

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 10 am

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Music as We Gather

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land:

As we gather, we acknowledge that we meet and live on the traditional territories of the Mississauga Anishinaabe People. We give thanks for their care for the land over thousands of years and for their deep spirituality and honouring of the Creator and the creation. May we live with respect in God's creation and in harmony with our neighbours.

Music as We Centre

Lighting the Christ Candle: Honouring Our Diversity in Gifts

Please stand for Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn: VU325 "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help for ever,
and its confidence alone.

- 2 To this temple where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with your faithful loving-kindness
hear your servants as they pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.

3 Here bestow on all your servants
what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain from you for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.

4 Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one,
one in might, and one in glory,
while unending ages run. < >

Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One: The Holy calls us to gather together.

All: Called to remember we are all members of the Body of Christ.

One: We are called to open ourselves to the Holy.

All: Called to faith-filled living.

One: Let us worship!

All: Let us worship together!

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: The promise of the Epiphany Season is the ever-present
Light of the Holy.

**All: Through reflection, transformation, and action, as we
find ourselves in the Light of Epiphany, we can live
faithfully and authentically as children of the Holy.**

First Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Bruce Newmaster

^{12:12} For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the

body. ¹⁶ And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But strive for the greater gifts.

Psalm Selection: VU740-41

(from Psalm 19)

Led by Bruce Newmaster

Psalm 19

Refrain 2

Geoffrey Shaw

Unison

Glo - ry and praise to God whose word brings life!

The musical score is for a unison setting of a refrain. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Music by permission of Oxford University Press

Refrain 2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!

One The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork.

**All One day speaks to another,
and night shares its knowledge with night,**

One and this without speech or language;
their voices are not heard.

**All But their sound goes out to all the lands,
their words to the ends of the earth. R**

One In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun
which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy,
like an athlete eager to run the race.

**All Its rising is at one end of the sky,
it runs its course to the other,
and there is nothing that is hidden from its heat. R**

One God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul;

**All God's instruction is sure,
giving wisdom to the simple;**

One God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart;

**All God's commandment is pure
giving light to the eyes;**

One God's fear is clean, enduring forever;

**All God's judgements are true,
every one of them righteous;**

One more desirable than gold, even much fine gold;

**All sweeter also than honey,
pure honey from the comb. R**

One By them is your servant warned;

All for in keeping them there is great reward.

One But who can discern unwitting sins?

All O cleanse me from my secret faults.

One Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,
lest they get the better of me.

All Then shall I be clean and innocent of great offence. R

**All Let the words of my mouth
and the thoughts of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O God,
my strength and my redeemer.**

Hymn: VU699

“Live Into Hope”

- 1 Live into hope of captives freed,
of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
the year of God's own jubilee!
- 2 Live into hope the blind shall see
with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear,
a vision of our God brought near.
- 3 Live into hope of liberty,
the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread,
to hear God's word and thus be fed.
- 4 Live into hope of captives freed
from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
to faith and hope and joy and peace. < >

Young at Heart Time:

“Head, Shoulders, Knees, Toes”

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:14-21

Bruce Newmaster

^{4:14} Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

- ¹⁸ ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.’

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Responses

Reader: As we listen to the words from our scripture...

All: may we hear the stories from our faith history that inspire us to embrace the promise and new life shared with us by the Spirit of the Holy.

Reader: In the name of Jesus, the Christ...

All: Amen.

Meditation:

"Body Aches"

Music for Meditation

Please stand for the New Creed

The New Creed

VU918

One: Let us join together in a statement of our communal faith...

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.

We Receive the Offering

Doxology: VU542

“We Give You But Your Own”

We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone,
we give it gratefully. < >

Dedication of Our Gifts

An Affirm Minute

Read by John Taylor

"Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice"

Hymn: VU326

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.
- 2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.
- 3 He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken-hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
- 4 Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!
- 5 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name. < >

Prayers of the People and Jesus Prayer:

A Paraphrase

**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.**

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Closing Hymn: VU315 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

- 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth
and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity! < >

Blessing as We Go Forth:

One: Let us go from this place with hope and celebration.

All: Let us go from this place with peace and compassion.

One: Let us go from this place with joy and celebration.

All: Let us go from this place love and inclusion.

One: Let us go from this place sharing the Light of Epiphany.
Amen.

All: Amen.

Sung Blessing: VU964

“Go Now in Peace”

Go now in peace, go now in peace.

May the love of God surround you everywhere,
everywhere you may go. < >

Music as the Worship Service Concludes

THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS for Jan 26

Duty	Jaymes Winch
Elevator	Paula Winch
Greeters	Debbie & Martin Noakes
	Joyce Armstrong
Scripture Reader	Bruce Newmaster
Congregational Elder	Mary Hess Northey
Sunday School Coordinator	Maggie Crawford
Nursery Coordinator	Gale Osmond
Sound	Gale Osmond
Video	Nelson Pickett
Videographer	Kathy Common
Fellowship	Worship Committee
Fellowship (Feb)	Affirm Ministry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD BANK SUNDAY- is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We invite you to bring items to support Kawartha Food Share. Boxes are located in Upper Wright Hall and back foyer [*exit to parking lot*]. If you wish to make a cash donation instead, there is a line provided on the offering envelopes. **Please make cheques payable to: "Northminster United Church"**. This can be placed on the offering plate. **Next date: Feb. 9th**. We also accept eTransfers to: treasurernuc@gmail.com

OUR NURSERY FOR OUR YOUNGEST CHILDREN is along the main corridor across from the kitchen.

OFFERING ENVELOPES ... please contact Michele in the office to let her know you require offering envelopes. Email: info@northminsteruc.ca or Tel. # 705-748-4881.

PASTORAL CARE: If you know someone that is in the hospital that we should know about, please call the office and let us know. The hospital does not notify us & there is no longer access to a church list. If calling the church after hours, please leave a message 705-748-4881.
Please keep in mind, we all need to take care of each other.

GRACE BUCK INCOME TAX SERVICE will be preparing Income Tax returns again this year at Northminster. Scheduled dates: March 11th, March 25th, April 8th, and April 22nd. For further information please call 705-745-4303

Are you interested in going on a Day Tour?? Only one tour will be chosen, so we need everyone's opinion. The choices are posted on the bulletin board beside the Church Office providing the descriptions. So if you are interested in going on a day tour, please indicate your choice...

- CirQue Du Soleil
- Kingston 1000 Island Cruise (Boldt & Singer Castle)
- Muskoka Steamships-Ship & Show

Family & friends are welcome!

