



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



**“Come, follow me, and I will
send you out to fish for people.”**

Mark 1:17

January 21, 2024

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

Northlea rests on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

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. Roberta Howey – Presiding

David Jafelice – Music Director

Kaisha Lee – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto

Joshua Clemenger – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

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

Lois Scott – 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, – 2023/2024 Year B Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.8M 08/23 230003 CH11191

**Northlea United Church
Sunday, January 21, 2024**

We welcome Rev. Roberta Howey as our guest minister today.

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship:

“Come with me.”

We receive Jesus’ words in times of great joy.

“Come with me.”

We receive Jesus’ words in times of stress and difficulty.

“Come with me.”

We receive Jesus’ words when they are the last words we want to welcome.

“Come with me.”

We receive Jesus’ words. Help us take them to heart!

Amen.

United in Worship Project - Adapted, David Sparks, Summerland, BC

Gathering Hymn: Gather Your People

Bob Hurd, see page 7

Lighting the Christ Candle

Sue Earl

This is the season of Light.

Jesus, the Light, has come into our world.

This candle reminds us of God's light shining in the darkness.

And we will carry this light of hope, peace, and justice

When we hear our call

to the world around us every day.

~ Light candle ~

The light of Christ

Thanks be to God.

The Gift of Peace

Sue Earl

(Take a moment to turn and greet one another in the peace of Christ—a smile, a bow, a wave)

Opening Prayer:

God...you call us...and sometimes...we duck under the table...
hoping you didn't notice us when you walked into the room.
You call us...and sometimes...we grab a stapler and a stack of papers...
trying to look too busy to be bothered at the moment.
You call us...and sometimes we just say, "No!"
We know that we aren't expected to do everything...
but we often forget that you call us to be ourselves
in the places where our very self is what is most needed.
So give us the grace to say "Yes" to your call...
even now...especially now...
Amen.

— written by Rev. Scott Cervas and posted on the LiturgyLink website.

Hymn: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (*Here I Am, Lord*)

Voices United 509

❖ **Listening** ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

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

Scripture: Mark 1:14-20; Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Lois Scott

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

Reflection: Cold Calling and other Fears

Rev. Roberta Howey

❖ **Responding** ❖

Anthem: Fish With Me

(MV 113) Ken Canedo

REFRAIN:



“Oh,___ come and fol - low me.___ Oh,___ leave be - hind your nets. I call you.

Oh,___ come and fish with me,___ and your life will nev - er be the same a - gain.”

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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: Will You Come and Follow Me

Voices United 567

Sending Forth:

God calls us immediately
and comes to us where we are.
For God's grace is eternal and ever-present.
Go in peace to love and serve others. Amen.

Sung Amen:

Ken Canedo / Bob Hurd

A - - men. A - - men. Now and for - ev - er, a - - men. A - - men. A - - men. *rit. poco a poco al fine* Now and for - ev - er, a - - men.

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Postlude



Biography: Rev. Roberta Howey

Rev. Roberta Howey is the Young Adults minister at Lawrence Park Community Church, a UCC congregation in the North Toronto Cluster. Born and raised in Scarborough, Roberta has been a lifeline Torontonians. She was ordained in 2018 and has been serving in churches ever since, including Manor Road United, Rosedale United, and now LPCC. Roberta lives near Cabbagetown with her husband, Greg.

Reading Next Week

From The Gathering

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; I Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

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

Music List

From page 3:

Gathering Hymn: Gather Your People

Bob Hurd

With a gospel swing ♩ = c. 112

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Refrain



Gath - er your peo - ple, O Lord, Gath - er your



peo - ple O Lord. One bread, one bod - y, one spir - it of



love. Gath - er your peo - ple, O Lord. Lord.

Verses



1. Draw us forth to the ta - ble of life: broth - ers and sis - ters,
2. We are parts of the bod - y of Christ, need - ing each oth - er,
3. No more harm on the moun - tain of God: swords in - to plow - shares.



1. each of us called to walk in your light.
2. each of the gifts the Spir - it pro - vides.
3. Free us, O Lord, from hard - ness of heart.

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What's Happening at Northlea in 2024?

Sunday, January 28, 2024

- 10:30 am - Worship with LLWL Cheryl Stenson
- 5:00 pm - Youth Without Shelter Dinner. Contact Rick Coombs if you want to cook up a storm with the group!

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 – 6:00 pm – Potluck Supper with special dessert – sign up after Sunday Service.

ONGOING EVENTS

Lenten Book Study: *Act/Fast: Spiritual Practices for a Climate in Crisis* edited by Alydia Smith – to sign up, contact the office at 416 425 5252 by February 1st.

Wednesdays:

- **Nothing But Treble** youth choir from 4:00 - 6:00 pm
- **For the Love of Singing** Community Choir at 7:30 pm – start date to be decided.

Thursdays:

- **Art Circle** at 1:30 pm - everyone welcome.
- **Northlea Church Choir** practice at 7:30 pm

Fridays:

- **Bible Study** at 2:30 pm on [Zoom](#).