

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Kevin Derry

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Music Director: Dustin Bowers

Sunday, November 23rd, 2025 at 10 am

Reign of Christ Sunday & Choir Concert

Music as We Gather

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land:

As we gather, we acknowledge that Northminster United Church and the communities it serves 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: Celebrating the Reign of the Holy

Please stand for the Opening hymn

Opening Hymn: VU211 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

- 1 Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne:
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

- 2 Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing

who died and rose on high,
Nwho died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

3 Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end;
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of Paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

4 Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity. †

Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One: Called to experience the presence of the Holy.

All: Hallelujah! The Holy ushers in a new reign!

One: Called to experience a reign of love and compassion.

All: Hallelujah!

One: Called to decisive, love-filled action.

All: Hallelujah!

One: Let us worship!

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship together!

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: The Spirit of Creation reminds us of the enduring,
eternal presence of the Holy.

**All: Through reflection, transformation, and action, we
respond to the Creation Spirit.**

Northminster Choir Concert



Young at Heart Time:

“The Tree House”

^{23:33} When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?' ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴² Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³ He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

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 the midst of the Spirit of Creation.

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

All: Amen.

Homily: *"Reign Maker"*

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: VU540

"Grant Us, God, the Grace"

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully. †

Dedication of Our Gifts

Affirm Minute

Read by Gord James
"Freedom Isn't Free"

Recently, at our November 11th Remembrance Day services we were reminded by our Veterans that Freedom isn't free. We were reminded of the cost of many lives to protect our freedoms. And the hope for freedom continues in our lives today.

A life-saving affirming work for freedom is happening at Hillcrest United Church in Calgary. Since 2003, Hillcrest United Church has been privileged to welcome a large and vibrant group of gay people from several African countries. They and their families faced violence in their home countries, criminalization and threats to their lives simply for being who they are. These asylum seekers arrive in Canada with little more than hope.

This ministry began when 6 young Nigerians, in Calgary for a sports tournament, saw the rainbow flag at Hillcrest United Church and came in looking for a safe space to worship. While they were in Calgary, they were "outed" back home - and couldn't return.

Word spread among asylum seekers, and 90 individuals and 7 children were supported at the church to find freedom in Canada. To be an affirming and justice-seeking congregation is sacred work. And many times, it is costly; and it reminds us that Freedom isn't free. In Jesus name. Amen

Prayers of the People and the 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.**

Voices United 916

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: The Holy sends us out with love, compassion and inspiration.

All: We go with renewed energy and commitment.

One: The Holy stands with us, among us and within us as we share who and whose we are.

All: We go with compassion and acceptance.

One: The Holy transforms us all through faith and action.

All: We go into the world pursuing hope and peace.

One: Let us go in peace.

All: Peace be with us! Amen!

Sung Blessing:

“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. Amen. †

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 23, 2025

Wolfe Island United Church

Thank You to This Week's Volunteers for November 23, 2025

Duty	Nelson Pickett
Elevator	Gerry Milburn
Greeters	Marion Milburn, Ken Nash, John Taylor
Scripture Reader	Gord James
Congregational Elder	Carol Murduff
Sound	Gale Osmond
Video	Nelson Pickett
Videographer	Kathy Common
Fellowship	Wayne & Carol Doherty

JOIN US FOR COFFEE TIME each Tuesday morning at 10 am. at Northminster United Church in Upper Wright Hall for a warm cup of coffee or tea and possibly a little snack. Bring a friend!!

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 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

Next Date: December 14th

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.

MARK YOU CALENDAR... More information to follow

Sunday, November 23 rd	Adult Choir Concert during service
Friday, December 5 th	East Side Mario's Dinner
Sunday, December 14 th	Children's Choir during service

Next Rehearsal Date(s) for Children's Choir at 11:15 am

- Sunday, November 30th
- Sunday, December 7th
- Saturday, December 13th 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Dress Rehearsal and Pizza Party

SUNDAY COFFEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED if you are available now and again to help out Sunday mornings follow the worship service, please let us know. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway beside Rev Kevin's office. Thank you!

FAITH RE-LOADED: "Discover the Bible in a language you speak." "Christianity isn't about age, it's about purpose."

Christianity is for a multitude of ages. The Bible speaks to real struggles, questions, and hopes that young adults face today, giving us guidance that is relevant even in today's world. If you see yourself being a part of something that inspires practical faith, builds community, makes scripture relatable, and encourages an open dialogue with varying opinions, please attend the upcoming sessions for young adults aged 15-40. Sessions run every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month (weather permitting). **Next Meeting: November 19th**

If interested, please contact Payton by emailing paytonld97@outlook.com with your name(s) and contact info.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY, Sunday, January 11, 2026. Anyone wishing to be a member of Northminster United Church, please let Rev Kevin or Michele in the office know.

REQUEST

The church is requiring a dehumidifier for the Friendship Room to help eliminate the dampness in the room. If you have an extra dehumidifier you do not need, we would be happy to take it off your hands.

BIBLE STUDY ... Wednesday, December 10th

"Day & Night – The Use of Light and Dark in the Nativity" with Rev Kevin. Sign up sheet is posted on bulletin board. Please sign up as soon as possible.