmothers and friends.*

*Please R.S.V.P to Raeleen Sparks (raeleenms@hotmail.com) by Dec 1st, to take part in this new emerging circle. A complete list of donation items will be provided at this time.*



### **Candlelight Carol Service ~**

Sunday, December 17th, 7:00 p.m.

*Hear the Christmas story with music and scripture, and join in singing Christmas carols. Following the service, enjoy homemade Christmas goodies with friends and neighbours.*

**Children's Christmas Pageant ~** Sunday, December 17 10:30 am

**Christmas Eve Services ~** December 24th

**Family Service ~ 7:00 p.m.**

**Candles and Communion Service ~ 11:00 p.m.**

**\*\***On Sunday morning, Christmas Eve, we have been invited to join the congregation AT Leaside Presbyterian for the 10:30 am service.

**UCW Mitten Tree** will be ready for your donations soon!

Details coming!



### **The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Pyjama Project**

*New pyjamas needed in all sizes for women and children (boys, girls and infants) in four Toronto shelters. Donations can be made from mid-November to mid-December at Northlea United Church and at Becky's home, 49 Glenvale Blvd. (bin will be on front porch). Each year the need and response has been growing! This year, the goal is to collect 300 pairs of pyjamas.*

Drive to benefit:

Nellie's - [community@nellies.org](mailto:community@nellies.org),

Street Haven - [fundraising@streethaven.org](mailto:fundraising@streethaven.org)

Amélie House - [www.HelpTheLessFortunate.org](http://www.HelpTheLessFortunate.org)

The Redwood - [www.redwood.org](http://www.redwood.org)

Project Coordinator: Elizabeth Barry 416-421-0719 [pjproject@bell.net](mailto:pjproject@bell.net). If you would like to make a financial contribution, please contact Elizabeth.

### **46th Community Canned Food Drive**

**Where to go to help out: St. Cuthbert's - 1399 Bayview Avenue.**

**Sat. Nov. 25th – 9:30 am - Canned food to be picked up.** Contributions will go to several organizations - Evangel Hall Mission, Toronto Christian Resource Centre, Flemingdon Park Food Bank, St. Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you, Roger Touw, for representing Northlea United on this community project!

### **The People Tree - It's growing!**

Please send us your pictures - some simple rules! One picture per person (or family), colour or black and white, max size 4" x 6". Submit hard copy by bringing it to the church. Submit it electronically to the office at [office@northeaunited.ca](mailto:office@northeaunited.ca).

*We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the Mississauga peoples who came to this place long before us, and our responsibility for the territory wherein our church resides.*