



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



April 20, 2025

Easter 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:

Rev. Liz Mackenzie – Presiding

David Jafelice – Music Director

George Fung – Organist

Kaisha Lee – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto ✧ Joshua Clemenger – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

Vivien Young – guest Soprano ✧ JoAnn Thompson – Alto ✧ Tyler Smith – Tenor ✧ Sean Pentinga – Bass

Kyle Pogline – Trumpet I ✧ Paul Callander – Trumpet II ✧ Andrew Gormley – Trombone I ✧ Ray Sun – Trombone II

Jo Dullard - Livestream Production ✧ Donna Rutz - Social Media Support

Jesse Bigelow - 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, April 20, 2025**

Brass Prelude: Canzona

Jacobus Clemens (c. 1510 – c. 1556)

Welcome

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.**

Lighting of the Paschal/Christ Candle:

This is the dawn of a new creation:
may our hearts be warmed with the new light of Easter.

(The Christ Candle is lit.)

Christ is risen!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Christ is risen indeed!

Introit: Easter Fanfare

David Ashley White

Call to Worship: *(based on Psalm 118:1-4)*

Let the whole multitude of God's faithful people now say:

God's love endures forever!

Let the people of this Northlea community of faith now say:

God's love endures forever!

Let all those who come to worship this Easter morning now say:

God's love endures forever!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Christ is risen indeed!

Opening Hymn: Christ, the Lord, is Risen Today

Arr. Kevin Keil



1. Christ, the Lord, is ris'n to - day,
2. Lives a - gain our glor - rious King;
Choir 3. *Love's re - deem - ing work is__ done,* Hal - - le - lu - jah!
4. Soar we now where Christ has__ led,



All on earth with an - gels__ say,
Where, O death, is now thy__ sting? Hal - - le - lu - jah!
Fought the fight, the bat - tle__ won.
Fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed__ head;



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
Once he died our souls to__ save, Hal - - le - lu - jah!
Death in vain for - bids__ him__ rise;
Made like him, like him__ we__ rise,



Sing ye heav'n's and earth re - ply,
Where thy vic - to - ry, O__ grave? Hal - - le - lu - jah!
Christ has o - pen'd par - a - dise.
Ours the cross, the grave, the__ skies.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: Robert Williams, 1781-1821.

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:

(The Very Reverend Richard Bott from GatheringWorship.ca, alt. Used with permission.)

In this moment of mystery,
in this moment of hope,
in this moment of life, loving God—
open our hearts to the wonder!

Open us up to the possibilities!

Open the tombs that we've created and show us that they are empty
of what we've come to expect, but full of the promise of new possibility and new life.....

(A time of silent prayer and confession)

God of mystery,
God of hope,
God of resurrection life,
your strong love for us has defeated the forces of death;
your steadfast faithfulness liberates us with the promise of new beginnings.
Hallelujah! Thanks be to you, O God!

A Sanctuary Moment

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Jesse Bigelow

God of resurrection, may your Easter story become our story.
May the wonder and awe of lives made whole take hold deep in our soul.
May we receive and live the miracle account of resurrection.
We pray in the name of the enlivening Christ. Amen.

(Rev. Laura Turnbull from GatheringWorship.ca. Used with permission.)

Scripture: Isaiah 65: 17-25

Choral Psalm 118: *Sung refrain, verses sung by our section leads.*

Michael Joncas



This is the day the Lord has made; let us re-joice and be glad.



This is the day the Lord has made; let us re-joice and be glad.

Music Michael Joncas © 1981, 1982, 1988, Michael Joncas
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Gospel: Luke 23: 55 - 24: 12

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

Anthem: Rejoice in the Risen Christ

Allen Pote

Reflection: A Tale of Hope

❖ Responding ❖

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn: O God Beyond All Praising – (vs. 3 from VU 256)



3. Then, hear O gra - cious Sav-iour, this song of praise we sing. May we, who know your



fa - vour, our hum - ble ser - vice bring; and_ wheth - er our to - mor - rows be__



filled with good or ill, we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you



still: to__ mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your



ways, and_ make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

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Offering Prayer (in unison):

**God of abundant life, receive our hearts and fill us with your Spirit
that we may be able to offer ourselves in service to you...**

Awaken us to the need around us.

In love and service, may we join with all those

who strive to make your people and planet whole. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

❖ The Celebration of Holy Communion ❖

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn: Joy Comes with the Dawn

Voices United 166

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Christ is present here.

The Spirit is among us.

Let us give thanks to God,
in memory and in hope.

Blessed are you, gracious God,
Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love.
With your breath, you formed all that we are
and all that is beyond us; the heavens tell your glory.

Your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, risen to life, eternal as your love.

Hallelujah! Love is stronger than death!

We remember that vision of God's love shown to us in Jesus at table:

**he shared food with followers and friends,
with those whom society considered the last and least,
with crowds of thousands on the hillside, and a few friends in an upper room.**

On the night he was handed over, the night before he was crucified,
Jesus gathered with his friends for a meal.

He took bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, saying,

"This is my body, which is broken for you. As often as you eat it, remember me."

After sharing the bread, Jesus took a cup of wine, and gave it to them to drink, saying,

"This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for many."

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Holy God, pour your Spirit upon us,
that we may know the risen Christ in the breaking of bread,
and that in word and deed, we may be channels of your
love, peace, and justice in the world.

Amen.

At this time, we also remember all with whom you would have us share in your feast of new life.

We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .
all who are ill or alone . . .
all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .
for all whom the world counts as last and least
We pray for the church and its varied ministries . . .
for nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .
for all our families and friends

We gather these and all our prayers and lift our voices in the prayer Jesus taught:

**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 forever.
Amen.**

[The Lord's Prayer: A Translation (The United Church of Christ, U.S.A.,1995.) VU 916]

(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.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.
Come and be nourished at Christ's table.

Prayer After Communion

Loving and Gracious God,
risen with Christ, may we be enlivened with the reassurance of your presence;
risen with Christ, may we accept the challenge to work in your way and to do your will;
risen with Christ, may we be living proof that your love is stronger than the forces of death;
risen with Christ, may we be the bearers of your love to the world.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Christ is risen, indeed! Amen!

Closing Hymn: Glory in the Cross

Dan Schutte, see page 10

Sending Forth:

(based on Psalm 118)

Christ lives! Let all whose hope has been shattered say:

God's love endures forever!

Christ lives! Let all whose hearts are heavy with loss say:

God's love endures forever!

Christ lives! Let all the congregation say:

God's love endures forever!

Christ lives; the power of God's undying love for all creation!

Christ lives in us! The power of God's healing love in the world!

Hallelujah! God's love endures forever!

Blessing

Amen: Celtic Alleluia

Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker

Al - le - - lu - - ia, al - le - - lu - - ia.

Al - le - - lu - - ia, al - le - - lu - - ia!

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**Postlude: *Symphony for Organ, No. 5 in F Minor,*
*Op 42, No. 1, 5th Movement: Toccata***

Charles-Marie Widor, 1897

Music List:

From page 8:

Closing Hymn: Glory in the Cross

Dan Schutte

1. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ,
2. Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ
3. Let us raise our voi - ces to the cross of Christ

our sal - va - tion and our hope. Let us bow in ho - mage to the
who is ri - sen from the grave. He will come in glo - ry to re -
where the earth and heav - en u - nite God has wed cre - a - tion on the

Lord of Life, who was bro - ken to make us whole.
- ceive our hearts at the dawn of the las - ting day.
tree of hope where the dark - ness be - comes our light.

There is no great - er love, as bless - ed as this:
For the trum - pet will sound, the dead shall be raised,
Let us join in the dance of heav - en and earth,

to lay down one's life for a friend.
and death shall de - feat us no more.
give thanks for the good - ness of God.

Let us ev - er glo - ry in the cross of Christ and the

1.
2. & Final

tri - umph of God's great love.

Beyond Easter:

Note: The office will be closed Monday, April 21, 2025 for the holiday.

Sunday, May 4, 2025: YOU ARE INVITED! We celebrate our 75th Anniversary!

- 10:30 am – Celebration in Worship
- 11:30 am – Celebratory Garden Party – outside if weather permits. **Don't miss it!**

Friday, May 9, 2025 – 2:00 pm – Celebration of Life for Don Carlisle (Courtney Steeves' father), reception to follow.

Sunday, May 11, 2025 – 10:30 am – Worship – Christian Family Day

Sunday, May 18, 2025 – 10:30 am - Victoria Day weekend Worship; Note the office will be closed on Monday, May 19th for the holiday.

Sunday, May 25, 2025:

- 10:30 am – Worship
- 11:30 am – Northlea Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 – 6:00 pm - UCWN Potluck dinner, annual meeting and speaker with Rev. Liz Mackenzie

Ongoing Activities:

Mondays: 4:30 pm - Bible Study on Zoom until May 26, 2025.

Wednesdays:

- 11:00 am –Chair Exercise is back beginning April 23 for 6 weeks until May 28, 2025
- 7:30 pm - For the Love of Singing Community Choir extended to May 14, 2025

Thursdays:

- 1:30 pm – Arts & Crafts Circle – everyone is welcome
- 7:30 pm – Northlea Choir Practice until June 5, 2025



Next Week's Readings

From *Gathering*

Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

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