

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Guest Minister: Rev. Cathy Underhill

Music Director: Dustin Bowers

Sunday, September 1, 2024 at 10:00 am

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Please stand for the Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn: MV1

“Let Us Build A House”

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
Rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome,

all are welcome,

All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong
and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's
grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus;

All are welcome,
all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
A banquet hall on holy ground,
Where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God through Jesus,
Is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us;
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and
stone
To heal and strengthen serve and teach
And live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger;
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,
Their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,
Taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
Prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;
All are welcome,
all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place. < >

Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One: Blessed by God who gives each person a purpose

All: **Calling the young for their energy and the old for their
wisdom;**

One: Refusing to discriminate in terms of race, colour, intellect or giftedness;

All: Affirming forgotten worth, identifying hidden potential, redeeming deep regrets;

One: Blessed be God who delights in love and embodies in each human the image of our Maker.

All: Together, let us worship!

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: The Good News is this:

God loves all of creation, not just some of it.

The Good News is that God loves all people, not just some.

The Good News is that this love results in an abundance of mercy and grace.

All: Thanks be to God!

Old Testament Lesson: Song of Solomon 2: 8-13 *Joyce Armstrong*

⁸ The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,

leaping upon the mountains,

bounding over the hills.

⁹ My beloved is like a gazelle

or a young stag.

Look, there he stands

behind our wall,

gazing in at the windows,

looking through the lattice.

¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me:

'Arise, my love, my fair one,

and come away;

¹¹ for now the winter is past,

the rain is over and gone.

¹² The flowers appear on the earth;

the time of singing has come,

and the voice of the turtle-dove

is heard in our land.

¹³ The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.

Psalm Selection: VU769 Psalm 45 *Led by Joyce Armstrong*

Refrain

Russian Orthodox Liturgy

God has blessed you for - ev - er and ev - er.

One heart overflows with a noble theme;
I utter the song I have made for the king,
my tongue like the pen of a ready scribe.

**All You are the fairest, the most handsome;
God endows your speech with grace;
God has blessed you forever. R**

One Gird your sword on your thigh, O hero,
in splendour and majesty.

**All In your majesty ride on to conquer
in the cause of truth and justice.**

One Let your right hand teach by awesome deeds,
arrows sharp in the heart of royal enemies.

**All The nations shall fall at your feet.
Your divine throne endures forever.**

One Your royal sceptre is righteousness;
you love right and hate what is wrong.

**All Your God has anointed you
with more oil of gladness than all your peers.**

One All your garments are fragrant
with myrrh, aloes and cassia.

**All Out of the ivory palaces
stringed music makes you glad. R**

Hymn: VU333 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Young at Heart Time:

"Mrs. Sugar"

New Testament Lesson: James 1:19-27

Joyce Armstrong

^{1:19} You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶ If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Meditation:

"Being Doers"

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.**

Please be seated

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.

We Receive the Offering

Please stand for the Offering Hymn

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 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.**

Please stand for the Closing Hymn

Closing Hymn: VU642

“Be Thou My Vision”

- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

- 2 Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Blessing as We Go Forth:

One: Let us go from this place experiencing the wind and flame
of the Spirit of Pentecost.

All: We go in celebration.

One: Let us go from this place living within the Spirit of
Pentecost.

All: We go in love.

One: Let us go from this place sharing the Spirit of Pentecost.

All: We go in hope and peace.

One: Let us go in peace.

All: Peace be with us! Amen!

Sung Benediction:

“Go Now in Peace”

Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will be with you each hour of everyday.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching you with love;
Go now in peace, in faith and in love. < >

Music as the Worship Service Concludes

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 September 1, 2024

Roslin Thomasburg United Church

[East Central Ontario Regional Council]

THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS for Sept 1.

Duty	Paul Andrews
Elevator	Gerry Milburn
Greeters	Marion Milburn, Wayne Ferguson, Bruce Newmaster, Gale Osmond
Scripture Reader	Joyce Armstrong
Congregational Elder	Mary Hess Northey
Sunday School Coordinator	Maggie Crawford
Nursery Coordinator	Gale Osmond
Sound	Alex Brunton/AI Bartholomew
Video	Nelson Pickett
Videographer	Resumes September 8 th
Coffee Fellowship	Worship Committee

We welcome Rev Cathy Underhill this morning as our Guest Minister

Have A
SAFE AND
Happy
LABOR DAY

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: September 8th**. We also accept Interac NUC Treasurer: treasurenuc@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.

NAME TAGS: If you need a name tag, please contact the office. I would be happy to make you one. Also stick on name tags are available, located on the table at the back of the church and on table at west entrance into Sanctuary.

PASTORAL CARE: If you know someone that is in the hospital that we should know about, please call the office and let us know. If after hours, please leave a message 705-748-4881. We all need to take care of each other.

PIZZA DINNER & MUSIC NIGHT on Tuesday, September 10th, 2024 at 4:30 pm. Tickets **SOLD OUT!**. (There is a sign up sheet for volunteers)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...Church Photo Directory, October 7th to 11th. See Al Bartholomew for further details.

LOST & FOUND:

There are 3 “light weight” jackets that have been left behind. They have all been here for quite some time. If you or someone you know has lost a jacket, please check them out. They are located on the coat rack by the elevator. If they aren’t claimed by end of September, we will donate them to charity.