



Welcome to Visitors and Newcomers!

If you are new to Northlea, please be sure to make yourself known to the minister and sign the visitors' book beside the centre doors of the Sanctuary.

The Nursery is on the main floor beside the Minister's Office. Nursery caregivers welcome infants and toddlers so

that parents can participate in the service.

Sunday School (or "Cool Church" as the children call it) for elementary school aged children is held in the church basement and for teenagers, in the youth room on the second floor. Parents, following the service, please meet your children and youth in the Fellowship Room.

Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals are available from the sound operator at the back of the Sanctuary. Audio tapes or CD's of this morning's worship service are available through the office.

Sunday Morning Ministries

Thank You for Helping with Today's Service

Greeters and Ushers – Bob Atkinson, Bev Vanstone

Lay Reader – Barb Ferguson

Refreshments – Barb Ferguson and Marc McNamara

Sound System – Stephen Bathgate

Following this morning's service, please come to the Fellowship Room for conversation and refreshment.

If you would like to have name tags, to be put on our mailing list, or would like more information about Northlea United Church, please contact Barb in the church office.

Northlea United Church

125 Brentcliffe Road, Toronto, Ontario M4G 3Y7

(416) 425-5252 office@northleaunited.ca www.northleaunited.ca

Minister: Rev. Jim McKnight

Music Director: Marc McNamara

Church Office: Barb Ferguson

Building Manager: Robert Pringle

*Welcome to Sunday Morning Worship
Northlea United Church*

January 1, 2012 10:30 am

Minister – Rev. Jim McKnight

Music Director – Marc McNamara



Worship Celebration

New Year's Day

A Sunday of Epiphany

*I said to a man who stood at the gate of the year,
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."
And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand
into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light
and safer than the known way."*

(from the King's Christmas message, 1939)

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

*There are times during the service when the congregation is asked to stand.
At these times, please stand as you are comfortable and able.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Introit: *Chosen by the congregation*

(VU 79-98)

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn: *Chosen by the congregation*

(VU 79-98)

Lighting the Christ Candle and Invocation

The Peace:

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

The congregation is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Sung Response

VU 955

Opening Prayer:

VU 86

**Radiant God, light for all people and all places,
by the guidance of a star you led the Magi
to worship the Christ Child.**

**By the light of faith
lead us to worship you in peace and love,
and guide us in your way.**

**We pray in the name of Christ,
light of the world.**

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

VU 921

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Children's Hymn: *Chosen by the children*

Theme Conversation

(After the Theme Conversation, children return to their places in the congregation.)

Prayer for Illumination:

**Gracious Holy Spirit, let the light and wonder of your presence dwell
within us, that we may hear your word in new and lively ways and fully
live your love. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah: Isaiah 60:1-6

One: This is the Prophet's promise of deliverance!

All: Thanks be to God!

Congregational Reading: A Paraphrase of Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

(Scripture taken from THE MESSAGE, 2002, NavPress Publishing Group)

Sung Response

VU 79

One: Give the gift of wise rule to the king, O God,
the gift of just rule to the crown prince.

**All: May he judge your people rightly,
be honourable to your meek and lowly.**

One: Let the mountains give exuberant witness;

All: shape the hills with the contours of right living.

One: Please stand up for the poor,
help the children of the needy,
come down hard on the cruel tyrants.

**All: Outlast the sun, outlive the moon -
age after age after age.**

One: Be rainfall on cut grass,
earth-refreshing rain showers.

**All: Let righteousness burst into blossom
and peace abound until the moon fades to nothing. R**

One: Kings remote and legendary will pay homage,
kings rich and resplendent will turn over their wealth.

**All: All kings will fall down and worship,
and godless nations sign up to serve him,**

One: because he rescues the poor at the first sign of need,
the destitute who have run out of luck.

**All: He opens a place in his heart for the down-and-out,
he restores the wretched of the earth.**

One: He frees them from tyranny and torture -

**All: when they bleed, he bleeds,
When they die, he dies. R**

The Story of Epiphany: Matthew 2:1-12

One: Hear the Faith's tradition of gifts given, filled with meaning;

All: of discovery and love, and recognition.

Sung Response

VU 9

Sermon: Each Day, a New Heaven

Hymn: We Three Kings of Orient Are

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

The Offering is received

Offertory Music

Offertory Response: *Chosen by the congregation* (VU 537-544)

Offertory Prayer:

**God of life and light and all the wonder of creation, receive our gifts,
we pray, and all the ways we give them. May they find purpose and
deep meaning, as did gold and frankincense and myrrh so long ago,
and serve, in faithful hands, your love to the world. This we pray in
Jesus' name, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

Morning Prayers

Closing Hymn: *Chosen by the congregation* (VU 79-98)

Commissioning

Blessing or Amen: *Chosen by the congregation* (VU 961-974)

Postlude

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Thurs Jan 5	Adult Choir practice at 7:30 p.m.
Sun Jan 8	Children & Youth Committee meets at 9 a.m.
Tues Jan 10	Congregational Life meets at 7 p.m. in the Library
Tues Jan 10	Shall We Talk? 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Topic: Lies, True Lies and Stories
Wed Jan 11	Taizé Service at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Wed Jan 11	Agenda Items for the January 18 Board meeting due to the office or to Gail Lindsay.
Thurs Jan 12	Cool Church Choir practice at 3:45 p.m. Adult Choir practice at 7:30 p.m.
Sun Jan 15	Worship & Music meets at 12 p.m. in the Nursery
Mon Jan 16	Ministry & Personnel meets at 7 p.m.
Wed Jan 18	Church Board meets at 7:30 p.m.
Thurs Jan 19	Cool Church Choir practice at 3:45 p.m. Adult Choir practice at 7:30 p.m.
Tues Jan 24	Shall We Talk? 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room
Wed Jan 25	Taizé Service at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Sun Jan 29	Pastoral Care meets at 12 p.m.

More events and announcements from the community, neighbouring churches, and Toronto Southeast Presbytery and Conference can be found posted outside the church office.