



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



March 16, 2025

Second Sunday in Lent

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. Kerri Hagerman – 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

Jody Kinsey - Reader

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 Lent Easter 2025 Year C Worship, Music, and Spirituality ISSN-0823-1869 1.9 M 10/24 240004 CH11206

**Northlea United Church
Sunday, March 16, 2025**

We welcome back Rev. Kerri Hagerman as our guest minister today.

Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

We gather together in the light of Christ's love.

Christ's love shines in our hearts! *(Candle is lit.)*

Acknowledgement of the Land

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.

Response:

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

Introit: Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies' Sake

Richard Farrant (ca.1530-1580)

Call to Worship:

Come, you who are weary in a world of conflict and suffering.

God's steadfast love awaits.

Come, you who are restless for justice and hope for our country and our wonderfully diverse communities.

God's steadfast love awaits.

Come, you who seek a glimpse of transforming transcendence.

God's steadfast love awaits.

Come, let us worship God.

Opening Hymn: We Are One

Voices United 402

The Gift of Peace

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

Unison Opening Prayer:

O Loving God,

To turn away from you is to fall,

To turn toward you is to rise,

And to stand before you is to abide forever.
Grant us, dear God,
In all our duties your help;
In all our uncertainties your guidance;
In all our dangers your protection;
And in all our sorrows your peace;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Augustine of Hippo – 354 – 430

(A time of silent prayer and confession)

Thanks be to God! Amen.

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Jody Kinsey

God of blessing, God of transformation, God of our Lenten journey;
help us to discern your still, small voice.
Open us to change, growth, and the hope of new life,
that we may walk with Christ. Amen.

(Rev. Ted Dodd in *Celebrate God's Presence*, 156.)

Scripture: Psalm 63: 1-8

Marty Haugen



O God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you, your love is fin - er than life.____

Psalm 63. Words and Music copyright © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-724837

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

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

Anthem: Unless a Grain of Wheat

Bernadette Farrell



Un - less a grain of wheat shall fall up - on the ground and die,____



____ it re - mains____ but a sin - gle grain____ with no life._____

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Reflection: Created for Bearing Fruit

Kerri Hagerman

❖ Responding ❖

Hymn: O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Voices United 560

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn: Grant Us, God, the Grace

(from VU 540)



Grant us, God, the grace of giv - ing, with a spir - it large and free,
that our - selves and all our liv - ing we may of - fer faith - ful - ly.

Offering Prayer (in unison):

Gracious God, bless and transform all that we offer:

our faltering steps, our brokenness, our hope, our risking, our hearts, that we may be a blessing to the world you love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer:

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

Now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Voices United 651

Sending Forth and Blessing:

May the blessing of God give us strength for the journey;

may the Spirit of wisdom give us vision for the road;

may the love of Christ make us caring companions;

as together we go forth in the Lenten time. Amen.

(Jane V. Doull in Celebrate God's Presence, 160.)

Amen:

Marty Haugen



A - men, A - men, A - - men! A - men, A - men, A - - men!

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Postlude



Rev. Kerri Hagerman Biography:

Kerri was ordained in 2003 and has served congregations outside of Winnipeg and in Brampton. In 2012, she received a Master of Theology in the area of Homiletics, commonly known as sermon preparation. As a result of this, Kerri continues to ponder how the preaching task holds together both gospel faith and social justice.

In 2021, Kerri retired from education after a 28-year career in the high school classroom and at the school board level. During this time, she continued to serve the church by offering pulpit supply

throughout the year.

Currently, Kerri is a member of Islington United Church and she delights in singing in the choir. She has a daughter and son, both in university.

Coming up at Northlea...

Easter Flower Tribute continues to Palm Sunday. Remember your loved ones at Easter and help decorate the Sanctuary for Easter. Envelopes are available in the Narthex and Foyer. Remember to include your information and the names of those you want remembered. Please indicate flower tribute on memo line of cheques. Names will appear in the Easter bulletin as long as they are received by Sunday, April 13, 2025 (Palm Sunday). Best efforts will be made for donations received after that date. After the Easter service on April 20th, volunteers will deliver flowers to the homebound. If you would like to volunteer to help with deliveries, please contact the office at office@northleaunited.ca

March 10 – 17, 2025 inclusive -Rev. Liz will be on Study Leave

Tuesdays in March 18, 25 & April 8, 2025 – 12:00 noon – Soup Tuesdays are back – Note that April 1st will be a Lunch & Learn – see information below.

Sunday, March 23, 2025:

- 10:30 am – Worship with Rev. Liz Mackenzie
- 5:00 pm – Love Jazz with Paul Callander and his band

Saturday, March 29, 2025 – 10:00 am – 12:00 noon – Cook-A-Palooza for Youth Without Shelter

Sunday, March 30, 2025:

- 10:30 am – Worship
- 11:30 am – Congregation Consultation – sign up on the flip chart in the Narthex or by emailing office@northleaunited.ca
- 5:00 pm – Dinner for Youth Without Shelter

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 – 12:00 noon - will be a Lunch & Learn with City Councillor, Rachel Chernos Lin – please register for this event with Jo Dullard or through the office at office@northleaunited.ca. Please register by noon on Friday, March 28, 2025. Please indicate whether you will attend both the lunch and the lecture or just the lecture. Thank you. Free will offering accepted but not required. UCWN to provide desserts.

Ongoing Activities:

Mondays: 4:30 pm - Bible Study on Zoom – everyone is welcome

It's A Lenten Bible Study!

Please join Rev. Liz for a six-part Lenten Bible series on Mondays March 17, 24, 31, April 7, and 14 on Zoom from 4:30-6:00 pm. This study will follow Mark's gospel account of Jesus' last week as studied and interpreted by renowned biblical scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.

Mark's gospel is the only one to follow Jesus on a day-by-day basis during his last week. In their book, The Last Week: A Day-by-Day Account of Jesus' Last Week in Jerusalem (HarperCollins: New York, 2006), Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan point out that Mark's day-by-day journey with Jesus is in keeping with a daily Holy Week liturgy - daily lessons about Jesus' teachings as the action moves inevitably to the cross.

You do not have to read the book to participate in the study. Rev. Liz will send out a weekly synopsis of Borg's and Crossan's chapter for study along with questions for discussion. For more information, please contact Rev. Liz at liz@northleaunited.ca. All are welcome!

Tuesdays: 12:00 noon – Soup Tuesdays - March 18, 25, and April 8 - please note that April 1st is a Lunch & Learn with Rachel Chernos Lin (see information above).

Wednesdays: 7:30 pm - For the Love of Singing Community Choir

Thursdays:

- 1:30 pm – Art Circle – everyone is welcome
- 7:30 pm – Northlea Choir Practice

Next Week's Readings

From *The Gathering*

Third of Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

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