



Northlea United Church

In the community. For the community.

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, ON, M4G 3Y7

www.northleaunited.ca ✧ 416-425-5252



September 13, 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Creation Time & Communion

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

Amanda Miller – Christian Education Leader

Alexandra Delle Donne – Soprano ✧ Karen Davidson – Alto

Joshua Clemenger – Tenor ✧ Andrew Gunpath – Bass

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

Ray Murrill – Reader

Minister: The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett ✧ bronwyn@northleaunited.ca

Music Director: David Jafelice ✧ david@northleaunited.ca

Christian Education Leader: Amanda C. Miller ✧

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, September 13, 2026

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

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introduction to Embodied Worship: Amanda

Upcoming Events

August & September Birthdays

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgement of the Land

The land on which we gather is the sacred gift of the Creator, the territory of Indigenous nations, and the subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant and Treaty 13. This land has been witness to broken promises and settler betrayal.

May we seek redress and repair. May we find home in right relation.

Choral Introit: Goodness is Stronger than Evil – *Words: Desmond Tutu, adapt.*

John L. Bell

*Call to Worship & Opening Prayer:

Moved by beauty, messiness, and mystery,

we bring thanksgiving, hope, and commitment.

Creator God,

you invite us to begin with wonder,

finding moments of awe in the minute and the majestic.

We love rainbows, cardinals, and sunsets.

Move us to a deeper love that can celebrate the world's
decaying leaves, broken spider webs, and algae-covered muck.

Move us to a braver love that can embrace the world's
hurting, and our earth kin's suffering.

Keep our hearts present, as they beat in pain.

Keep our minds focused, as they grow in wisdom.

Keep our actions meaningful,

as the loving, challenging actions of Jesus were,

and call us to be.

May it be so.

Amen.

Emily Gordon, Burningbush Eco-ministry. <https://www.youtube.com/@burningbushcoministry> Used with permission.

***Prayer of Confession:**

Creator God,

we hear Paul's words:

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law... Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

(Romans 13:8-10)

And we bring our hearts heavy with the times we fall short:

...every time our words or silence

do not come from love for our neighbours –

human, animal, and plant...

...every time

our actions or inaction

do not come from love for our neighbours –

human, animal, and plant...

Forgive us.

Transform us.

We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Emily Gordon, Burningbush Eco-ministry.

<https://www.youtube.com/@burningbushecoministry> Used with permission.

***Words of Assurance:**

God's love does not depend on our worthiness.

God's promise of renewal does not rely on our perfection.

Each day we begin again and choose anew.

You are loved.

And you are called to live into that love that God showers upon us so abundantly.

Thanks be to God!

Emily Gordon, Burningbush Eco-ministry. <https://www.youtube.com/@burningbushecoministry>

Used with permission.

***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: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

Voices United 271

❖ Listening ❖

Prayer for Illumination:

Ray Murrill

O God, your Word is a lamp at our feet, and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love. Amen

Scripture: Romans 14:1-12

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

This is the Word of God, for the People of God!

Thanks be to God!

Anthem: Bless the Lord, O My Soul – *Based on Psalm 103*

Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov (1859-1935)

Arr. Arthur C. Becker

Sermon: The Essentials

The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett

❖ Responding ❖

***A New Creed - (VU 918)**

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn: In Gratitude and Humble Trust – (VU 544)

**In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.**

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing of the Offering

**O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

❖ The Celebration of Holy Communion ❖

❖ Communion ❖

Open Table

Communion Hymn: One Bread, One Body

Voices United 467

Embodied Worship: The Sacredness of Ordinary Things

Amanda Miller

Invitation to Communion:

The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett

May God be with us.

God is here among us.

Let us open our hearts to God.

We open them to God and to one another.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?

We give thanks because God is always with us. We thank you God, Creator of us all; from the beginning you made the world and all its creatures. You made people to live for you and for one another. We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

You created Adam and Eve and gave them a garden; you showed Noah a rainbow; you gave Moses strength to free your people and taught Miriam to sing; you gave courage to Esther and loyalty to Ruth; you gave David a harp to sing your praise, and help him defeat the giant. We praise you, O God.

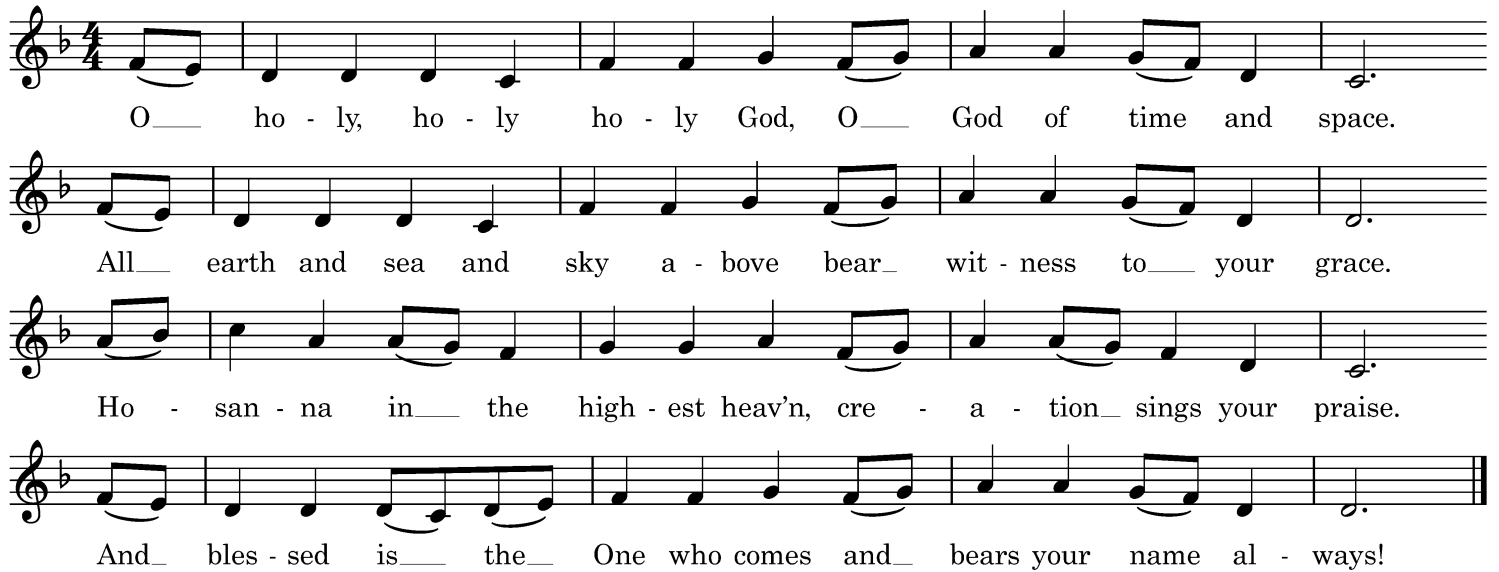
We praise you, O God.

Yet even they turned away from you and forgot about you, as we do too. But you did not forget. You sent Jesus to the world to show how much you love us and to bring us back to you again. We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

He came as one of us, first an infant, then a child, later a youth, then an adult. He rejoiced with those who rejoiced and wept with those who wept. To the despairing, he spoke a word of hope. To the sick, he gave healing. To the hurting, he was a friend. Still people turned away from you. They betrayed Jesus and nailed him to a cross. But he was lifted from the grave and restored to life, that he might be with us and we with him, alive for evermore! Therefore, with all the saints of every time and place, we join the angels in their praise:

Thanksgiving – (MV 203 Kingsfold)



O___ ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly God, O___ God of time and space.

All___ earth and sea and sky a - bove bear___ wit - ness to___ your grace.

Ho - san - na in___ the high - est heav'n, cre - a - tion___ sings your praise.

And___ bles - sed is___ the___ One who comes and___ bears your name al - ways!

Why do we eat bread at this table?

We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his friends, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it and gave it to them saying; "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Each time you do this, remember me."

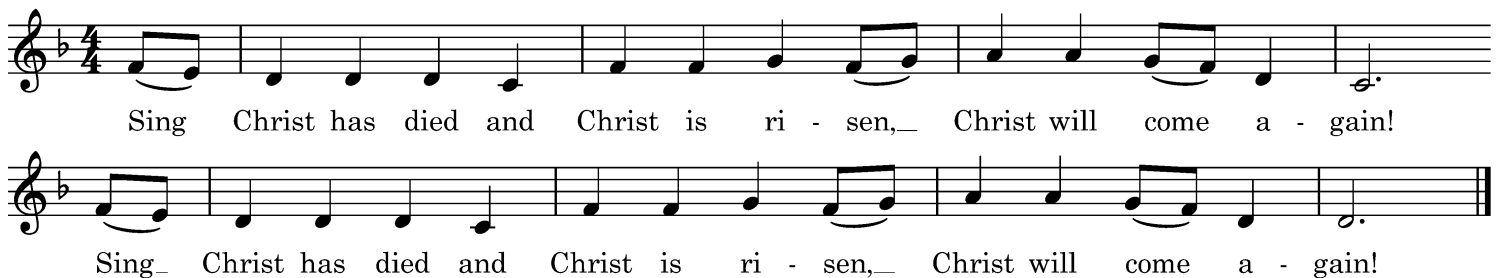
Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

That same night, Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying: "Drink. This cup, poured out for you, is the promise of God. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

What do we remember at this table?

We remember Jesus' death and celebrate his resurrection; we await with hope his coming again to bring peace and justice to the earth; and we proclaim the mystery of our faith;

Mystery of Faith – (MV 204 Kingsfold)



Sing Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen,___ Christ will come a - gain!

Sing___ Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen,___ Christ will come a - gain!

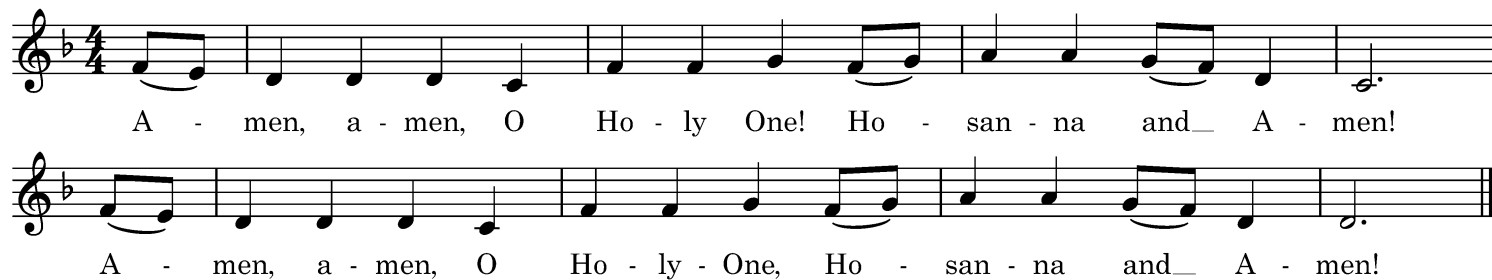
For whom do we pray at this table?

We pray for God's world... (*Prayers of Intercession*)

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here, that we and these gifts, touched by your Spirit, may be signs of life and love to one another, and to the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever. Amen.

Amen – (MV 205 Kingsfold)



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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.**

Communion is Served - Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup:

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.
Jesus Christ, the True Vine.
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come, for all things are now ready.

Embodied Worship: Sharing the Sacred

Amanda Miller & The Rev. Bronwyn Corlett

Prayer after Communion:

**For the bread we have eaten,
for the wine we have tasted,
for the life we have received,
we thank you God.
Grant that what we have done
and have been given here,
may so put its mark on us,
that it may remain always in our hearts.
Grant that we may grow
in Christian love and understanding,
and that ours may be lives of faithful action,
in Christ's name. Amen.**

(This Communion Prayer is a compilation of prayers from Celebrate God's Presence, 268-302).

*Blessing and Sending Forth

Amen

Bob Dufford SJ



A - - men, hal - le - lu - - jah, for_ ev - er and ev - er, for_



ev - er, hal - le - lu - jah, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men._____

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Postlude

Next Week's Readings

From The Gatherings:

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Visit northleaunited.ca for more information.