



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



March 17, 2024
Fifth 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:

Karen Chandler – 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

Jody Kinsey - 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, March 17, 2024**

We welcome Karen Chandler as our guest worship leader today.

Choral Prelude: Drop, Drop Slow Tears

Music: Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)
Text: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)

Welcome:

Donna Rutz

Call to Worship:

Gather in, dear ones,
wherever you are this morning,
despite whatever doors are locked
to keep you in or out,
we have found a way to be together.
**We are not alone, we live in God's world,
and as God's people
we make a sacred commitment
to open our hearts and minds
to what word the Spirit might offer,
and to what nudging, what questions,
what grace might be given in this time.
We join together in the time of worship.**

Gathering Hymn: Led by the Spirit

Bob Hurd, see page 6

Lighting the Christ Candle:

As we journey through Lent,
toward the cross and all that it means,
let the light of this candle remind us of who and whose we are.
In turn, we shine that light as part of ourselves
to the rest of the world always.

By Rev. Dr. Christine Jerrett, Shiloh UC, part of United-in-Worship-Project resources, used with permission

~ 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:

Your wisdom, O God, seems foolish at times,
and so we ignore Your voice.

But it doesn't go away -

it waits for the still quiet moments
to whisper hope and encouragement.

We cannot run away from You O God,
so let us come into Your loving presence
with attentiveness to Your Word
and the sincerity in our prayers.

Amen

Frances Flook, Emo/Evlin P.C., Emo, Ont.

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:

Jody Kinsey

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

Amen

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Jody Kinsey

Hymn: When a Grain of Wheat

More Voices 125

Scripture: John 12:20-33

Karen Chandler

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

Reflection: Indelible Ink

Karen Chandler

❖ **Responding** ❖

Anthem: Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God (*Psalm 51:10-13*)

Carl F. Mueller (1892-1982)

(Originally purchased for the Northlea Choir Music Library in 1956)

Music List:

From page 3:

Gathering Hymn: Led by the Spirit

Bob Hurd



1. Led_ by the Spir - it of our God, we_ go to fast_ and pray
2. Led_ by the Spir - it, we con - front temp - ta - tion face to face,
3. Led_ by the Spir - it, now draw near the_ wa - ters of_ re - birth
4. Led_ by the Spir - it, now sing praise to_ God the Trin - i - ty:



With Christ in - to the wil - der - ness; we_ join his pas - chal way.
And know full well we must re - ply on_ God's re - deem - ing grace.
With hearts that long to wor - ship God in_ spir - it and_ in truth.
The_ Source of Life, the Liv - ing Word made flesh to set_ us free,



“Rend not your gar - ments, rend your hearts. Turn back your lives to me.”
On_ bread a - lone_ we can - not live, but_ nour - ished by the Word.
“Who - ev - er drinks the drink I give shall ne - ver_ thirst a - gain.”
The Spir - it blow - ing where it will to_ make us_ friends of God:



Thus says our kind and gra - cious God, whose reign is lib - er - ty.
We_ seek the will of_ God to do: this is our drink and food.
Thus says the Lord who died for us, our_ Sav - ior, kin_ and friend.
This mys - t'ry far_ be - yond our reach, yet_ near in heal - ing love.

based on Joel 2:12-13; Matthew 4:1-4; Mark 1:12-15; John 4:5-42

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Return to page 3...

Closing Hymn: Glory in the Cross

Dan Schutte



1. Let us e - ver glo - ry in the cross of Christ, our sal -
 2. Let us make our jour - ney to the cross of Christ, who sur -
 4. Let us stand to - ge - ther at the cross of Christ where we



- va - tion and our hope. Let us bow in ho - mage to the
 - ren - dered glo - ry and grace to be - come a ser - vant of the
 see God's boun - less love. We are saints and sin - ners who are



Lord of Life, who was bro - ken to make us whole. There is
 great and small, that all peo - ple may know God's face. Though his
 joined by faith here on earth and in heav'n a - bove. Nei - ther



no grea - ter love, as bless - ed as this: to lay down one's life for a
 birth was di - vine, he knelt as a slave, to wash com - mon dust from our
 wo - man nor man, not ser - vant or free, but one in the eyes of the



friend. feet. Let us e - ver glo - ry in the cross of Christ and the
 Lord.



tri - umph of God's great love.



We thank Karen Chandler for leading us in Worship today.

Karen Chandler is an MDiv student at Emmanuel College and a Candidate for Ministry in The United Church of Canada. Karen has grown up in the United Church, Heritage United Church from a young age. She has taught Sunday School and Youth Groups as well as Chaired both Ministry & Personnel Committee and led her Church Council for several years. Karen felt her calling to ministry in 2017 and enrolled at Emmanuel College in 2019.

Lent and Easter at Northlea

Last Soup for Lent event – Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 12:00 noon – don't miss it!

Saturday, March 23, 2024:

- 10:00 am – Cook-A-Palooza at Northlea for YWS with Stephen Popiel and Jo Dullard in the downstairs kitchen
- 8:30 pm – Earth Hour Sing-A-Long with Josh Clemenger and S'mores! Event will be held indoors.

Sunday, March 24, 2024 – Palm Sunday:

- 10:30 am – Worship – with Rev. Alydia Smith - Last Day for Flower Tribute donations and Loonies for Lent.
- 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 Choir will collaborate for this service. The office will be closed this Friday and Monday, April 1, 2024 for Easter.

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.

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