



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ~ 416-425-5252

Palm Sunday

The Unforgettable Feast

Matthew 26:14-45

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

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:

Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom - Presiding

David Jafelice - Music Director

Kayla Ruiz, Soprano & Karen Davidson, Alto

Joshua Clemenger, Tenor & Tristan Zaba, Bass

Jo Dullard - Video Production, Donna Rutz - Social Media Support

Sue Earl - 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" Lent Easter – 2023 Year A Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.9M 10/22 220004 CH11183

Northlea United Church
April 2, 2023

Prelude: Hosanna to the Son of David (*Matthew 21:9*)

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

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.

Welcome

Joys and Concerns

Opening Reading: Matthew 21:1-2; 8-11

Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

Call to Worship:

Jesus is coming.

Let us get ready to greet him.

Jesus is coming here.

Where will he enter?

Jesus is coming now; are you ready?!

Oh no! Are we prepared to welcome him?

Let us prepare for Jesus with open doors,
tender hearts, and a welcome table!

Opening Hymn: All Glory, Laud and Honour

Voices United 122

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

To honour their Lord they laid their cloaks and palms on the ground. We do this symbolically, but what do we actually place at Jesus' feet? How do we truly honour God incarnate, the amazing and grace filled Christ who boldly confronts tyranny with sacrificial love? May the light of Christ lead us to surrender all that prevents us from welcoming God's grace.

~ light the candle~

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God

Opening Prayer:

How we love a winner, Pain-Bearer.

How we love to bask in the glow of the successful.

We shout louder than the stones for them,
and strip branches to line the path of another's daring love.

We cheer ourselves hoarse
when someone else takes the risk.

**We go all out when the sun is shining
on your dream of peace and justice.**

When times are good,
we proudly wear the team jersey.
But when the good times end,
when daring love meets stubborn fear, we cower.

Now let us settle into the silence of our hearts:
the silence of the solitary cell, the empty street,
the windy hill where crosses stand.

(a time of silence)

May the Spirit that spoke so well
in Jesus of Nazareth
find a home in us,
loosen our tongues,
and set free our hearts to live in Christ's Way.

Amen.

~ Listening ~

Prayer for Illumination:

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

Amen

Scripture: Matthew 26:14-45

Sue Earl

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

Reflection: The Unforgettable Feast

~ Responding ~

Anthem: Sing Hosanna – *(guitar: Harold Bratten)*

Michael Jothen

Invitation to Communion

This is the table of the risen Christ.

In this feast comes the root of our hope.

In this feast gleams the promise of the earth
and the glory of all creation

**In this feast comes the Christ,
Saviour and Friend to all.**

Response to Invitation: Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup

Voices United 466

~ The Sacrament of Holy Communion ~

Communion Prayers

Holy God, we praise you.

Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad.

We bless you for creating the whole world,
for your promises to your people Israel,
and for Jesus Christ in whom your fullness dwells.

Born of Mary, he shares our life.

Eating with sinners, he welcomes us.

Guiding the children, he leads us.

Visiting the sick, he heals us.

Dying on the cross, he saves us.

Raised from the dead, he gives new life.

Living with you, he prays for us.

We remember the Bread

We remember the Cup

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup
and proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
that this meal may be our communion in the body of Christ.

Make us one with Christ
and with all who share this feast.

**Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love,
that we may serve as your faithful disciples
and feast at your table in glory.**

Communal Prayers

Sharing in the Meal

The Bread of Life

The Cup of Hope

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We praise you, eternal God,
through Christ your Word made flesh,
and in the power of your life-giving Spirit,
now and forever.

Amen

Closing Hymn: *Glory in the Cross* – (Verses 5-7)

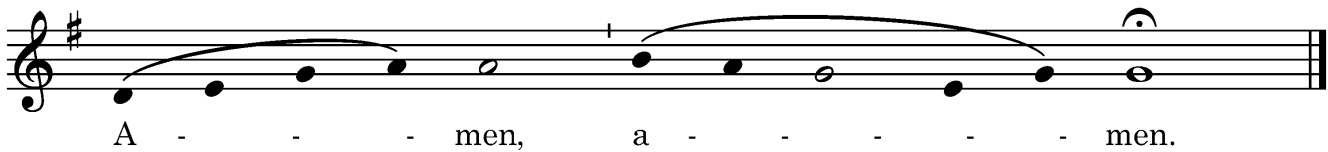
Dan Schutte, see page 7

Sending Forth:

The grace of Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Sung Amen

Christopher Walker



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Services & Readings for Holy Week

From *The Gathering*

Maunder Thursday – Leaside United at 2:00 pm:

Exodus 12:1-4, 5-10, 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31-35

Good Friday: Joint Northlea/Leaside Presbyterian Service at Northlea at 10:30 am:

Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

Easter Sunday: with Choir and Brass Quartet at 10:30 am:

Acts 10:34-43; Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18;
Matthew 28:1-10

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

Music from page 6:



5. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ
 6. Let us bring our bur - dens to the cross of Christ
 7. Let us kneel in hom - age at the cross of Christ



who re - deems us with his blood.
 who has known our sor - row and tears.
 where we see God's hu - man face.



Let us tell the sto - ry of the cross of Christ
 In the great com - pas - sion of the heart of Christ,
 We be - hold the Mak - er of the sun and stars



and the pow'r of his sav - ing love.
 God has walked in our hope and fears.
 as he hangs on the throne of grace,



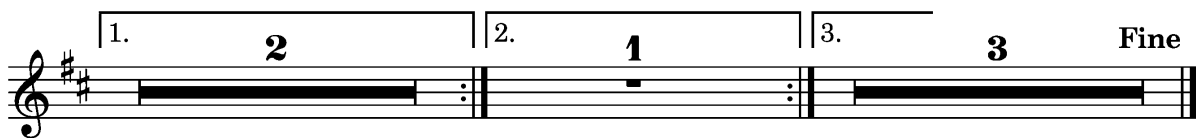
Like a lamb he was slain; he car - ried our shame,
 He was mocked and be - trayed, de - sert - ed by friends,
 As we share in his pain, his sor - row and shame,



to show us the mer - cy of God.
 and ban - ished to die a - mong thieves. } Let us e - ver glo - ry in the
 our hearts will be test - ed in fire.



cross of Christ and the tri - umph of God's great love.



EASTER SERVICES:

- **Thursday, April 6, 2023 - 2:00 pm - Maundy Thursday service** - Leaside United has invited Northlea United to attend service at Leaside United at 822 Millwood Road.
- **Friday, April 7, 2023 - 10:30 am - Good Friday Worship** - with Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom. Access the live stream through the [website](#) or the [YouTube](#) channel. Leaside Presbyterian has been invited to Northlea United for Worship.
- **Sunday, April 9, 2023 - 10:30 am - Easter Sunday** - with Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom. Access the live stream through the [website](#) or the [YouTube](#) channel. After service, the Lay Visitors Circle is looking for volunteers to take designated flower arrangements to the homebound.

Upcoming

- **Tuesday, April 11, 2023** at 11:00 am – All Staff Meeting
- **Wednesday, April 12, 2023** at 7:00 pm – Taizé in the Sanctuary
- **Saturday, April 15, 2023** at 12:00 noon – Trustee/Council Meeting
- **Sunday, April 16, 2023** at 5:00 pm – Love Jazz in-person
- **Tuesday, April 18, 2023** at 7:00 pm – Msit No'kmaq, “All My Relations” Webinar Series with Carolynne Crawley, Part One. Part Two will take place on May 16, 2023.
- **Wednesday, April 19, 2023** at 7:00 pm – Council Meeting
- **Thursday, April 20, 2023** at 11:00 am – Outreach Meeting
- **Sunday, April 23, 2023** at 10:30 am – Worship with Rev. Dr. Malcolm Sinclair
- **Sunday, May 7, 2023** at 11:30 am – Annual General Meeting

More details to come. Check your Weekly Newsbites!

EVERY WEEK...

- **Sunday Service** at 10:30 am online and in-person. Access the live stream through the website or the YouTube channel. You can access recorded services on YouTube any time.
- **Wednesdays now until April 26, 2023 - 11:00 am** - Spring Chair Exercise Class begins - Classes will run until April 26, 2023 - Join any time.
- **Thursday Art Circle** at 1:30 pm in-person in the Community Room. All are welcome.
- **Thursday Choir Practice** at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary.
- **Friday Bible Study** at 2:30 pm on Zoom.