



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



## January 5, 2025 Epiphany 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](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 - Livestream Production ✧ Donna Rutz - Social Media Support

Jesse Bigelow - Reader

**Minister:** Rev. Liz Mackenzie – [Liz@northleaunited.ca](mailto:Liz@northleaunited.ca)

**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 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](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, January 5, 2025**

**Welcome**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

The light of Christ is in this place.

**Come, Jesus, Come!**      (*Candle is lit.*)

**Acknowledgement of the Land**

**Response:**

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

**Introit: Children of the Light**

Scott Soper

**Composer's Note:** Set in an upbeat gospel style this song is drawn from Paul's letters to the Corinthians and Ephesians. Paul urges them to put aside their old way of life and live now in Jesus, as they are now made "children of the light" by their baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

**Call to Worship and Opening Prayer:**

New every morning is your love, O God.

**And life is the gift you give to us.**

We gather now, on this first Sunday of a new year,  
to ask your blessing on the days that are ours and yours.

**Call us into a future of hope as we worship you this day....**

*(A time of silent prayer.)*

In the name of Jesus, our Light and Life, may it be so!

**Amen.**

## Wesleyan New Year Covenant

I am no longer my own but yours, O God;  
Your will, not mine, be done in all things.

**You are mine and I am yours.**

Wherever you may call me to be,

**you are mine and I am yours.**

In all that I do and in all that may come my way;

**you are mine and I am yours.**

When there is work for me and when there is none;

**you are mine and I am yours.**

When I am troubled and when I am at peace;

**you are mine and I am yours.**

When I find fulfillment and when it is lacking;

**you are mine and I am yours.**

When I have all things and when I have nothing;

**you are mine and I am yours.**

Glorious God, I willingly offer all that I have and am to serve you as and where you choose.

**You are mine and I am yours.**

May it be so forever.

**Amen.**

*(an adapted contemporary version of A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition,  
the United Methodist Church: umc.org)*

## Opening Hymn: The First Nowell

Voices United 91 vs. 1, 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:

Jesse Bigelow

God of Epiphany,

We long to hear your holy Word in fresh ways.

Open our ears to the call of your voice.

Open our eyes to the dawning of a new day.

Fill us with anticipation for your future. Amen.

*(by Paul Fayter in Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services, 129.)*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 60: 1-6

**Gospel:** Matthew 2: 1-12

This is the Gospel – God’s Good News!

**Thanks be to God!**

**Quartet Anthem:** Far Away, What Splendour Comes This Way? attrib. Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687)

Arr. Georges Bizet (1838-1875); Adapt. Hugh Keyte & Andrew Parrott

**Reflection: Home By Another Way**

(based on “The Wise Men Reflect”, B. Brazier in Gathering A/C/E 2011-2012, 64-66)

❖ **Responding** ❖

**Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice! (Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn)**

**Marty Haugen**



1. A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing,\_\_\_  
2. To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u - el comes a sing - ing,\_\_\_  
3. In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the world is des - pair - ing,\_\_\_  
4. Re - joice! Re - joice, take heart in the night, though dark the win - ter and cheer - less,\_\_\_



sing out your joy, for now he is born, be - hold! the child of our long - ing.  
his hum - ble song is qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
as morn - ing light, so qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing;  
the ris - ing sun shall crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er;  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lo - ving kind - ness,  
then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der,  
love be our song, and love our prayer, and love our end - less sto - ry,



he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.\_\_\_\_\_  
the thun - der of his an - thems roll to shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.\_\_\_\_\_  
the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.\_\_\_\_\_  
may God fill ev - 'ry day we share, and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.\_\_\_\_\_

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**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offering Hymn: What Child is This** (from *Voices United 74*, vs. 3)

So, bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of Kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

#### Offering Prayer (in unison)

Gracious God, you gift us with an extravagant love.  
In thanksgiving, we present these gifts of our hands and hearts.  
May they be used to love your world into wholeness. Amen.

#### Prayers of the People

##### Lord's Prayer:

Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,  
may your name be made holy,  
may your dominion come,  
may your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today the bread we need;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we have forgiven our debtors;  
and do not put us to the test,  
but rescue us from evil.

For yours is the dominion, and the power,  
and the glory for ever. Amen.

*A Translation: United Church of Christ (U.S.A.) 1995 copyright © 1995 The Pilgrim Press*

#### Closing Hymn: In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

Voices United 92

##### Sending Forth:

The light that enlivens all the world,  
**The light that darkness cannot overcome,**  
Love's pure light in Jesus Christ,  
**shine on us and in our world this day and all our days to come.**

##### Blessing

**Amen:** *(from Voice United 974)*

**Jim Strathdee**



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## Postlude

# New Year at Northlea...

### Mondays:

- Bible Study at 4:30 pm –the group will begin meeting again on January 13, 2025

### Thursdays:

- 1:30 pm – Art Circle – the group will begin meeting again on January 9, 2025
- 7:30 pm – Northlea Choir Practice

**Sunday, January 12, 2025** – Baptism of the Lord – 10:30 am - worship

### Sunday, January 19, 2025:

- 10:30 am – Worship
- 11:30 am – Congregational Lunch and Meeting – all are welcome

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025** – all day – First Aid Training – if you are interested in participating in either the 9-hour course or the 7-hour course – register with the office by Wednesday, January 15, 2025. The church will cover costs for Lay Leaders.

### Sunday, January 26, 2025:

- 10:30 am – Worship
- 5:00 pm – Youth Without Shelter Dinner

**Tuesday, January 28, 2025** – 12:00 noon – Lunch & Learn – Estate Planning – everyone is welcome to register – please do so by Friday, January 24, 2025

## Next Week's Readings

From *The Gathering*

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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



Northlea United Presents

# Estate Planning Lunch and Learn

~ understanding the what and why of estate planning ~

*With guest speaker: Sylvia McGratten, CCO; Cedar Leaf Capital Inc*

**Tuesday January 28, 2025  
Starting at 12 PM Noon**

*Learn about the estate planning process including:*

- powers of attorney
  - wills
- joint accounts
  - gifting
  - trusts

To register email [jo@northleaunited.ca](mailto:jo@northleaunited.ca) or call 416-425-5252

**Deadline to register January 24, 2025**

Northlea United - 125 Brentcliffe Rd