



Northlea United Church

**In the community. For the community.**

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

[www.northleaunited.ca](http://www.northleaunited.ca) ✧ 416-425-5252



**February 4, 2024**  
**Fifth 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](mailto: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](http://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. Daniel Benson – 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

Joshua Clemenger- Reader

**Minister:** Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom [lee-ann@northleaunited.ca](mailto:lee-ann@northleaunited.ca)

**Music Director:** David Jafelice [david@northleaunited.ca](mailto:david@northleaunited.ca)

**Office Administrator:** Tricia Reid [office@northleaunited.ca](mailto:office@northleaunited.ca)

**Facility Manager:** Robert Pringle [building@northleaunited.ca](mailto:building@northleaunited.ca)

**Congregational & Community Outreach Coordinator:** Jo Dullard [jo@northleaunited.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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, February 4, 2024**

**We welcome Rev. Daniel Benson as our guest minister today.**

**Prelude**

**Welcome:**

Donna Rutz

**Call to Worship:**

Called by God we have come to worship.

**Called by Christ we have come to follow.**

Called by the Spirit we have come to become.

**Called together now, we listen for the One  
who fills our emptiness and sends us out with love.**

**Gathering Hymn: Come and Find the Quiet Centre**

**Voices United 374**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light this candle to spread the light of Christ,  
into the corners which seek to hinder us from the truth—  
that we are all loved  
and we are all one.

~ 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:**

**Open our minds to the teachings of Jesus.**

**Open our hearts to your love.**

**Open ourselves to the movement of the Spirit.**

**Divine Healer, open us to you.**

**Amen**

**Hymn: Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary**

**More Voices 18**

❖ Listening ❖

**Prayer for Illumination:**

Joshua Clemenger

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

**Scripture: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3:1-10 and John 1:43-51**

Joshua Clemenger

In these readings we hear God's voice,  
**The Spirit is still speaking, thanks be to God.**

**Reflection: "God Calling! Are you Going to Answer That?"**

Rev. Daniel Benson

❖ Responding ❖

**Anthem: God Be In My Head**

Robert Farrell

**Prayers of the People**

Rev. Daniel Benson

**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: I Have Called You By Your Name**

**More Voices 161**

**Benediction & Commissioning:**

Rev. Daniel Benson

We commit ourselves anew to God.  
My friends, we have been called by God. How will we answer?

**We will go into the world,  
to dance, laugh, sing, and create.**

Then go with the assurance of God's blessing!

**We will go into the world,  
to risk, explore, discover, and love.**

Then go with the assurance of God's grace!

**We will go into the world,  
to believe, hope, and act for change.**

Then go with the assurance of God's love!

**Thanks be to God!  
Amen!**

## 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.

*rit. poco a poco al fine*

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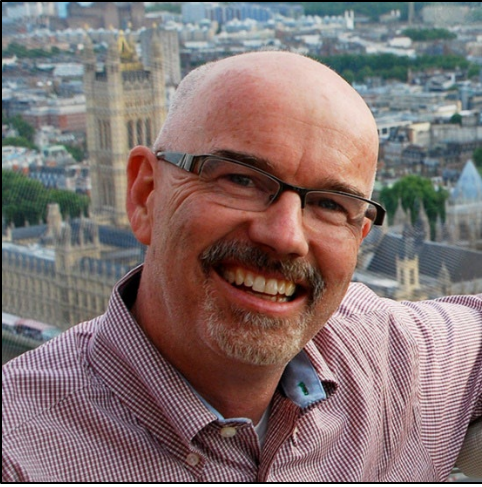
## Postlude

### Readings for Next Week

Exodus 24: 12 – 18, 34: 29, “God calls Moses up the mountain.”

Mark 9: 2 – 9, “Jesus’ transfiguration.”

To find out what’s happening at Northlea United, visit [northleaunited.ca](http://northleaunited.ca).



## **Biography: Rev. Daniel Benson**

As a recently retired minister, I've been 'pew surfing' most Sundays, but I'm also enjoying the opportunity to guest preach and meet new congregations on a regular basis – so I'm delighted to be with you here at Northlea today. I've served numerous churches here in Toronto, most recently East End as their Intentional Interim Minister. Before that, I was Executive Minister of Communications at the General Council. Going way back, I was a practicing horologist, a study I integrated into my theology thesis: "Beyond Paley's Watch." My non-churchy pastimes include singing, theatre (watching, not performing!), restoring antique timepieces and vehicles, travel, and history. My husband Grant and I live in the east end, with our much-too-smart-but-loveable dog, Keeley.

# What's Happening at Northlea

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

**Wednesday, February 28, 2024** – 7:30 pm – For the Love of Singing Community Choir will begin again. Contact the office to register.

## 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

### Wednesdays:

- **Nothing But Treble** youth choir from 4:00 - 6:00 pm
- **For the Love of Singing** Community Choir at 7:30 pm  
Beginning Wednesday, February 28, 2024 – contact the office to register.

### 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](#).



**13  
FEB.**

**NORTHLEA UNITED CHURCH**

125 BRENTCLIFFE ROAD, TORONTO M4G 3T7

**SHROVE TUESDAY**

# POTLUCK

**BRING A DISH TO SHARE!**

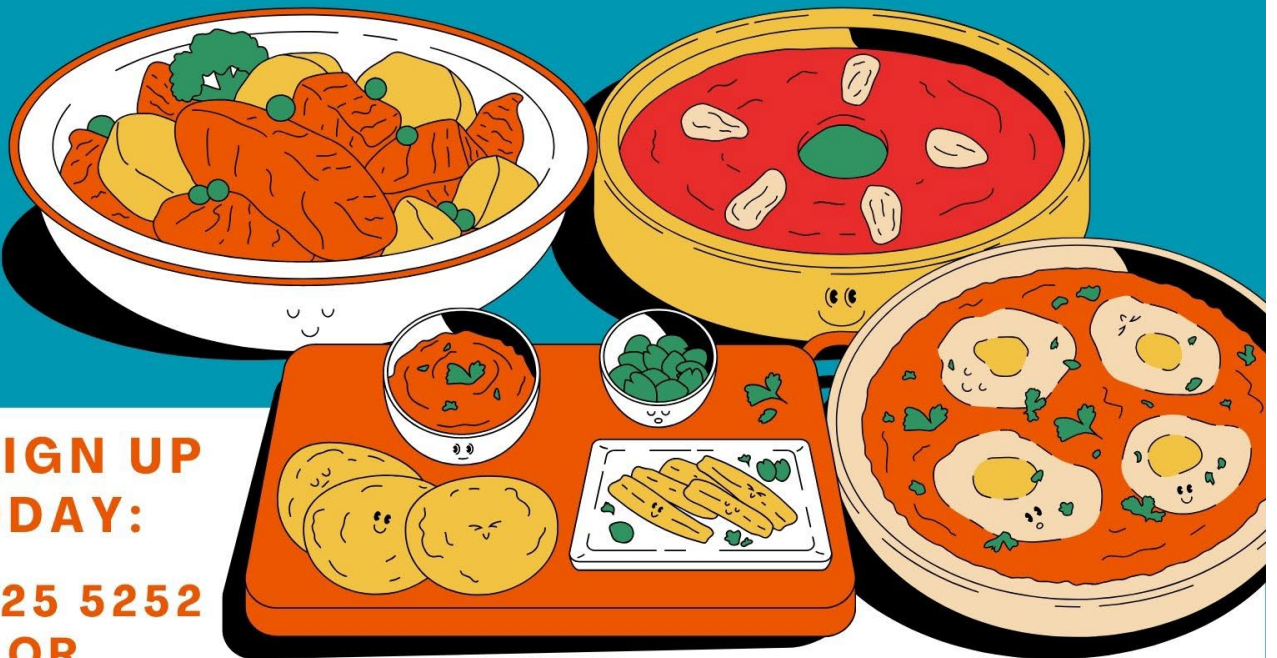
**6:00 PM - FEBRUARY 13**

**TEA & COFFEE PROVIDED**

**SPECIAL PANCAKE DESSERT!**

**SIGN UP TODAY**

**AT CHURCH ON SUNDAY OR  
EMAIL/CALL THE OFFICE**



**TO SIGN UP  
TODAY:**

**416 425 5252**

**OR**

**OFFICE@NORTHLEAUNITED.CA**

**BE SURE TO INDICATE YOUR DISH DONATION**