NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
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Sunday, November 22nd, 2026 at 10 am

# Reign of Christ

**Music as We Gather**

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of the Land:** *Maureen Pickett*
As we gather, we acknowledge that Northminster United Church and the communities it serves meet and live on the traditional territories of several Indigenous peoples. 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.

**Life, and Work of the Community**

**Music as We Centre**

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** In Honour of the Reign of Christ

*Please stand for the Opening Hymn*

**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,

R 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.

**Call to Worship:**

One: The Holy calls us to gather in praise and worship.
**All: Called to strive for the gift of heaven on earth.**
One: Called to see in Christ's life and example pathways to God's realm revealed.
**All: Challenged to see God's realm in the here and now.**
One: Let us worship!
**All: Let us worship together!**

**Opening Prayer**

**Words of Assurance:**

One: The presence of the Holy reminds us we are loved and never alone.
**All: Through faith and action, we share the blessing of Christ's Reign.**

**First Lesson:** Ephesians 1:15-23 *Maureen Pickett*

1:15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your
love towards all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to
give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17 I pray that
the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you
a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so
that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is
the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his
glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the
immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according
to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in
Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right

hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Responsive Selection: VU820 (Sung)** "Make a Joyful Noise" (from Psalm 100)

R Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!

1 Know that your God has made you.
Know it's to God we belong.
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.
Worship your God with a song! R

2 Enter these gates, thanks giving.
Enter these courts with praise.
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.
Worship your God with a song! R

3 Ages through endless ages,
seasons of endless years,
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.
Worship your God with a song! R †

**Young at Heart Time:** *"Reign Storm"*

**Hymn: VU175** "This is the Day that God has Made"

R This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!

1 Christ has conquered death at last,
left the tomb that held him fast!
Gone the sorrow, gone the night,
dawns the morning clear and bright! R

2 Jesus lives who once was dead,
lives forever, as he said!

Risen now our Saviour, King;
songs of gladness let us sing! R

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 25:31-46 *Maureen Pickett*

25:31 ‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels
with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations
will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from
another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and
he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the
left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you
that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world; 35 for I was hungry and you gave
me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a
stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me
clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and
you visited me.” 37 Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when
was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and
gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you
a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you
clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and
visited you?” 40 And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just
as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my
family, you did it to me.” 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand,
“You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire
prepared for the devil and his angels; 42 for I was hungry and you
gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I
was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not
give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit
me.” 44 Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw
you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and
did not take care of you?” 45 Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell
you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not
do it to me.” 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but
the righteous into eternal life.’

**Response**

Reader: As we listen to the words from our scripture...
**All: …may we sense the Spirit of hope and promise in these words we have heard.**
Reader: In the name of Jesus, the Christ...
**All: …Amen.**

**Meditation:** *“God’s Reign”*

**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. †**

**An Affirm Minute:** "Our Political Voice"
*Read by Maureen Pickett*

Recently, we had the opportunity to elect our new Municipal government.

However, unfortunately, voter turnout is not always great during most of our governmental elections.

And yet, people want to express their political voice.

Currently, closer to home, some citizens in sister provinces have expressed their desire to separate themselves from our national identity.

And globally, the Middle East crisis, as well as strife in other countries, affects the lives of humanity.

Even after decades of political education people in the gay and lesbian community and their allies say that things are going backwards rather than forward.

Does having a political voice fit for us as an Affirming Congregation?

The United Church of Canada supports social justice issues and affirms the dignity and worth of every person. As Affirming congregations, collectively, we stand up for justice. We are called to have a deep spirituality, to be bold in our discipleship and to be holy in our justice.

The political voice of Jesus calls us to act with justice in God's kingdom here on earth. To feed the hungry, to support the orphan and widow, to visit the sick and imprisoned. To shelter the homeless. To welcome the stranger. The political voice of Jesus calls us to discern the Holy's desire for healing and peace for our world. In Jesus name. 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**

**Hymn: VU314** "Come Now, Almighty King"

1 Come now, almighty King,
help us your name to sing, help us to praise;
one God all glorious, ever victorious,
come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

2 Come now, incarnate Son,
your life in us begun, our prayer attend;
come, and your people bless,
come, give your word success;
stablish your righteousness, Saviour and friend!

3 Come holy Comforter,
your sacred witness bear in this glad hour;
your grace to us impart, now rule in every heart,
never from us depart, Spirit of power!

4 To the great One in Three,
eternal praises be for evermore;
your sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore! †

**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. †**

*Please stand for the Closing Hymn*

**Closing Hymn: VU330** "Jesus Shall Reign"

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

3 Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
and prisoners leap to lose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

4 Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King,

angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen! †

**Blessing as We Go Forth:**

One: Let us go from this place challenged by the gifts of the Holy.
**All: We go in Hope.**
One: Let us go from this place sharing the gifts of the Holy.
**All: We go in love.**
One: Let us go from this place to calm the chaos in our world.
**All: We go in peace.**
One: Let us go in peace and faith.
**All: Peace be with us! Amen!**

**Sung Blessing: VU962** "May the Blessing of God Go Before You"

May the blessing of God go before you.
May her grace and peace abound.
May her Spirit live within you.
May her love wrap you 'round.
May her blessing remain with you always.
May you walk on holy ground. †

**Music as the Worship Service Concludes**

**East Central Ontario 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 November 22, 2026

***Dunbarton-Fairport United Church***

## Thank You to This Week's Volunteers for November 22, 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| Duty | John Tewsley |
| Elevator | Jack Murduff |
| Greeters | Carol Murduff, Dave Underhill<br>Wayne Ferguson |
| Scripture Reader | Maureen Pickett |
| Congregational Elder | Carol Murduff |
| Sound | Gale Osmond |
| Video | Nelson Pickett |
| Videographer | Lynn Bartholomew |
| Fellowship for November | Property Committee |

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FOOD BANK SUNDAY**- is held on the **2nd Sunday of each month, Dec. 13th,** We invite you to bring items to support Kawartha Food Share. Boxes are located in the Sanctuary and at back foyer *[exit to parking lot]*. If you wish to make a cash donation instead, ***please make your cheque payable to: "*Northminster United Church".** This can be placed on the offering plate. We also accept eTransfers to: treasurernuc@gmail.com

**TUESDAY COFFEE/CRAFT HOUR** join us each Tuesday at 10 am. We gather in Upper Wright Hall. Coffee/Tea and a snack are provided. A great way to meet people. Bring a friend!



**BIBLE STUDY**

**Study Name:** The Relevance of Scripture as Northminster Moves Forward
**Next Date:** **Tuesday, November 24th, 2026**
**7:00 pm to 8:30 pm**
**Location:** Northminster United Church in Sanctuary
**What to bring:** your favorite bible and an open mind

**Please sign up on the sheet outside Kevin's office**

**CHRISTMAS REMINDS ME: REVELATION BIG BAND CONCERT** on **Saturday, November 28th** at Northminster United Church. Begins at 7:30 pm Admission is cash donation at the door.

**EAST SIDE MARIO'S Italian Dinner**

Friday, December 4th, 2026
$40.00/person (limited tickets) **Tickets available Sundays at church**
Doors OPEN at 6:00 p.m. ~ Dinner SERVED at 6:30 p.m.