



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



**White Gift Sunday**

**December 8, 2024**

**Second Sunday of Advent - Peace**

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. 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

Rick Coombs – Reader

**Minister:** Rev. Liz Mackenzie

**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)

**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](mailto: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](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 2024/2025 Year C Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.8 M 09/24 240003 CH11205

**Northlea United Church  
Sunday, December 8, 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 peace.

**The light of the Christ Child gathers us together.**

**Introit: E'en So, Lord Jesus Quickly Come**

Paul O. Mantz

**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 peace into this waiting world.

**Let us worship God with hearts open to peace!**

**Candle Lighting Hymn: Hope Shines as the Solitary Star**

**verse 2**



2. Peace 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.

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## Lighting of the Second Advent Candle and Prayer

Roger & Joyce Touw

Last week we lit our candle of Hope. We light it again as we continue our Advent journey.

*(The first purple candle is lit.)*

Our time of eager anticipation continues; our time of waiting...

waiting for the one who will free us from our quarrelling ways:

the quarrels within ourselves, our families, our communities, our world.

*(The second purple candle is lit.)*

We open our hearts and minds to divine Peace as we pray:

**Tender God, whose will it is that we live in harmony, we light this second candle trusting your Ray of Peace will come to guide us into wholeness, even in our most broken hours...**

*(A time of silent prayer)*

Loving God, may all people find peace in your promise that we are not alone.

**Amen.**

## Opening Hymn: Prepare! Prepare!



Pre - pare! Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare! Pre - pare the way of the Lord, oh, \_\_\_



Pre - pare! Pre - pare the way of the Lord. The Lord our God is com - ing soon. Oh. \_\_\_

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## 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:

Rick Coombs

Holy Spirit, stir us with your word,

as we listen for inspiration in your sacred stories.

Amen

**Responsive Scripture:** Luke 1: 68-79; (Song of Zechariah) *Voices United 900*

Blessed be the God of Israel,  
**who has come to the people and set them free,**  
who has raised up for us a mighty saviour,  
**born of the house of the servant David.**

Through the holy prophets of old  
God promised to save us from our enemies,  
**from the hands of all who hate us,**  
to show the mercy promised to our ancestors,  
**to remember the holy covenant,**  
**the oath God swore to our ancestors Abraham and Sarah,**  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
**free to serve God without fear,**  
**holy and righteous in God's presence,**  
**all the days of our life.**

*Response (spoken): God shall fulfill the promise and bring the people peace.*

And you, child,  
will be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,  
**to give the people knowledge of salvation**  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God,  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
**to shine on those who sit in darkness,**  
**In the shadow of death,**  
**And to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

*Response (spoken): God shall fulfil the promise and bring the people peace.*

**Gospel:** Luke 3:1-6

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

**Choir Anthem:** Comfort, Comfort O My People (*Isaiah 40*), *Voices United 883*

**Reflection:** All Earth Is Waiting

❖ Responding ❖

Hymn: I Am Walking a Path of Peace. (*sing: Peace, Hope, Grace, Love*)

More Voices 221

Prayers of the People

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: All Earth is Waiting

Voices United 5

Sending Forth

Gift of power, Gift of grace, Gift of God;

Go with us as we bear your Gift of Peace to the world.

Blessing

Amen

Richard Proulx

Solo first, then ALL:



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

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Postlude

Next Week's Readings

From The *Gathering*

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

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

# 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 - Sunday, December 8, 2024 – Advent II – Peace:** 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 Micheal Spiroff & the UCWN – meet at the church at 6:30 pm; 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 11:30 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 Events:

### **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

### **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 2024 Thursday rehearsal will be December 19. The first 2025 Thursday rehearsal will be January 2.

### **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.