



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



July 7, 2024

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom – Presiding

Rev. Kerri Hagerman – Assisting

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

David Jafelice- Reader

Minister: Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom lee-ann@northleaunited.ca

Minister: Rev. Kerri Hagerman kerri@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

Sharing what we have:

We give as an expression of gratitude for all that God has done and is doing in and through us.

Ways to give financially:

1. Cash or cheque made payable to Northlea United Church – this can be mailed in or put into an envelope available in the foyer and dropped in the collection plate (*be sure to include your contact information in order to receive a tax receipt at the end of the year*);
2. Online via Canada Helps (just scan this QR code to be brought to the secure online donation form);
3. Through automatic monthly Pre-Authorized Remittance – Forms are available from the church office: office@northleaunited.ca



We are thankful for all your gifts as they sustain the life and work of this church.

Please contact the church office if you would like more information.

416 425 5252 or office@northleaunited.ca

Northlea United Church

Sunday, July 7, 2024

Choral Prelude: Alleluia, Praise to God

traditional Yoruba song of Praise from Nigeria

Welcome

Call to Worship:

How lovely is God's dwelling place.

Our souls long to connect with our God.

All of earth and heaven tell us of God's goodness.

God's presence can be experienced from sunrise to sunrise.

God's call can be written on our hearts.

Let us seek God's will and listen for God's call to us.

Let us pray together.

*Written by Beth W Johnston. **Gathering** Pentecost 1 2024, page 42. Used with permission.*

Opening Prayer:

Loving, Gracious, and Surprising Spirit, gather us together. Unify our hearts, minds, and spirits. Send us reminders of your presence so that we never forget to notice. Come to us in a friendly voice that we will recognize. Sing us songs that we know well and others for which the melody is catchy and new. Open our spirits as we journey the well-trodden paths so that we may discover you again as if for the first time. Your love gathers us together, helps relieve us in our grief, our guilt, and our loneliness. Help us to navigate the way forward and to listen for your call. Make this day and this gathering a new beginning for us. Amen.

*Written by Éric Hébert-Daly. **Gathering** Pentecost 1 2024, page 43. Used with permission.*

Lighting the Christ Candle

~ Light candle ~

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

***Opening Hymn: Gather Your People**

Bob Hurd, see next page

*Opening Hymn: Gather Your People

Bob Hurd

With a gospel swing ♩ = c. 112

8 **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.

1-3. to Verses Final Fine

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.

D.S. al Fine

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.

Based on I Cor. 12; Is. 2:3-4; 11:9. Text and music Copyright © 1991, 1992, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.
 Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-724837

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

Great Gardener, you plant seeds of understanding, so that we might discern your wisdom. You plant seeds of interpretation so that we might receive your ancient stories and recognize your vision of new possibilities. Help us to be the water bearers, so that the soil of truth and wisdom is not scorched. We offer this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Written by Laura Turnbull. *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2024, page 45. Used with permission.

Scripture: Mark 6:1-13

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

Reflection: Reflections on the Journey

Hymn: Canticle of the Turning

More Voices 120



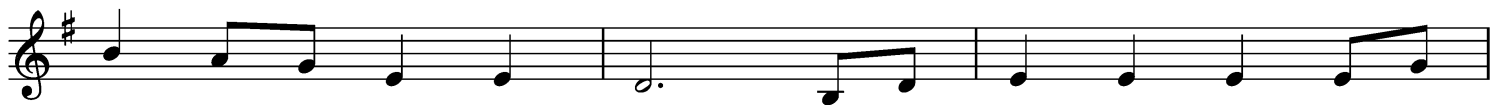
1. My _____ soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is
 2. Though _____ I am small, my _____ God, my all, you _____ work great _____ things in
 3. From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a stone will be left on
 4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us



great, and my spir - it _____ sings of the won - drous _____ things that you
 me, and your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the
 stone. Let the king be _____ ware for your jus - tice _____ tears ev - 'ry
 fast: God's mer - cy _____ must de - - liv - er _____ us from the



bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 end of the age to be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 ty - rant _____ from his throne. The hun - gry poor shall _____ weep no more, for the
 con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which hold us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to _____ turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to _____ turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to _____ turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - - round.



Refrain:
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a -



- way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to _____ turn!

❖ Responding ❖

Words of Thanks and Invitation to the Offering

Offering Prayer:

**Holy One, we offer you the blessings you have already given us—
our time, our talents, our finances, and our hopes—
Use them and transform them for the good of your church and your world.
May these gifts be a blessing to the people of this community and beyond.**

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

Ending of Our Covenant

Hymn: Bless Now, O God, the Journey

Voices United 633 vs. 1 & 2 – tune of AURELIA



1. Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2. Bless so - jour - ners and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way,



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
whose hope burns through the ter - rors, whose love sus - tains the day.



The trail is found in de - sert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
To - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.

Words by Sylvia Dunstan. Copyright © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Text reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-724837. Music by Samuel Wesley 1810-1876.

Presentation:

Lois Scott

Rev. Kerri Hagerman

Our church family is constantly changing.
People come and go.
Babies are born. Children grow up.
People commit themselves to one another.
Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives.
Individuals move into our community and church life.
Others leave us, moving away to new places,
new experiences, and new opportunities.
It is important and right
that we recognize these times of passage,
of endings and beginnings.

Today we share the time of farewell with Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom. On July 1, 2016, Northlea United Church appointed Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom to serve as minister of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. It is now time to mark the end of that covenant, giving thanks for the life we have shared together in Christ. It is also time for us to begin the next stage of the journey to which God now calls us.

Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

I thank you, the people, members and friends, of Northlea United Church, for the love, kindness, and support shown to me over the past 8 years. I leave with mixed emotions, sad in the leaving, but happy for the opportunity for a new adventure in retirement.

I offer my deepest appreciation for the ways my ministry and leadership has been accepted. I ask for your forgiveness when I fell short. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here, along with many good memories.

We receive your thankfulness, and we accept that you now must leave. We express our gratitude for your time among us. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

I accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

Rev. Kerri Hagerman

Do you, the members and friends of Northlea United Church release Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom from the duties of Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care?

We do, with the help of God.

Do you offer your encouragement for Lee-Ann as she retires from covenanted ministry and as she seeks to discern where God is leading?

We do, with the help of God.

Do you, Lee-Ann, release this church from turning to you and depending on you?

Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

I do, with the help of God.

Rev. Kerri Hagerman

Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here?

Rev. Lee-Ann Ahlstrom

I do, with the help of God.

Rev. Kerri Hagerman

Together, join me as we pray for Rev. Lee-Ann:

O God, we give thanks for the remembered times when we, together, have shared the life of faith. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Lee-Ann in worship, in learning, and in caring for one another. We pray that Lee-Ann will be held by your Spirit's guidance and care as she travels on, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***Hymn: Bless Now O God the Journey**

Voices United 633 vs. 3 – tune of AURELIA



3. Di - vine E - ter - nal Lov - er, you meet us on the road.



We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow.



But wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Words by Sylvia Dunstan. Copyright © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Text reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-724837. Music by Samuel Wesley 1810-1876.

Invitation to Communion:

Christ is the living water, cleansing, refreshing, making all things new.

Christ is the living bread; food for the hungry, strength for the pilgrim and the seeker.

Let us affirm our faith as we say together "A New Creed"

We are not alone,

we live in God's world

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating

who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit
We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

❖ Sacrament of Holy Communion ❖

Communion Prayers:

(Parts of today's communion liturgy came from
https://craigmitchell.typepad.com/mountain_masala/2014/10/participatory-communion-liturgy.html)

Why have we gathered here at this table?
**We come because we have been called
to live out a story.**

What story shall we live?
The story of saving love.

Where did this story begin?
**It was whispered before time began,
it was sung in the melody of Creation.**

Whose story is this?
**This story is God's story to tell,
It hums in the rivers and the trees,
It whispers in the skies and the seas,
It calls to the people of all places,
It speaks in our hearts, in our lives.**

Why then should we speak of this story?
**This story calls our name in Creation.
This story claims our lives through the Cross.
This story shapes our future through the Spirit.
We are its telling in this time and this place.**

So, tell me the story of this night, of this table.

**The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed
took bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it.**

Tell me what he said and did.

***This is my body which is broken for you.
Do this and remember me.***

Tell me what he said and did.

**In the same way, he took the cup and said,
*This is a new covenant in my blood.
Drink it and remember me.***

**This is our common story,
our deep memory, our true destiny.
So let it also be our story telling, our testimony.**

Let us confess the fears that challenge our faith. *(silence)*

Let us offer thanks for the grace that we continue to receive. *(silence)*

Hear the faithful storytellers of all ages whisper to us:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

What is our shared prayer in this moment?

**Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
So this everyday meal becomes an eternal feast
So that our eating and drinking today
unite us with Christ,
whose body and blood are given for us.
So we know that you live in us
and that we live in you,
So that we live in your world
knowing it is indeed yours.
Living God, this is our prayer. Amen.**

Together we receive the Spirit's gift in bread and cup.

The Bread of Life

The Cup of Hope

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Thanksgiving Prayer

Holy Mystery, God of Grace, Spirit Breath,
we thank you for the gift of your love,
present in the body of Christ then and now.
May the sacredness of life that we celebrate today,
and the depth of sacrifice that you offer us in love,
inform and guide our lives toward compassion and justice,
today and every day.

*Closing Hymn: Go to the World

Voices United 420



1. Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth. Go preach the cross where
2. Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place. Go live the Word of
3. Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless and pray, the nights of tears give
4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you



Christ re - news life's worth, bap - tis - ing as the sign of our__ re - birth.
God's re - deem - ing grace. Go seek God's pres - ence in each time_ and space.
way to joy - ous day. As ser - vant Church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
'til the age shall end, when all the hosts of glo - ry cry__ "A - men!"



Hal - - le - lu - jah, hal - - le - lu - jah!

Words copyright © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Music by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-724837

Commissioning & Blessing:

May we all embrace the new beginnings before us,
Trusting in the gift of grace we have received and
Sharing it as blessing for all we meet along our way.

May the Lord bless you and keep you
May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you
May the Lord look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

Choral Postlude: Old Irish Blessing

Denes Agay

What's Happening at Northlea...

- **Sunday, July 14, 2024** – 10:30 am – Worship with Rev. Kerri Hagerman - Last in-person worship service at Northlea United until September 1, 2024.
- **July 19 - August 19, 2024** - the office will be closed for vacation and will reopen on August 20. Emails and voicemail will be periodically reviewed and forwarded as needed.

Things to look forward to in September Be sure to save the dates!

- **Sunday, September 1, 2024** - 10:30 am - Worship with Rev. Kerri Hagerman - we are back at Northlea for the start of the season!
- **Friday, September 6, 2024** - 2:30 pm - Bible Study resumes weekly on Zoom.
- **Thursday, September 12, 2024** - 7:30 pm - Northlea choir rehearsal resumes weekly.
- **Saturday, September 14, 2024** - 12:00 - 2:00 pm - Harvest Festival
- **Sunday, September 15, 2024** - 5:00 pm - Love Jazz with Faith Amour
- **Wednesday, September 18, 2024** - 7:30 pm - Taizé
- **Thursday, September 19, 2024** - 1:30 pm - Art Circle resumes weekly
- **Wednesday, September 25, 2024:**
 - 4:00 pm – Nothing But Treble youth choir begins weekly;
 - 7:30 pm – For the Love of Singing community choir begins weekly!
- **Sunday, September 29, 2024** – 5:00 pm – Dinner delivery to Youth Without Shelter

SUMMER SERVICES & PASTORAL CARE

Northlea United will offer pre-recorded online services on our website at northleaunited.ca for the Sundays that Northlea is closed: July 21 & 28; August 4, 11, 18 & 25.

Northlea United is invited to attend in-person worship with Leaside United at 822 Millwood Rd. at 10:30 am for July 21, 28 and August 4. Rev. Kerri Hagerman will preach at Leaside United in-person on July 28th.

Northlea United is invited to attend in-person worship with Leaside Presbyterian at 670 Eglinton Ave E at 10:30 am for August 11, 18 and 25. Rev. Kerri Hagerman will be preaching for each of those services. For those who would like to attend Leaside Presbyterian on Zoom, please contact the LPC office.

Rev. Kerri Hagerman will be available for pastoral care all summer by email at kerri@northleaunited.ca or by phone at 416 425 5252, ext 2.

Next Week's Lectionary Readings

Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

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