



Northlea United Church
In the community. For the community.
125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7
www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



December 24, 2025
Christmas Eve
5:00 pm

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:

The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett – Presiding

David Jafelice – Music Director

Senan Whelan – Organist

Mark Pinder – Oboe

Kaisha Lee – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto

Joshua Clemenger – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

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

Minister: The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett bronwyn@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

Northlea United Church
Sunday, December 24, 2025

** Indicates where the congregation is invited to stand as they are comfortable and able.*

Welcome & Announcements

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. Toronto is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

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

Candle Lighting Ceremony – Prepare the Way

Joel Raney

(The Christ Candle is lit)

The musical score is written on three staves in G major and 6/8 time. The first staff begins with a circled 'Choir' label. The second staff has a circled '+ CONGREGATION' label. The lyrics are: ... Come, O come, Em - man - u - el. Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Make way for the Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords, Je - sus, Em - man - u - el. Pre - pare the way, pre - pare the way.

Words and music by Joel Raney. Copyright © 2025 Hope Publishing Company. www.hopepublishing.com All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-724837

Christmas Response: We welcome the coming of Christ.

(recited after each prayer)

(after final prayer and response, repeat sung refrain).

***The Gift of Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us exchange words and gestures of peace

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

***Opening Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful**

Voices United 60, v. 1, 2, 3, 5

❖ Listening & Responding ❖

A reading of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”

by Barbara Robinson (edited)

Chapter One - The Herdmans

Chapter Two - Church

Anthem: All Bells in Paradise

John Rutter

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn: Gloria (*in English*)

Voices United 37

Blessing of the Offering

Chapter Three - Christmas Pageant Roles

Chapter Four - The First Rehearsal

Hymn – Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Voices United 48

Chapter Five - The Second Rehearsal

Chapter Six - The Dress Rehearsal

Hymn - Away in a Manger

Voices United 69

Chapter Seven - The Christmas Pageant

One Verse of Each Hymn:

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Voices United 64, v 1

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

Voices United 75, v 1 & 2

While shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind;
“glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.

What Child is This?

Voices United 74, v 1

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Anthem: Night of Silence

by Daniel Kantor. Arranged by Marilyn Biery

❖ The Celebration of Holy Communion ❖

Instructions for Communion and Candle Lighting

***Communion Hymn: Silent Night**

Voices United 67

1. Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin mother and child;
Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight: Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav’nly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!
3. Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Prayer:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

Spoken Response:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and God of might;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering Jesus

Spoken Response: Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Prayers of the People and Invocation

Spoken Response:

And the people of God say,

Amen.

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 not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

~Please extinguish candles and place holders in white bins before taking elements~

Sharing Communion

Bread for the Journey, broken for us.

The cup of the new covenant, poured out for us.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Music During Communion: Wexford Carol

Traditional Irish, 12th Century

Arranged by Elaine Hagenberg

Prayer After Communion

***Closing Hymn: Joy to the World**

Voices United 59

***Blessing and Sending Forth**

Sung Blessing: A Merry Christmas

Traditional Carol, Arranged by Authur Warrell

Postlude

Christmas and the New Year at Northlea

Thursday, December 25, 2025 (Christmas Day) to Saturday, January 3, 2026 – the church will be closed for the holidays

Sunday, December 28, 2025 – online prerecorded service

Sunday, January 4, 2026 – Epiphany – 10:30 am – Worship in-person and livestreamed.

Ongoing Activities:

Tuesdays: Bible Study on Zoom - 10:30 am – resumes January 13, 2026

Thursdays: activities resume January 8, 2026

- 1:30 pm – Arts & Crafts Circle
- 7:30 pm – Northlea Choir Practice



Next Week's Readings

From *Gathering*

Christmas Day: Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-7, 8-20

Dec. 28 First after Christmas: Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

New Year's Day: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6; Matthew 25:31-46

Jan. 4 Second After Christmas: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14;
John 1:1-9, 10-18

Epiphany: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

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

*Merry Christmas
Everyone!*

