

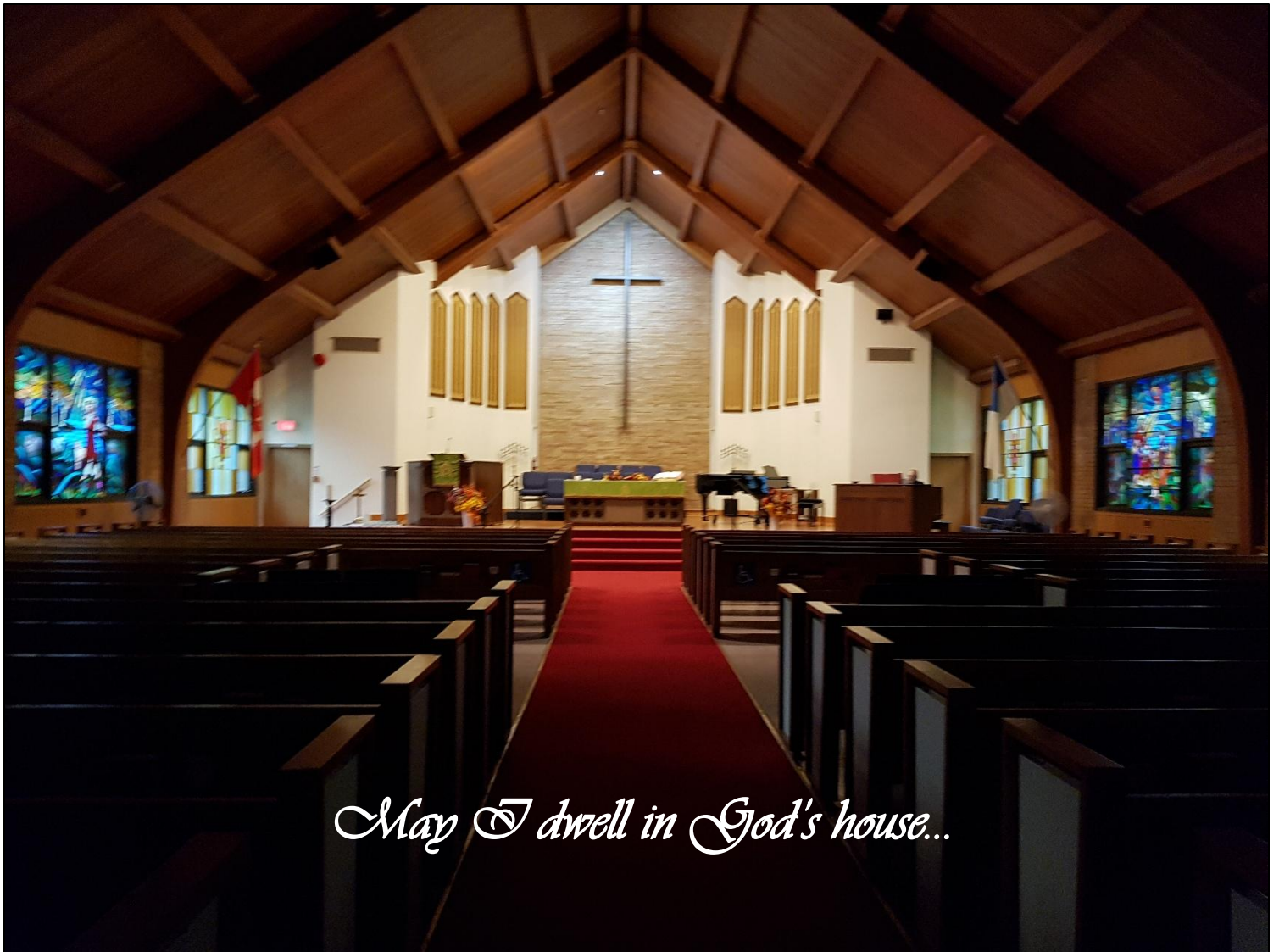


Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



May I dwell in God's house...

March 23, 2025

Third 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. 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

Roger Touw - 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 23, 2025

Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

We gather 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: When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son

Voices United 119

Call to Worship:

Come, people of God! Let us journey the way of faithfulness.

We open our hearts and receive the wonderful gift of God's grace.

May we share with others the glory of God's welcome.

God's gift to all is love and compassion!

Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn: How Firm a Foundation

Voices United 660

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, you invite us to be in relationship with you.

We come to you with joys and needs, sorrows and thanksgivings.

In all the circumstances of life you walk with us, offering compassion and guidance.

Forgive us when we are reluctant to receive your care.

Open our spirits to your life-giving nurture, so that we might be infused with joy and hope.

We ask this in the welcoming name of Christ...

(A time of silent prayer and confession.)

People of God, hear the Good News:

God keeps us safe like a mother hen gathering her brood under her wings.

Supporting, forgiving and loving - God reaches out to each one of us.

Thanks be to the Holy One! We are set free! Amen!

A Sanctuary Moment

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Roger Touw

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.)

Psalm 27: Responsive

Please follow verses in Voices United 754-755

The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). It features a melodic line with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, along with rests. The piece is divided into sections marked with circled letters: A1, A2, B1, B2, a 'fine' section, and a final A1. The melody is simple and repetitive, suitable for responsive singing.

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Gospel: Luke 13: 31-35

This is the Gospel – God's Good News!

Thanks be to God!

Anthem: Come Build a Church

Ken Medema

Reflection: The Resilient Church

❖ Responding ❖

Hymn: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Voices United 500

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.**

Sending Forth:

(based on VU 110)

May we keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us;
 May our lips speak the truth that Christ teaches us;
 May our bodies fill with the life that is Christ within us.

Blessing

Amen:

Marty Haugen

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

The musical notation is a single staff in 4/4 time, key of Bb. The melody consists of quarter and half notes with some ties. The lyrics are placed directly below the notes.

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Postlude

Coming up at Northlea...

Easter Flower Tribute continues to Palm Sunday. Remember your loved ones at Easter and help decorate the Sanctuary. 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, please contact the office at office@northleaunited.ca.

TODAY! 5:00 pm – Love Jazz with Paul Callander and his band

Tuesday, March 25 & April 8, 2025 – 12:00 noon – Soup Tuesdays are back; note that April 1 will be a Lunch & Learn with Rachel Chernos Lin – see information below.

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
- 5:00 pm – Dinner for Youth Without Shelter

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 – 12:00 noon – Lunch & Learn with the UCWN and Rachel Chernos Lin. Please register with the office by noon on Friday, March 28, 2025: office@northleaunited.ca. Free will offering appreciated but not required.

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 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 in March 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

Fourth of Lent

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

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