



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



November 3, 2024 Covenanting Sunday

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:

The Rev. Liz Mackenzie – Presiding ✧ The Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam - Guest Minister
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
Element Bearers: Diana Bennett; Lois Scott; Roger Touw; Doug Joyce
Pine Cone Bearer: Bev Vanstone

Minister: Rev. Liz Mackenzie – Liz@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

** Unless otherwise indicated: Prayers (various) are taken from “The United Church of Canada – Gathering - resources for worship planners Pentecost 2 – 2024 Year B Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.8 M 05/24 240002 CH11202

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**Northlea United Church
Sunday, November 3, 2024**

**A Covenanting Service For The Rev. Liz Mackenzie,
Northlea United Church, & Shining Waters Regional Council**

We thank The Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam for her presence today.

Choral Prelude: Jubilate Deo (*Psalm 100:1-3a*)

Orlande de Lassus (1532-1594)

Latin text

*Jubilate Deo, omnis terra;
servite Domino in lætitia.
Intrate in conspectu ejus in exultatione,
quia Dominus ipse est Deus.*

English translation

*Shout joyfully to God, all the earth:
Serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before God's presence with a song.
Know that the Lord is God.*

Welcome:

Donna Rutz

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

We gather in the light of Christ's Spirit.

(The Christ Candle is lit.)

The Spirit of Christ is present in us and with us as we worship.

Acknowledgement of the Land

Response:

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

Call to Worship:

Today, we gather as the body of Christ that is Northlea United Church,
in the welcome of God's love,
in the joy of our unity in Christ,
and in the power of the Spirit.

In our time together, may we listen for God's guidance.

Let us worship God, who has spoken and still speaks, calling to us to follow.

Opening Hymn: Let Us Build a House (*All Are Welcome*)

More Voices 1

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:

Let us pray:

Loving God, we cry aloud this day for your guidance.

You have called us into ministry as we follow the pathways that you set down for us.

Grant us, we pray, strength to believe in your gospel and courage to trust in your Word.

We pray that the ministry of this pastoral charge will be strengthened and nurtured by your life-giving Spirit.

(A time of silent prayer...)

We pray in the name of Jesus who taught us that your steadfast love is ever-present for all.

Amen.

A Sanctuary Moment

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Jody Kinsey

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

Amen

Scripture: Ruth 1: 1-18

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34

This is the Gospel – God’s Good News!

Thanks be to God!

Hymn: Will You Come And Follow Me

Voices United 567

Reflection: A Journey of Courage & Hope

The Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

❖ Responding ❖

Anthem: A Radical Thought *(Let us love one another.)*

Jeremy Young

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Prayer

**Holy and Beloved God, we dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life,
of love, of peace. Receive our gifts and lead us in wisdom and courage.**

In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen

❖ The Act of Covenant ❖

Statement of Living Faith Story

Donna Rutz

Statement of This New Ministry

Lynella Reid-James, Shining Waters Regional Council (SWRC) Liaison :

We are here to join into a covenantal relationship with God and between Liz Mackenzie, Northlea United Church community of faith, and the wider United Church as represented by Shining Waters regional council. Although God's covenant with us never changes, our covenants with one another evolve as we seek ways to faithfully deepen our commitment to Jesus and live into our call to embody God's love in the world.

Donna Rutz, member of the Northlea United Church Search Team:

After prayerful discernment, and the approval of the Northlea United Church Council, we present Liz Mackenzie, who has been appointed to a ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care in the Northlea United Church community of faith. We believe that her skills and talents complement our faithful witness, ministry needs, and community context.

Lynella Reid-James, SWRC Liaison:

Liz, you have responded to the Northlea United Church community of faith's need for an appointed minister with Shining Waters regional council's approval. We come together to mark this new relationship within our regional council for the sake of our shared ministry.

Liz, you are about to undertake the ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care in this place.

You, the members and adherents of this community of faith, are called to join Liz in worship, study, prayer, and action.

We, Shining Waters regional council, will be responsible for supporting this ministry.

Let us proclaim our shared faith as we prepare ourselves to covenant together:

Affirmation of Faith - A New Creed

(pg. 918 Voices United)

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.**

Promises of the New Minister

Liz, do you, in the presence of this community of faith, take on the trust and responsibility of ministering with Northlea United Church?

Rev. Liz Mackenzie: I do.

Will you accept the guidance of Shining Waters Regional Council and, together with its other members, be responsible for the health of the Northlea United Church community of faith?

Rev. Liz Mackenzie: I will.

Will you share in the ministry goals and faith story of this community of faith?

Rev. Liz Mackenzie: I will.

Will you accept the support and encouragement of this community of faith and this regional council?

Rev. Liz Mackenzie: I will.

Will you work cooperatively with the wider church and wider community to embody God's love in the world?

Rev. Liz Mackenzie: I will.

Promises of the Community of Faith

Will you, the Northlea United Church community of faith family, join with Liz Mackenzie in a ministry of worship, study, prayer, and action within this Community of Faith, Shining Waters Regional Council, and the wider church?

Members & Adherents of Northlea: We will.

Will you support her as she serves among you in this ministry?

Members & Adherents of Northlea: We will.

Promises of the Northlea Staff Team: *(Jo Dullard, Congregation and Community Outreach Coordinator; David Jafelice, Director of Music; Robert Pringle, Facility Manager; Tricia Reid, Office Administrator)*

Liz, Jo, David, Robert (in spirit) and Tricia, you have been called by God to work together in this community of faith. Will you promise in faith and obedience to Christ to share this ministry, supporting one another in love and, through your unity of spirit, inspiring all God's people here in their common ministry for Christ?

Northlea Staff Team: We will.

Promises of Regional Council, Wider Church and Community

Will you, as members of Shining Waters regional council and members of the wider community, join with Liz and this community of faith in the ministry that is both theirs and ours?

Members of the Wider Community: We will.

Will you support and encourage them in this ministry?

Members of the Wider Community: We will.

Presentation of Symbols:

A BIBLE

Roger Touw

Presenter: Take this Bible. Be with us as one who teaches and proclaims the Word.

People: Amen.

WATER

Doug Joyce

Presenter: Be with us as one who baptizes in the name of Christ.

People: Amen.

BASKET OF PINECONES (Gathered from Northlea's National Healing Forest)

Bev Vanstone

Presenter: Be with us as one who seeks to be in right relationship, striving for justice, reconciliation, and healing in our community and world.

People: Amen.

BREAD AND WINE

Lois Scott & Diana Bennett

Presenter: Be with us as one who cares for those who hunger and thirst.

People: Amen.

SWRC Liaison: Rev Liz Mackenzie and Northlea United community of faith, let all these be signs of the ministry that is and that will be in this community.

People: Amen.

New Minister's Prayer

Response to Covenant

SWRC Liaison: Let us rejoice in the covenant we have made.

❖ The Celebration of Holy Communion ❖

Communion Hymn: There Is Room For All

More Voices 62 (sung 3x)

God be with you.

God's Spirit is here among us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Holy One.

Let us give thanks to Creator God, Maker of all.

All our thanks, all our praise.

When there was nothing, O God, you were.

Through eons of endless eons,
in ways surprising, complex, and beautiful
you loved all things into being.

And we, human beings,
come so lately to the theatre of your creativity,
give thanks and praise for the wonder of it all—
the things we think we understand
and the mysteries at every hand.

With the awe-struck of heaven and earth, we proclaim:

**Holy, holy, holy,
great God of loving power,
the universe shines with your glory.
Holy, holy, holy.**

Because we long to be in relationship with you,
we give thanks for faith's assurance that you seek us—
to walk with us and fulfill your purposes in us.

We thank you for Jesus,
Spirit-filled and Spirit-led,
who proclaimed the nearness of your sovereign reign
of justice and peace.

**Even as we give thanks,
we remember how Jesus was
despised and rejected
and put to death for who he was
and what he did and said.**

**We lament what is still in us
that rejects him in our day,
and raises new crosses of pain and despair.**

But you, O God, are a persistent lover;
you do not reject us when we turn our backs on you.
You answer our "no"
with the cosmos-shaking "yes" of resurrection,
bringing new life to the barren wastes we have created.

Therefore, we still gather in the presence of Jesus,
now become for us the Living Christ.

We keep the feast he asked us to keep in remembrance of him.

In bread broken and wine poured out,
we celebrate the banquet of the age to come.

**Life-giving God,
as according to ancient story,
you breathed into the dust of the earth
to make a living soul,
so now, breathe upon these things of earth,
this bread and this fruit of the vine,
that we may enter into the joy of Holy Communion
and know the presence of Christ,
in whose blessed name we pray.**

As Jesus prayed to you, O God, so now we pray:

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical Version)

Voices United 914

**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:

**Life-giving God,
may we, who share Christ's body,
live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others;
we, who have received Christ's love, be agents of this love in the world. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Go to the World

Voices United 420

Sending Forth and Blessing

Sung Amen:

Bob Dufford

A - - men, hal - le - lu - - jah, for_ ev - er and ev - er, for_ ev - er, hal - le - lu - jah, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men._____

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Postlude

Next Week's Readings


From the Gathering...

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

This Month at Northlea...

- **Today!** Be sure to stay after worship for cake and refreshments
- **Monday, November 4, 2024** – all day – Toronto City By-Election – staff will be working from home.
- **Tuesday, November 5, 2024** - 6:00 pm – Congregational Potluck Supper
- **Sunday, November 10, 2024 – Remembrance Sunday:**
 - 10:30 am – Worship – please bring pictures of the veterans in your family you would like to remember – there will be a table at the front of the Sanctuary where they can be displayed.
 - 5:00 pm – Harold Bratten and MLC for an evening of music
- **Monday, November 11, 2024** – Remembrance Day – please note there will not be a Bible Study this day.


T a i z é



an evening of reflection & meditation.

With Andrew & Wendy Donaldson
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
7:30—8:15 pm
Looking for an oasis of
prayer, meditation & music in your busy life?

Come to Northlea for Taizé in the Sanctuary

Northlea United Church  125 Brentcliffe Road
office@northleaunited.ca 416 425 5252

- **Tuesday, November 12, 2024** – 7:30 pm - Taizé
- **Thursday, November 14, 2024** – 6:00 – 8:00 pm – Winter Wear Drive drop off
- **Saturday, November 16, 2024** – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Winter Wear Drive drop off
- **Sunday, November 17, 2024 – Children Sunday:**
 - 10:30 am – Worship
 - 11:30 am – 2025 Budget Q&A
- **Sunday, November 24, 2024 – Reign of Christ:**
 - 10:30 am – Worship
 - 11:30 am – 2025 Budget meeting
 - 5:00 pm – Youth Without Shelter dinner
- **Tuesday, November 26, 2024** – 12:00 noon – Lunch & Learn: Steps to Safety, Fire and Fall Prevention with the Toronto Fire Services

Mondays:

- Bible Study moves to Mondays at 4:30 pm - note no Bible Study November 11

Wednesdays:

- 11:00 am – Chair Exercise until November 20
- 7:30 pm – Community Choir until December 4

Thursdays:

- 1:30 pm – Art Circle
- 7:30 pm – Northlea Choir Practice – Rehearsing Christmas Repertoire 7:30 – 8:30 pm

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

MUSIC
 @ NORTHLEA PRESENTS



MLC
 With Harold Bratton

NOV. 10 | AT 5:00 PM

Northlea United Church
 125 Brentcliffe Road, Leaside
 416 425 5252 office@northleaunited.ca
 northleaunited.ca

Warm a Soul
Winter

OUTERWEAR DRIVE FOR FLEMINGDON PARK

Donate your gently used coats, boots, ski pants, hats & mittens

Drop off dates:
 Nov 14 6:00 - 8:00 pm
 Nov 16 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

125 Brentcliffe Rd, Leaside
 416 425 5252
 northleaunited.ca



Northlea United Presents

**Steps to Safety
 Lunch and Learn**



**A Fire and Fall Prevention Presentation
 With Toronto Fire Services**

**Tuesday, November 26, 2024
 Starting at 12 Noon
 Soup and Sandwich Lunch, Free Will Offering**

We will cover the following:

- Preventing a fire from happening to you
- Escape planning for special needs
- Fire safety in high rise buildings
- Causes of home fires

and much more!

Register by email: jo@northleaunited.ca
 or by calling: 416-425-5252
 Registration Deadline: Friday Nov. 22

Northlea United Church 125 Brentcliffe Rd.