

## NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Kevin Derry

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Music Director: Dustin Bowers

Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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*21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost & Affirm Vote*

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### Music as We Gather

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

The 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Wayne & Sylvia Ferguson

Birthday wishes to Freda Wasson [90]

Birthday wishes to Loghyn Doherty [12]

### 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.

### Call to Worship:

One: The Holy calls us to open our hearts, minds, arms, and doors.

**All: As we gather together in worship, we hear that call.**

One: The Holy calls us to leave our prejudices and stereotypes at the door.

**All: As we gather together in worship, we heed that call.**

One: Let us worship, together.

**All: Let us worship the Holy. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: VU264** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise;  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;

most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light;  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all praise we would render, O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee!

## The Lighting of the Christ Candle

### Opening Prayer

#### Words of Assurance:

One: As we struggle and search for meaning in the busyness of our hectic lives, the Holy encourages us to pause, take a breath and simply be present in the midst of eternal love.

**All: We are encouraged to live creatively following the image of the Holy and the teachings of the Christ, knowing the presence of the Spirit within, among and around us.**

One: In the name of the Risen One, Jesus the Christ...

**All: ...Amen.**

**First Lesson:** Job 38:1-7, 34-41

*Karen Strano*

<sup>38:1</sup> Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

<sup>2</sup>“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

<sup>3</sup>Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

<sup>4</sup>“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?  
<sup>6</sup> On what were its bases sunk,  
 or who laid its cornerstone  
<sup>7</sup> when the morning stars sang together  
 and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?  
<sup>34</sup> "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,  
 so that a flood of waters may cover you?  
<sup>35</sup> Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go  
 and say to you, 'Here we are'?  
<sup>36</sup> Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,  
 or given understanding to the mind?  
<sup>37</sup> Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?  
 Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,  
<sup>38</sup> when the dust runs into a mass  
 and the clods cling together?  
<sup>39</sup> "Can you hunt the prey for the lion,  
 or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,  
<sup>40</sup> when they crouch in their dens,  
 or lie in wait in their covert?  
<sup>41</sup> Who provides for the raven its prey,  
 when its young ones cry to God,  
 and wander about for lack of food?

**Psalm Selection: VU826-27 (Parts 1 & 2):** from Psalm 104  
*Led by Karen Strano*

One: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty,

**All: who rules all creation.**

One: Praise God, O my soul.

**All: Eternal God, you are great indeed.**

One: You clothe yourself with light like a garment.

**All: You spread the heavens like a tent; you lay out the beams of you dwelling on the waters above.**

One: You make the clouds your chariot, and ride on the wings of the wind.

**All: You make the winds your messengers, and flames of fire your servants.**

One: You fix the earth on its foundations, so that it can never tremble.

**All: You cover the earth with the oceans as with a cloak.**

One: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty,

**All: who rules all creation.**

One: When the waters covered the mountains, they fled at your rebuke;

**All: at the sound of your thunder, they took flight.**

One: They flowed over the mountains, ran down the valleys to the place you had appointed for them.

**All: There you set limits not to be passed, that they might not again cover the earth.**

One: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty,

**All: who rules all creation.**

One: O God, how manifold are your works!

**All: With Wisdom at your side, you made the mall; the earth is full of your creatures.**

One: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty,

**All: who rules all creation.**

One: There lies the great and mighty Sea, teeming with living things both great and small.

**All: Upon it sail the ships, and there is Leviathan, the monster you made to play in it.**

One: All these look to you, to give them their food in due season.

**All: What you give them they gather up. When you open your hand, you fill them with good things.**

One: But when you hide your face they despair. When you take away their breath, they die, and return to dust.

**All: But when you send out your spirit, they live again, and you renew the face of the earth.**

One: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty,

**All: who rules all creation.**

One: May your glory, O God, endure forever.

**All: May you rejoice, O God, in your works.**

One: When you look at the earth it trembles,

**All: when you touch the mountains they smoke.**

One: I will sing to God as long as I live.

**All: I will praise my God while I have being.**

One: Bless, O my soul, the Almighty,  
All: **who rules all creation.**

**Young at Heart Time:**

*“Win, Lose or Draw”*

**Music for Meditation**

**Gospel Lesson:** Mark 10:35-45

*Karen Strano*

<sup>10:35</sup> James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” <sup>36</sup> And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” <sup>37</sup> And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” <sup>38</sup> But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” <sup>39</sup> They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; <sup>40</sup> but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

<sup>41</sup> When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. <sup>42</sup> So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. <sup>43</sup> But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup> For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

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

All: **...may we hear the stories from our faith history and grasp the messages we can bring forth to transform today and tomorrow.**

One: In the name of the Risen One, Jesus the Christ...

All: **...Amen.**

**Hymn: VU595**

*“We Are Pilgrims”*

1 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

2 Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

**Meditation:**

*"To Serve is to Love"*

**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: VU560**

**“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”**

- 1 O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
teach me thy secret, help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
with some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.
- 3 Teach me thy patience; still with thee,  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sure and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong,
- 4 in hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.

**Invitation to Offer Our Gifts**

**Dedication of Our Gifts**

**An Affirm Minute: “Before We Vote”**

*Geoff Arnold*

Today the congregation of Northminster United Church will be presented with a motion to support the application to Affirm United to become an Affirming Ministry within the United Church of Canada. But just before doing that perhaps we should clarify what it means to be an Affirming Congregation.

Affirming Ministries are congregations, educational institutions, and other ministries within the United Church that publically declare their commitment to inclusion and justice for all people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Although Affirming Ministries make an explicit statement about issues of sexuality and gender, their commitment to justice is far broader. Affirming Ministries continually grow and change as they seek to live fully in God's way of welcome, love, and justice for all creation.

Affirming Ministries work in many different ways toward the healing and wholeness of creation by:

- challenging bias and discrimination based on appearance, culture, class or age;
- working to end racism;
- promoting economic justice;
- increasing accessibility;
- caring for the planet.

Affirming Ministries seek to go beyond issues of gender diversity and sexual orientation to work for justice and inclusion for ALL people.

As an Affirming ministry, we celebrate the diversity of God's creation. We celebrate the richness of our community when we have diversity in age, gender identities, racial and cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, abilities, and family configurations. We seek to create a safe and welcoming space with an open invitation to bring every aspect of your whole self into participation within this ministry.

To be affirming is to be on a journey for greater justice and compassion for all people with open hearts, open minds and open doors.

Let us pray--- Lord as we move towards becoming an Affirming Ministry, please guide us.

Amen

### **Prayers of the People and the Jesus Prayer (VU916):**

One: Let us share together in a paraphrase of the Jesus Prayer...

**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: VU561**

**“Take Up Your Cross”**

- 1 Take up your cross, the Saviour said,  
if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart,  
and humbly follow after me.
- 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up,  
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
- 3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame,  
nor let your foolish pride rebel;  
your Saviour once accepted death  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.
- 4 Take up your cross, and follow Christ,  
think not till death to lay it down;

for only those who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

### **Blessing as We Go Forth:**

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

**All: ...the Spirit of the Creator stirs us to live faithfully  
and love openly as we embrace the love of the Holy.**

One: As we journey together with each other and our Creator,  
we hope to transform our world into one of compassion,  
acceptance, and equality as we share the grace of the  
Holy.

**All: In the name of Jesus, the Risen Christ, Amen and  
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 October 17, 2021

**Orono Kirby Pastoral Charge  
Orono United Church, Orono**  
[*East Central Ontario Regional Council*]

### ***THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS-October 17<sup>th</sup>***

<b>Duty</b>	<i>Elgin Northey</i>
<b>Elevator</b>	<i>Nelson Pickett</i>
<b>Contact Tracing Rep</b>	<i>Bev Sherwin</i>
<b>Ushers/Greeters</b>	<i>Carol Doherty Amy Masters</i>
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	<i>Karen Strano</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>Sunday School</b>	<i>Maggie Crawford</i>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All Covid-19 protocols are still in place. Masks “must” be worn at all times, if you do not have a mask, we will provide one to you. Social distancing must be kept and hand sanitizer used.

Effective 12:01 a.m. on September 22, 2021, Ontario now requires patrons to provide proof of identification and of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to access certain businesses and settings. The [Proof of Vaccination Guidance for Businesses and Organizations under the Reopening Ontario Act](#) provides information for businesses and organizations implementing this requirement.

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: this **does not** apply to anyone attending the worship service.

If you are planning to attend the Sunday Worship Service, we ask that you pre-register on “Eventbrite” located on our website at [www.northminsteruc.ca](http://www.northminsteruc.ca) . Please call the church office if you have difficulties in doing so and we would be happy to do it for you. 705-748-4881 [*leave a message if after office hours*]

### Attention Volunteers:

\*\*\* If you are a Sunday volunteer, i.e. Duty Person, Elevator Person, Usher, scripture reader, etc. Please register on “Eventbrite” Thank you!

“Worship Services” and “Prayer” videos continue weekly on our YouTube channel, which can be found on our website: [www.northminsteruc.ca](http://www.northminsteruc.ca)

### ***“Grief & Loss in a Time of Pandemic”***

Facilitators: Rev Kevin Derry & Nola Wilson held in the Friendship Room at **2 pm**. Must pre-register, **“Proof of Vaccination” passport** and limited to 14 participants.

The dates are as follows:

- **Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**
- Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>

OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING will be held on Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. \* Please note this is a change.

NEXT WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 7 p.m.