



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent
Communion

At Northlea United Church,
we encourage one another as we:
Love God ✧ Connect with others
Nurture the spirit ✧ Serve the world

This Advent



Worship with Northlea
Sundays - 10:30 am

HOPE December 1
PEACE December 8
White Gift for Youth Without Shelter
JOY December 15
LOVE December 22



Evening Worship

Carols By Candlelight

7:30 pm - December 15

Christmas Eve

with Communion

5:00 pm - December 24

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays



from
**NORTHLEA
UNITED
CHURCH**

125 Brentcliffe Rd, Leaside
northleaunited.ca
office@northleaunited.ca
416 425 5252

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. Liz Mackenzie – Presiding

David Jafelice – Music Director

Kaisha Lee – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto

Joshua Clemenger – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

Jo Dullard – Video Production ✧ Donna Rutz – Social Media Support

Stephen Popiel – Reader

Laura and Stephen Jarvis – Candle lighting Liturgy

Minister: Rev. Liz Mackenzie

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 put into the office mailbox at the east doors or 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

** Unless otherwise indicated: Prayers (various) are taken from “The United Church of Canada – Gathering - resources for worship planners Advent, Christmas, Epiphany 2024/2025 Year C Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.8 M 09/24 240003 CH11205

Northlea United Church
Sunday, December 1, 2024

Carol Sing

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

Response:

**We believe that our relationships with the Creator,
the land, the people, the plants and the animals are sacred.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The light of the Christ Child gathers us in hope.
The light of the Christ Child gathers us together.

Introit: Call to Remembrance

Richard Farrant (c. 1525-1580)

Call to Worship:

Advent is a season of waiting.

But we do not wait alone.

God is with us.

**We gather with those who have seen the signs, heard the whispers,
felt the tugs in their hearts.**

God is birthing hope into this waiting world.

Let us worship God with hearts open to hope!

Hymn: Hope Shines as the Solitary Star



1. Hope shines as the sol - i - tar - y star. Faith is the in - ner light. You and I to - geth - er



mir - ror the Light of Lights, and il - lu - mine the path - way home. home.

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Lighting of the First Advent Candle and Prayer

Stephen & Laura Jarvis

We begin our Advent journey,
our time of eager anticipation,
our time of waiting...
waiting for the arrival of the one who will heal our brokenness –
In our lives, our communities, our world.

(The first purple advent candle is lit.)

We open our hearts and minds to divine Hope as we pray:
**Loving God, our source of Hope, we light this first candle
with the hope of healing and wholeness, even in our most broken hours...**

(A time of silent prayer....)

Loving God, may all your world know the hope of your promise that we are not alone.
Amen.

Opening Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Voices United 1, vs. 1,2,4,5,6

The Gift of Peace

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

A Sanctuary Moment

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Stephen Popiel

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

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

This is the Gospel – God’s Good News!
Thanks be to God!

Reflection: Signs and Wonders

❖ Responding ❖

Anthem: The King Shall Come

Arr. Donald Busarow

❖ The Celebration of Holy Communion ❖

Communion Hymn: Tomorrow Christ is Coming

to the tune of ELLACOMBE



1. To - mor - row Christ is com - ing, as yes - ter - day he came;
2. To - mor - row will be Christ - mas, the feast of love di - vine,
3. There will be no to - mor - rows for man - y a ba - by born;
4. Our God be - comes in - car - nate in ev - 'ry hu - man birth.



a child is born this mo - ment, we do not know its name.
but for the name - less mil - lions the star will nev - er shine.
Good Fri - day falls on Christ - mas when life is sown as corn.
Cre - a - ted in God's im - age, we must make peace on earth.



The world is full of dark - ness, a - gain there is no room;
Still is the cen - sus tak - en with peo - ple on the move;
But Je - sus Christ is ris - en and comes a - gain in bread
God will ful - fil Love's pur - pose and this shall be the sign:



the sym - bols of ex - ist - ence are sta - ble, cross and tomb.
new in - fants born in sta - bles are cry - ing out for love.
to still our deep - est hun - ger and raise us from the dead.
we shall find Christ a - mong us as wom - an, child, or man.

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God is with us.

We are not alone.

Christ is present here.

The Spirit is among us.

Let us give thanks to God,

in memory and in hope.

We give you thanks, God of love and promise.

Through the words of your prophets

and the faith of your followers

you prepare the way of our redemption

and bring hope to birth.

And though we often grow weary of waiting,

your signs call us to keep watch for that day

when all things shall be made new.
In assurance of this hope,
we join with all the company of heaven and earth
to give you praise:

**Holy, holy, holy God,
Power of life and love!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Hosanna through the ages!
Blessed is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!**

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign
shown to us in Jesus at table:
he shared food with followers and friends,
with saints and sinners,
**with crowds of thousands on the hillside,
and a few friends in an upper room.**

On the night before he died,
he took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying:
**"Take, eat. This is my body, broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."**

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks,
he passed it among them, saying:
**"Drink this. This is my blood, poured out for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."**

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.
In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Holy God, send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts.
Make us one with Christ in his self-giving,
that through us, he may:
bind up the broken-hearted, comfort the mourners,
open the eyes of the blind, and proclaim liberty to the captives –
until justice rolls down like waters,
and righteousness like an overflowing stream.

In hope, and as your people:
**we proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

At this time, we also remember
all with whom you would have us share your feast.
We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .
all who are ill or alone . . .

all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .
for all whom the world counts as last and least
We pray for the church and its varied ministries . . .
for nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .
for all our families and friends

We gather these and all our prayers, thankful that we may turn to you
as to a Mother watching over us, as:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

(The bread is broken.)

The bread that we break
is our sharing in the life of Christ.

(The cup is filled.)

The cup for which we give thanks
is our sharing in the life of Christ.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Post Communion Prayer:

**Gracious God,
may your gifts of love transform and enliven us.
May your advent among us
provoke such longing for your realm,
that we will never be satisfied
until the whole earth knows
your justice, your peace, your hope, and your love.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen**

Sending Forth Into Our Congregational Meeting

Constitution of the Meeting

Prayer

Amen

Richard Proulx

Solo first, then ALL:

A - men, a - - - men, a - men, a - - - men.

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Postlude

We continue the congregational meeting in the Community Room...

Reading Next Week

From *The Gathering*

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

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

Carols By Candlelight – call out for help on Dec 15

Each year after the Carols by Candlelight service Northlea welcomes the choir members and guests to the Community Room to enjoy a time of refreshment and conversation. **If you can help with the treats, please sign up on the flip chart in the Narthex.** Please note that the organizers would appreciate finger food (things that don't need plates or utensils) such as cookies, squares and loaves all cut and brought in all-ready plated on a disposable plate or on a well-labeled plate with your name on it. Please remember to take home your plate at the end of the evening. We thank you for your generosity in helping to make this a special time of hospitality and friendship.

Advent at Northlea

Hey! Did you hear? There's a postal strike.

But don't let that stop you from playing Santa and sending in your Christmas donation. Here are the ways you can send in your givings:



1. Come to worship and drop it in the collection plate.
2. Put it in an envelope and put it in the mailbox outside the office door (east entrance, central stairs). **Don't worry! It is checked daily.**
3. Visit the website at northleaunited.ca and click the **Donate** button at the top. This will take you to the Canada Helps donation form. Totally secure!
4. Last but not least, scan the **QR code** shown here and you can open the Canada Helps donation form directly.

Thank you for your generosity!

TODAY - December 1 – Advent I – Hope:

- The mitten tree is in the Narthex ready to be decorated with all the lovely knitted or newly bought items for those in need. There is a box for new PJ's for kids and women too! Items will be delivered after December 15th.
- 11:30 am – 2025 Budget Meeting

Saturday, December 7, 2024 – 7:00 pm – Caroling in the Pines.

Sunday, December 8, 2024 – Advent II – Peace:

- 10:30 am – Advent Worship & White Gift for Youth Without Shelter – bring your unwrapped dry and canned goods or check the Newsbites for the wish list!
- 7:30 pm – Carols By Candlelight at Leaside United

Sunday, December 15, 2024 – Advent III – Joy:

- 10:30 am – Advent Worship
- 7:30 pm – Carols By Candlelight at Northlea United

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 – 6:30 pm - Old Fashioned Street Caroling with Michael Spiroff & the UCWN – meet at the church until approx. 8:30 pm

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 – 6:00 pm – Blue Christmas at Manor Road UC with Northlea participation.

Sunday, December 22, 2024 – Advent IV – Love – 10:30 am – Advent Worship

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 – Christmas Eve – 5:00 pm – Family worship with Communion

Sunday, December 29, 2024 – online pre-recorded worship service

The church will be closed from 3 pm on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 to 11:00 am on Thursday, January 2, 2025. The first in-person worship service in 2025 will be held at 10:30 am on Sunday, January 5, 2025

Ongoing activities:

Mondays:

- Bible Study moves to Mondays at 4:30 pm – final 2024 gathering – December 9, the group will begin meeting again on January 13, 2025

Wednesdays:

- 7:30 pm – Community Choir – December 4th marks the end of session for 2024

Thursdays:

- 1:30 pm – Art Circle – final 2024 gathering – December 12, the group will begin meeting again on January 9, 2025

7:30 pm – Northlea Choir Practice – Rehearsing Christmas Repertoire 7:30 – 8:30 pm. The last Thursday rehearsal for 2024 will take place on December 19th. The first Thursday rehearsal for 2025 will take place on January 2nd.

Caroling in the Pines

Saturday, December 7, 2024

@ 7:00 pm



Hot Chocolate, Candy Canes,
Favourite Carols

&

a very special GUEST!

Shhhh, it's a secret!



A Shared Carol Service with the choirs of
Northlea United Church & Leaside United Church

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024, 7:30 PM

Northlea United Church

125 Brentcliffe Rd. Toronto

www.northleaunited.ca

Freewill Offering

CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT

For those who cannot attend the Candlelight Service at Northlea on the 15th,
the choirs are presenting the same music at Leaside United Church the week before,
Sunday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 PM.