



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ~ 416-425-5252



May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 & Music Video Production
Kayla Ruiz, Soprano & Karen Davidson, Alto
Joshua Clemenger, Tenor & Mark S. Peacock, Bass
Jo Dullard - Video Production, Donna Rutz - Social Media Support
Ray Murrill - Reader

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

Music Director: David Jafelice david@northleaunited.ca

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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
May 14, 2023

Prelude: If You Believe and I Believe

arr. by John L. Bell
Zimbabwean derivative of an English folk melody

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are worshipping on the ancestral land of many First Nations peoples. We live, work, play and pray on Treaty 13 lands. May we live in harmony and respect with all those who share the earth with us and be thankful to God as we move into a peaceful and healthy future together.

Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship:

God of all time and space,
initiated the relationship of love and generosity with creation
at a time before and beyond all knowing.
Through the Word and the Spirit,
God continued in eternal love for all beings.
God's Spirit continues to fill us
with a deep and abiding awareness of sacred presence.

**We are welcomed into the lap of grace,
open to becoming the people God made us to be.
We gather in God's creative mercy
for the sake of all creation. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: A Grandmother, Lois

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, see page 7
*This hymn celebrates the faithfulness of women of the Bible,
including as the first witnesses to Jesus' resurrection,
and is a popular hymn for Mother's Day.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

~ light the candle~

The light of Christ.
Thanks be to God

The Gift of Peace

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

Opening Prayer:

Source of all creation, maker of the world
and everything in it,
you are never far from each one of us.
We come here seeking you,
O giver of life and breath.
Reveal yourself to us in ritual and song,
in prayer and scripture.
May your Spirit of Truth abide in us,
and send us out with life and hope renewed.
Amen.

~ Listening ~

Prayer for Illumination:

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

Scripture: John 14:15-21

Ray Murrill

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

Reflection: Spirit of Truth

~ Responding ~

Anthem: If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments – *(John 14:15-17)* Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

Offering our Gifts: How shall we respond?

~Celebration of Baptism~

Invitation:

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, *“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”* And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.” (Mark 10:13)

Statement of Purpose:

Stephen Popiel

The sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God.

By water and the Spirit, we are called, claimed, and commissioned:

We are called God's own, welcomed as children of God;

We are claimed by Christ, united with Christ, united with one another
and the Christian community of every time and place;

We are commissioned to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice,
and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of the church in the world.

Presentation

Stephen Popiel

On behalf of the congregation of Northlea United Church, I present Lauren Theresa Crossland for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism.

Commitment of Parents

In baptism, Lauren marks an important step in her journey of faith.

Will you share your faith with Lauren, growing with her along the way,
learning together and discovering God's holy purpose for life and your family?

I will, God being my helper.

Commitment of Godparents

Will you grow in faith with this child, open to her questions,
supporting her during times of doubt and uncertainty,
nurturing the love that she brings to the world?

I will, God being my helper.

Congregational Commitment

Beloved members, adherents and friends, Jesus calls us to welcome children into the full life of our community, opening our table and hearts to those most vulnerable, offering the wisdom of the ages to all who hunger for truth.

Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament,
promise your love, support, and care
for this child being baptized
as she grows along the Christian journey?

We do, by the grace of God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

Gracious and Holy God, we thank you for the precious gift of water that sustains us and gives life. We pray the Holy Spirit will be with us in a special way, dwelling deeply here in water, and community, and touch, so the wonder of your love will be expressed in all we do, for Jesus' sake.

Pour out, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this water, that this font may become your womb of new birth, our fount of blessing, and source of grace. **Amen**

The Act of Baptism

Blessing

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Sung Refrain after Baptismal Blessing: You Have Put on Christ

Voices United 452

Choir first then ALL:



You_ have_ put on Christ, in Christ you have been bap - tised.



Hal - le - lu - - jah, hal - le - - - lu - jah.

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Declaration and Congregational Welcome

Stephen Popiel

Lauren Theresa Crossland, into the family of faith we welcome you with joy and thanksgiving.

With love and in the name of Christ, we welcome you.

Hymn: Jesus Loves Me

Voices United 365

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: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Voices United 333

Sending Forth:

Sung Amen

Ken Canedo & Bob Hurd, See page 7

Postlude

Music List

From page 3...

Opening Hymn: A Grandmother, Lois

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

This hymn celebrates the faithfulness of women of the Bible, including as the first witnesses to Jesus' resurrection, and is a popular hymn for Mother's Day.



1. A grand - moth - er, Lo - is, had_ faith in you, Lord, then Eu - nice, her
 2. While some with great dra - ma dis - cov - er your truth, for man - y, we
 ♦ 3. For - give us, O Christ, when we've bro - ken this chain of long gen - er -
 4. May each gen - er - a - tion share these things a - new: the gift of sal -
 5. We thank you, Christ Je - sus, for_ nur - tur - ing ones who pass on the



daugh - ter, be - lieved in your Word. Then her son, named Tim - o - thy,
 learned it as_ chil - dren and youth. We learned it from grand - par - ents,
 ♦ - a - tions who_ teach of your reign; For - give our as - sum - ing that
 - va - tion that_ we have in you, your call to seek jus - tice and
 faith to these daugh - ters and sons - so youth see your church as a



grew up to be a young man who cher - ished the_ faith he'd re - ceived.
 par - ents and more - from men - tors and teach - ers who trust - ed you, Lord.
 ♦ chil - dren and youth should be left a - lone to dis - cov - er your truth.
 care for the poor. May we teach our chil - dren the_ things that en - dure.
 place they be - long, and find here a faith that is_ lov - ing and strong.

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...Return to page 3

From page 6...

Sung Amen

Ken Canedo & Bob Hurd



A - - men. A - - men. Now and for - ev - er,



a - - men. A - - men. A - - men.



Now and for - ev - er, a - - men.

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...Return to page 6

Reading Next Week

From *The Gathering*

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

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