



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



February 25, 2024
Second 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. Jennifer Henry – Presiding

David Jafelice – Music Director

Kaisha Lee – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto

Michael Spiroff – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

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

Anne Saunders - 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

Northlea United Church
Sunday, February 25, 2024

We welcome and thank Rev. Jennifer Henry for her leadership in today's worship service.

Choral Prelude: What Wondrous Love Is This

American Folk Hymn 1811,
Arranged by James Christopher, 1840

Welcome:

Donna Rutz

Call to Worship:

God, we've come thirsty—thirsty for your Spirit.

Living water, bubble up from inside us and lead us toward deep spirituality.

God, we've come hungry—hungry for community.

Bread of life, feed our spirits, and lead us toward bold discipleship in community.

God, we've come searching—searching for wholeness.

Source of Life, guide us, and lead us toward daring justice.

God, feed, nourish, and prepare us to be your church in the world.

(Call to Worship by Rev. Alydia Smith)

Gathering Hymn: Let This Be the Time

Lori True

Verse Response

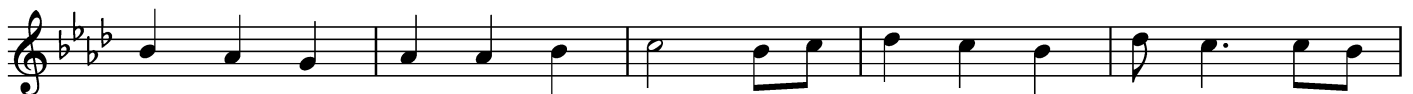


Let this be the time. _____

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. _____

Lighting the Christ Candle

~ Light candle ~

The light of Christ
Thanks be to God.

Creedal Invitation

Uniting God, you call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship:

**To celebrate your presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

Send your Holy Spirit to bind us
so that we may be a uniting church
embodying your love for the world.

**As one, we proclaim:
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
you are with us,
we are not alone.
Amen.**

(Drawn from the words of A New Creed)

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:

Gracious God,
You have called your people through generations
Abraham, Sarah and Hagar
Mary, James, and John
Paul, Timothy, and Lydia
Francis, Harriet, Desmond
You have called your people
And you call us still.
May we hear our name
As clear as any bell
As compelling as any invitation
As hopeful as any promise

May we hear our name and follow
As disciples of your Beloved Child
Jesus the Christ.
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:

Anne Saunders

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

Scripture: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16;

Anne Saunders

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

Hymn: In Loving Partnership We Come

Voices United 603

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Rev. Jennifer Henry

The Gospel of Christ

Thanks be to God.

Reflection: Bold Discipleship

❖ **Responding** ❖

Anthem: Lord, For thy Tender Mercies' Sake

Richard Farrant (1530-1580)
Text from *Lydley's Prayers* 1566

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: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

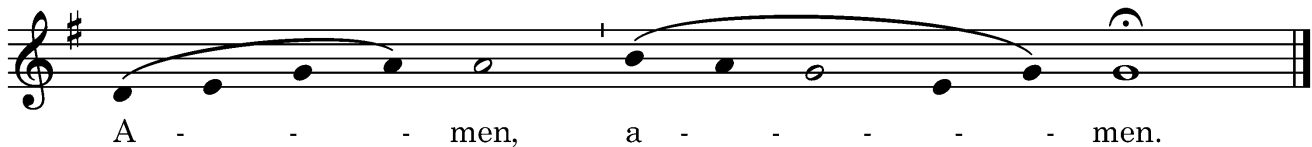
Voices United 149

Sending Forth:

God of immeasurable grace,
Bless us with spirituality as deep as the ocean
Call us to a discipleship as bold as the saints'
Compel us to a justice as daring as the Redeemer's love,
In the name of our Impossible Hope,
Christ Jesus.

Sung Amen: Belmont Amen

Christopher Walker



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Reading Next Week

From *The Gathering*

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

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



Rev. Jennifer Henry Biography



Jennifer Henry currently serves as Executive Minister for Organizational Development and Strategy at the General Council Office of The United Church of Canada, leading staff dedicated to planning, growth, communications, research and Ministries in French. For almost three decades she was a social justice advocate on behalf of Canadian churches, including as Executive Director of KAIROS between 2012 and 2020. Jennifer holds a Master of Social Work and of Theological Studies from the University of Toronto, a Diploma of Denominational Studies from Vancouver School of Theology, and an Honorary Doctor of Christian Letters from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon. Jennifer was ordained in The United Church of Canada

in May of 2023.

Lent and Easter at Northlea

Tuesdays in Lent – Soup Lunch at noon – February 27 & March 5, 12, 19 in the Community Room – don't miss it!

Friday, March 1, 2024 – 2:00 pm – World Day of Prayer Celebrations at Leaside Presbyterian – 670 Eglinton Ave E.

Sunday, March 3, 2024 – Third in Lent – 10:30 am – Worship with Karen Chandler; Flower Tribute donations begin; Keep saving those loonies to send a kid to camp!

Sunday, March 10, 2024 – Fourth in Lent – 10:30 am – Worship with Rev. Jennifer Henry – Celebrating P.I.E. Day!

Sunday, March 17, 2024 – Fifth in Lent – 10:30 am – Worship with Karen Chandler; 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!; Final Deadline: annual reports are due to the office please!

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 – Good Friday Worship service at Leaside Presbyterian - 670 Eglinton Ave E. – Northlea Choir and Leaside Choir will collaborate for this service. The office will be closed.

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 Singing Community Choir
- Thursdays – 1:30 pm Art Circle; 7:30 pm Northlea Choir Practice
- Fridays – 2:30 pm Bible Study on Zoom