



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



February 18, 2024
First Sunday in Lent

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. Ambury Stuart – Presiding

David Jafelice – Music Director

Kaisha Lee – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto

Joshua Clemenger – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

Jo Dullard - Livestream 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

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 – 2024 Year B Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.9M108/23 230004 CH11192

**Northlea United Church
Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**We welcome guest minister Rev. Ambury Stuart
and thank him for his leadership in today's worship service.**

Choral Prelude: Give Almes of Thy Goods (*based on Tobit 4*) Christopher Tye (c. 1500-1573)
*Give almes of thy goods, and turn never thy face from any poor man,
And then the face of the lord shall not be turned away from thee.*

Welcome:

Lois Scott

Land Acknowledgement:

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Joys and Concerns:

Lenten Proclamation: (*Based on Joel 2:15-16 & 2 Corinthians 6:2*)

James Chepponis

*Sound the trumpet in Zion! Sound the trumpet on earth!
Sound the trumpet and listen. Proclaim a fast, call an assembly,
gather the nations, tell all the people: now is the acceptable time,
now is the day of salvation. Now is the time, now is the day,
turn from your sins, return to the Lord. Sound the trumpet on earth!*

Call to Worship:

Lent is an opportunity for a spiritual spring cleaning,
a chance to take and air out our experiences and thoughts,
time to consider them, organize them, and make decisions.

What have we learned?

What is to be promoted or avoided?

As we prepare to move into a time of new joys and new uncertainties,

what can we use to rest firm in our faith?

Let us worship together, in part because it strengthens our resolve
to trust in God and live our lives in Christ.

Verse Response

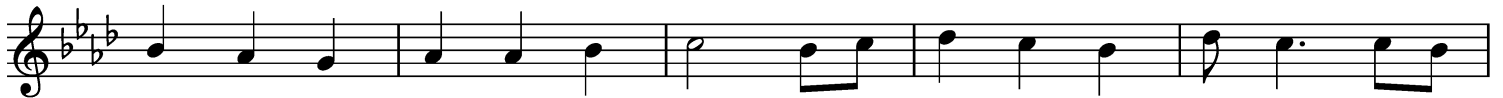


Let this be the time. _____

Refrain



Come and tear down the old__ ways and build up the new,__ be the God of our



prom - ise; all hope rests in you. With the fire of your Spir - it, blaze a



king - dom of truth.__ Pre - pare us for ac - tion, let noth - ing dis -



- tract us from you! _____ Let this be the time. _____

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Lighting the Christ Candle

In times of struggle,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In times of wonder,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In times of anxious anticipation,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

In this time and place, here and now, and in all the days of our lives,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

As we begin the journey toward the cross, let the light of this Christ candle remind us of who we are and whose we are: struggling, wondering, and anxiously anticipating people, of the Way.

~ Light candle ~

The light of Christ

Thanks be to God.

The Gift of Peace

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

Opening Prayer:

We gather here today as we always do, Gracious God, knowing you are here.

We are anxious to be reassured about life and about our place in life.

But today is not like other days because today we begin our Lenten journey once again.

As we take time over the next five weeks to consider our discipleship and what it means to truly follow Jesus, help us to be mindful that we are all connected to each other, to the earth, and to you.

Give us the senses to notice injustice, spirits to risk in the name of those being oppressed, and hearts to embrace all who are wounded and traumatized.

Set us on a renewed path during this Lenten time.

This we pray in Jesus' name whose path we follow.

Amen

Hymn: Open Our Hearts

Jim Strathdee

O - pen our hearts, o - pen our minds. O - pen our
lives to you O lov - ing God. O - pen our hearts.

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❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

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

Amen

Scripture: Genesis 9:8–17

Ray Murrill

In this reading we hear God's voice,

The Spirit is still speaking, thanks be to God.

Reflection: Seeing the World with Ecological Eyes

Rev. Ambury Stuart

❖ Responding ❖

Anthem: Lord Make Me Know Thy Ways

William Byrd (1539-40 – 1623)

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.

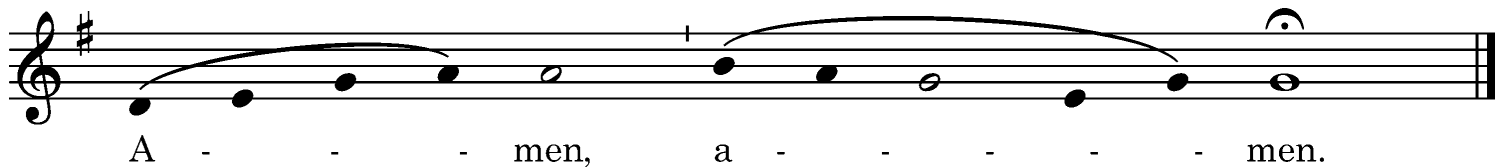
Closing Hymn: Tree of Life

Voices United 121

Sending Forth:

Sung Amen: Belmont Amen

Christopher Walker



A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of a series of notes: A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half), C4 (half), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), E3 (half), D3 (half), C3 (half), B2 (half), A2 (half). The notes are connected by a long slur. The lyrics 'A - - - men, a - - - - men.' are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating the duration of each note.

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Reading Next Week

From *The Gathering*

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

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

Our Guest Minister today is Rev. Ambury Stuart

Rev. Ambury Stuart was one of the Presbytery representatives during the amalgamation discussions between Northlea and Bedford Park United, and has remained in touch with the new, combined congregation as an occasional supply worship leader ever since. He was ordained in 2004 after a 30-year career in environmental science and was the worship leader at Glebe Road United in the Yonge-Eglinton area for 10 years before his retirement from active ministry in 2013.

Ambury sees himself as both a scientist and a minister, and his sermons reflect this unusual combination of life-experience. In retirement, he continues to appreciate the opportunity to share his faith and his ideas with congregations such as Northlea. He and his spouse Victoria currently attend Fairlawn Avenue United where he is a Voluntary Associate Minister.

Lent & Easter at Northlea

Monday & Tuesday, February 19 & 20, 2024 – Office will be closed for the Family Day holiday.

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – 12:00 noon – Soup for Lunch every week in Lent – February 20, 27; March 5, 12, 19 – Join Jo in the Community Room

Sunday, February 25, 2024 – Second in Lent - 10:30 am – Worship – with Rev. Jennifer Henry; Remember to collect those Loonies to send a kid to camp!

Friday, March 1, 2024 – 2:00 pm – World Day of Prayer Celebrations at Leaside Presbyterian – 670 Eglinton Ave E. No Bible Study this day. Come to the celebrations!

Sunday, March 3, 2024 – Third in Lent – 10:30 am – Worship; Flower Tribute donations begin

Sunday, March 10, 2024 – Fourth in Lent – 10:30 am – Worship – with Rev. Jennifer Henry

Sunday, March 17, 2024 – Fifth in Lent – 10:30 am – Worship; Last day for Loonies for Lent! Be sure to put your loonie box in the plate and help send a kid to camp this summer!

Sunday, March 24, 2024 – Palm Sunday:

- 10:30 am – Worship; Last Day for Flower Tribute donations.
- 5:00 pm – Youth Without Shelter dinner

Friday, March 29, 2024 – 10:30 am – Worship at Leaside Presbyterian 670 Eglinton Ave E. – Northlea Choir and Leaside Presbyterian Choir will collaborate for this service. The office will be closed this Friday.

Sunday, March 31, 2024 – Easter:

- 10:30 am – Worship with Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

- 11:30 am – Volunteers to take flowers to the Homebound. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the office by Thursday, March 28th at noon.

Monday, April 1, 2024 – the office will be closed (no fooling!)

Ongoing:

- Sundays – 10:30 am Worship
- Wednesdays – 4:00 pm – Nothing But Treble Youth Choir; 7:30 pm – For The Love Of Music Community Choir
- Thursdays – 1:30 pm Art Circle; 7:30 pm Northlea Choir Practice
- Fridays – 2:30 pm Bible Study on Zoom

HOT and HEARTY...and OH, SO GOOD!

SOUP FOR LUNCH

Join us every
Tuesday in Lent
at 12 p.m.
starting
February 20

A different flavour every week!