

## Northminster United Church

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**Music Director: Dustin Bowers**

**Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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*3rd Sunday after Epiphany*

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### Music as We Gather

#### Welcome, Celebrations, Life and Work of the Community

Birthday Wishes to Jean McIlmoyl [100]

#### Call to Worship:

One: The Holy calls us to pause and listen...

**All: ...to listen for the sound of life and love around us.**

One: The Holy calls us to faith in action...

**All: ...to a faith-filled response to Holy presence.**

One: We are called to worship.

**All: Let us worship together!**

One: Amen!

**All: Amen!**

#### Lighting the Christ Candle

#### Opening Hymn: VU421

“Lead On”

- 1 Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come.  
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.  
Our slavery left behind us,  
new hopes within us grow.  
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.
- 2 Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,  
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.  
We are not lost, though wandering,  
for by your light we come,  
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.
- 3 Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,  
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.  
We pray our sons and daughters  
may journey to that land  
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.

#### Opening Prayer

#### Words of Assurance:

One: As the Epiphany Light of the Holy shines into our lives...

**All:** ...we are challenged to accept ourselves and others as the Holy accepts us – completely and wholly, loving us for who we are and encouraging us to grow and thrive.

**One:** In Jesus' name.

**All:** Amen.

**Old Testament Lesson:**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Conversion of Nineveh

<sup>3:1</sup> The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

**Young at Heart Time:**

*“The Silent Game”*

**Psalm Selection: VU780 (Sung)**

“My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone” (Psalm 62)

- 1 My soul finds rest in God alone,  
on whom my help depends,  
who is my fortress and my rock,  
who sure salvation sends.  
My foes conspire to bring me down;  
they scorn my troubled state.  
Their lips are quick to sound my praise,  
but in their hearts they hate.
- 2 Find rest, my soul, in God alone,  
on whom my hope depends,  
who is my fortress and my rock,  
who sure salvation sends.  
My aid and honour come from God,  
my refuge strong and sure.  
Now, all you people, trust in God;  
in whom we are secure.
- 3 The great of earth are less than dust,  
all mortal strength is vain.  
And fools alone rely on wealth  
or prize ill-gotten gain.  
I know, O God, that you are strong,  
and strong your loving Word.  
Our every deed for good or ill,  
you surely will reward.

**Gospel Lesson:**

Mark 1:14-20

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

<sup>1:14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news<sup>[a]</sup> of God,<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;<sup>[c]</sup> repent, and believe in the good news.”<sup>[d]</sup>

## Jesus Calls the First Disciples

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

One: As the Holy One shares the light of Epiphany with us through the cherished stories of our faith history, may we shine that light on our communities in this time and place.

**All: In the revealing honesty of that light, may we see and share the love of the Holy.**

One: In the name of the one called, Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

## Music for Meditation

**Meditation:**

*“The Thundering Silence”*

**Hymn: VU657**

*“He Leadeth Me”*

- 1 He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By his own hand he leadeth me!  
His faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me!
- 2 Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,  
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me. R
- 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine,  
content, whatever lot I see,  
since 'tis my God that leadeth me. R
- 4 And when my task on earth is done,  
when by thy grace the victory's won,  
even death's cold wave I will not flee,  
since God through Jordan leadeth me. R

## The New Creed:

One: Let's share together in the New Creed:

**All: 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.**

**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. Amen.**

**Hymn: VU567**

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

- 1 Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?
- 4 Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?
- 5 Christ, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go

where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

**Invitation to Offer Our Gifts:** (The Offering plates are found at the doors into the sanctuary, please place your Offering on the plate as you exit)

**Dedication of Our Gifts**

**An Affirm Minute**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (VU916):**

**All 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 for ever. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: VU509**

"Here I Am, Lord"

- 1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?  
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.
- 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain,  
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send? R

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send? R

**Blessing as We Go Forth:**

One: As our time together comes to an end...

**All: ...the presence of the Creator stirs us to live faithfully and love openly in the Epiphany light of the Holy!**

One: May we share that light as we live and love together.

**All: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen!**

**Music as We Depart**

**Prayer Cycle**

As church, we are called to pray for each other and for our mission in the world.

Regional Council Prayer Cycle  
for the week of January 24, 2021

**Trinity United Church  
Madoc, ON**

*[East Central Ontario Regional Council]*

**Worship Services are available weekly  
on our YouTube channel, which can be found on our website:**

[www.northminsteruc.ca](http://www.northminsteruc.ca)



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Ways to Support Northminster United Church

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Name: NUC Treasurer Email: [treasurernuc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurernuc@gmail.com)

**Offering Envelope Giving**

contact the church office

**Cash or cheque**

Cheques payable to "Northminster United Church"

Givings can be mailed to: 300 Sunset Blvd., Peterborough, ON K9H 5L3  
Or delivered personally.

During Covid restrictions, envelopes can be placed in  
mail slot located to the left of the back door just off the parking lot.

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