

## **NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**

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**Minister: Rev. Kevin Derry**

Email: [minister@northminsteruc.ca](mailto:minister@northminsteruc.ca)

**Music Director: Dustin Bowers**

**Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 10 am**

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*4th Sunday after Epiphany*

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### **Music as We Gather**

#### **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.

#### **Opening Hymn: VU334**      "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

- 1    All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
      Let angels prostrate fall;  
      bring forth the royal diadem,  
      and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
      crown him Lord of all.
  
- 2    O seed of Israel's chosen race  
      now ransomed from the fall,  
      hail him who saves you by his grace R
  
- 3    Crown him, you martyrs of your God,  
      who from his altar call;  
      praise him whose way of pain you trod, R
  
- 4    Let every tongue and every tribe,  
      responsive to the call,  
      to him all majesty ascribe R
  
- 5    O that, with all the sacred throng,  
      we at his feet may fall,

join in the everlasting song,  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** Honouring a Covenant Faith

**Welcome, Life, and Work of the Community**

**Call to Worship:**

One: Let us hear the call of the Holy.

**All: Called to honour the covenants of our faith.**

One: Let us feel the call of the Holy.

**All: Called to celebrate the rich covenantal history of our faith.**

One: Let us respond to the call of the Holy.

**All: Called to renew our faith covenant with each other and the Holy.**

One: Let us worship!

**All: Let us worship together!**

**Opening Prayer**

**Words of Assurance:**

One: The Holy loves and cherishes each one of us for who we are and all that we may become.

**All: With thanksgiving and praise we shout Alleluia! With thanksgiving and praise we shout Amen!**

**First Lesson:** Micah 6:1-8

*Ron Kervin*

<sup>6:1</sup> Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has a case against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup> "O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup> O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,

what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> “With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**Responsive Selection: VU736**

from Psalm 15  
*Led by Ron Kervin*

Refrain: Within your holy place, O God, who shall a dweller be?

One God, who may be a guest in your house,

**All or who may dwell on your holy mountain? R**

One One who leads a blameless life,

**All who does what is right,  
who speaks truthfully from the heart;**

One one whose tongue is free from malice,

**All who never wrongs a friend,  
who utters no reproach against a neighbour;**

One one who cannot respect the unworthy,  
but honours those who fear God;

**All who stands by a promise given,  
though it be to personal disadvantage;**

One one who will not take interest on a loan,  
nor accept a bribe to testify against the innocent.

**All Whoever does this shall never be overthrown. R**

**Hymn: VU500**

“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

- 1 Blessed Jesus, at your word  
we have come again to hear you;  
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred  
and in glowing faith be near you.  
As the promises here given  
draw us wholly up to heaven.
  
- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight  
lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
till your Spirit breaks the night,  
filling us with light unclouded.  
All good thoughts and all good living  
come but by your gracious giving.
  
- 3 Radiance of God's glory bright,  
Light of light from God proceeding,  
Jesus, send your blessed light;  
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,  
that our prayers and songs may please you,  
as with grateful hearts we praise you.

**Young at Heart Time:**

*“Holy Wishes”*

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 5:1-12

*Ron Kervin*

5:1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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 as we live and love together in faith.**

Reader: In the name of Jesus...

**All: ...Amen.**

**Meditation:**

*“Covenant of Faith”*

**Music for Meditation**

**The New Creed:**

One Let us stand as we are able and join together in a statement of our communal faith...

**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**

**Hymn: VU87**

*“I am the Light of the World”*

R 'I am the light of the world!  
You people come and follow me!  
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery

of what you were meant to do and be.

- 1 When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and the shepherds have found  
their way home,  
the work of Christmas is begun: R
- 2 To find the lost and lonely one,  
to heal the broken soul with love,  
to feed the hungry children with warmth  
and good food,  
to feel the earth below, the sky above! R
- 3 To free the prisoner from all chains,  
to make the powerful care,  
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,  
to see God's children everywhere! R
- 4 To bring hope to every task you do,  
to dance at a baby's new birth,  
to make music in an old person's heart,  
and sing to the colours of the earth! R

### **We Receive the Offering**

**Doxology: VU541** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One

### **Dedication of Our Gifts**

**Prayers of the People and the Jesus Prayer:**

(VU916, 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.**

**Closing Hymn: VU686**

**“God of Grace and God of Glory”**

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
now fulfil your church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour.
- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;  
fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
free our hearts to work and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days.
- 3 Cure your children's warring madness,  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton selfish gladness,  
rich in goods and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Set our feet on lofty places,  
gird our lives that they may be  
armoured with all Christlike graces,  
pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

that we fail not them nor thee.

**Blessing as We Go Forth:**

One: Let us go from this place knowing the presence of the Holy.

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

One: Let us go from this place sharing the presence of the Holy.

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

One: Let us go in peace.

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

**Music as We Depart**

**Regional Council Prayer Cycle**

As church, we are called to pray for each other and for our mission in the world for the week of January 29, 2023

**Eastminster Pastoral Charge**

**Eastminster United Church, Bellville**

*[East Central Ontario Regional Council]*



ANNUAL

CONGREGATIONAL

MEETING

Sunday, March 5, 2023  
following Worship Service

## 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, we ask that you place money in a separate envelope clearly marked as “*Donation to Kawartha Food Share*” also include your name or envelope number. ***Please make cheques payable to: “Northminster United Church”.*** This can be placed on the offering plate. Thank you for your generous support!

**Next date: February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Due to the rising cost of weekly offering envelopes, it was decided to do the envelopes in house. We have purchased offering envelope with all the Northminster United Church information but did not have dates or envelope numbers printed on the envelopes. This allows the envelope to be used anytime.

If you currently use an envelope with a number, we will continue using that number associated with your name. If you would like us to print your envelopes with your number, we will be more than happy to do so. Please contact the office directly.

Please send me an email letting me know who you are and I will make sure you have envelopes available with your # for the new year.

**Envelopes will be placed on the table in the Narthex for pick up.**

Grieving in a Time of Pandemic: COVID and Loss 2022-2023 facilitated by Nola Wilson and Kevin Derry will continue on Thursday, February 09, 2023 at 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm in Friendship Room. Topic: The Post-Holidays and Grieving.



**SOUP SUNDAY** is being held on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 following the worship service in Upper Wright Hall. It is a “free will offering” event...

*Please let Michele know of any errors or omissions.*

*THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS for Jan 29th*

<b>Duty</b>	<i>Elgin Northey</i>
<b>Elevator</b>	<i>Carrie Varga</i>
<b>Greeters</b>	<i>Marg &amp; Al Renwick</i> <i>Bill Wakely, Wayne Ferguson</i>
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	<i>Ron Kervin</i>
<b>Congregational Elder</b>	<i>Mary Hess Northey</i>
<b>Sound</b>	<i>Bill VanTol / Alex Brunton</i>
<b>Video</b>	<i>Ron Kervin/Nelson Pickett</i>
<b>Videographer</b>	<i>Kathy Common</i>
<b>Coffee Fellowship</b>	<i>Fran Morton, Judy Henderson</i>
<b>Coffee Fellowship (Feb)</b>	<i>Finance Committee</i>



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**A LOOK**  
*at the*  
**BUDGET**

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**Congregational Finance and Budget Gathering**

When: Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

Where: Church Sanctuary

Time: following Worship Service