



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ~ 416-425-5252

See how the flowers of the field grow...



Photo by: mio-ito-tYNLwRxFsQc-unsplash

January 22, 2023

Third Sunday after Epiphany

At Northlea United Church,
we encourage one another as we:
Love God ~ Connect with others
Nurture the spirit ~ Serve the world

Thank you for joining us for service today whether in-person or online. If there is anything we can do to improve your experience, please let us know by calling the church office at 416 425 5252 or emailing us at office@northleaunited.ca. There are many ways to access online videos whether live streamed or pre-recorded. The Northlea United Facebook page or our website will have links to our services:

Facebook:

Simply sign on to Facebook and search for the Northlea United page. You will find links there.

www.northleaunited.ca:

Visit our website. Links will be posted to our homepage for easy access.

Thank you for helping with today's service:

The Lay Worship Circle
Rev. Linda Levin - Presiding
David Jafelice - Music Director & Music Video Production
Kayla Ruiz, Soprano & Karen Davidson, Alto
Joshua Clemenger, Tenor & Tristan Zaba, Bass
Jo Dullard - Video Production, Donna Rutz - Social Media Support
Josh Clemenger - Reader

Minister: Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom lee-ann@northleaunited.ca

Music Director: David Jafelice david@northleaunited.ca

Office Administrator: Tricia Reid office@northleaunited.ca

Facility Manager: Robert Pringle building@northleaunited.ca

Congregational & Community Outreach Coordinator: Jo Dullard jo@northleaunited.ca

Consider financially supporting Northlea United through Canada Helps (scan QR code) or by contacting the office to receive a Pre-Authorized Remittance form to set up automatic monthly donations or by mailing in your donation.



Please contact the church office if you would like more information

416 425 5252 or office@northleaunited.ca

** Unless otherwise indicated: Prayers (various) are taken from “The United Church of Canada - Gathering - resources for worship planners” Advent, Christmas, Epiphany – 2022/2023 Year A Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.8M 08/22 220003 CH11182

**Northlea United Church
January 22, 2023**

Guest Minister today: Rev. Linda Levin

Prelude

Welcome

Lois Scott

Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we worship on traditional land entrusted to us but belonging to the Creator. We are called to respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the many First Nations, who came to this place long before us, and our responsibility for the treaty territory wherein our church resides. May we not take the land, its first people, and all its many gifts for granted.

Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship: Isaiah 40: 28-31

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Opening Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Voices United 288

Lighting of the Christ Candle

~ light the candle~

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God

Opening Prayer:

We come to you thirsty,
God, our River of Life:

May we drink deeply today and receive your grace.

We come to you, weak and faltering,
God, our Rock of Ages:

May we stand in trust today and receive your strength.

We come to you, cold and fearful,
God, our Fire of Love;

May we draw near to your hearth today

that our hearts may be set ablaze

with goodness, kindness and grace. AMEN.

The Gift of Peace:

(Take a moment to turn and greet the gathered community with a smile and a bow of greeting)

~ Listening ~

Prayer for Illumination:

Josh Clemenger

Holy Spirit, stir us with your word,
as we listen for inspiration in your sacred story.
Amen

Scripture: Philippians 4: 4-7; Matthew 6: 25-34

Josh Clemenger

In this reading we hear God's voice,
The Spirit is still speaking, thanks be to God.

Reflection: The Lesson of the Lilies and the Birds

~ Responding ~

Anthem: O God, You Search Me

Bernadette Farrell

Offering our Gifts: How shall we respond?

Prayers of the People

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 away from temptation and deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: May the God of Hope Go with Us

Voices United 424

Sending Forth:

The grace of Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit

A - men. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.

rit.

A - - men. A - - men. Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.

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be with you all.

Sung Amen:

Ken Canedo, Bob Hurd

Postlude

BIOGRAPHY: REV LINDA LEVIN

Linda is from a Jewish family in South Africa. Her first career was teaching Latin and Remedial English, in South Africa and then in London (England). She met and married a Canadian and came to Canada in 1976, when she began studies for ministry at Emmanuel College in Toronto.

Ordained in 1979, she served for 2 years in Northern Ontario and 29 years at Runnymede United, Toronto.

Linda officially retired from ministry in June of 2011 to start on her third career - to head Village of Love Canada, an organization she founded to support a group of Kenyan women in the slum community of Kibera. Big-hearted women who, despite their extreme poverty, take in and raise AIDS-orphaned children along with their own families.

For more information, see www.villageoflovecanada.org.

When not supply preaching and volunteering for Village of Love Canada, Linda likes to read or listen to audiobooks (ranging from science fiction to historical novels). She enjoys lawn bowling, swimming, walking and watching the birds and bugs in her garden.

Reading Next Week

From *The Gathering*

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; I Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

To find out what's happening at Northlea United, visit northleaunited.ca.