

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Kevin Derry
minister@northminsteruc.ca

Music Director: Dustin Bowers

Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 10 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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.

Music as We Centre

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Honouring the Symbol of the Good Shepherd

Please stand for the Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn: VU657

“He Leadeth Me”

- 1 He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
- R He leadeth me! He leadeth me!
By his own hand he leadeth me!
His faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me!
- 2 Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me. R

3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine,
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me. R

4 And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
even death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. R < >

Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One: Called to celebrate an Easter faith.

All: Let us hear the call of the Good Shepherd.

One: Called to live an Easter faith.

All: Let us live a life of faith-filled action not just words.

One: Called to share an Easter hope as a family of faith.

All: Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!

One: Let us worship!

All: Let us worship together!

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: The promise of an Easter faith tells us the Holy loves and cherishes each one of us for who we are and all that we may become.

All: Through reflection, transformation, and action, we live our Easter faith.

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24

Bruce Newmaster

^{3:16}We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we

ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Please remain seated

Psalm Selection: VU748 (Sung)

“God is My Shepherd”
(from Psalm 23)

- 1 God is my shepherd, I'll not want,
I feed in pastures green.
God grants me rest and bids me drink
from waters calm and clean.
Through daily tasks, I'm blessed and led
by one I have not seen.
- 2 Restored to life each morning new,
I rise up from the dust
to follow God whose presence gives
me confidence and trust.
I praise the name of God today;
in God I put my trust.
- 3 When I must pass through shadowed vale,
where loss and death await,
I will not fear for God is there,
my shepherd strong and great,
whose rod and staff will comfort me
and all my fears abate.
- 4 No enemy can overcome,
no power on earth defeat
the ones anointed by God's grace
and fed with manna sweet.
My cup is filled and overflows
as I my Saviour greet.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my days
will surely follow me;
and where God reigns in heaven and earth,

my dwelling place will be.
My shepherd blesses, cares and leads
through all eternity. < >

Young at Heart Time:

“Woolly Finds a Way Out”

Gospel Lesson: John 10:11-18

Bruce Newmaster

^{10:11} ‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

Responses

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 a resurrection faith.

Reader: In the name of the Risen Jesus...

All: Amen.

Meditation:

“A Shepherding Faith”

Music for Meditation

Please stand for the New Creed

The New Creed

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: VU273

"The King of Love"

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed;
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever! < >

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

Please be seated

Hymn: VU271 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

- 1 There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.

- 2 There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such gracious judgement given.

- 3 There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that Christ has shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.

- 4 Troubled souls, why will you scatter
like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will you wander
from a love so true and deep?

- 5 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind. < >

Prayers of the People and the Jesus Prayer

Please stand for the Closing Hymn

Closing Hymn: VU670

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night,
lead me on to the light:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- 2 When my way grows drear,
precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call,
hold my hand lest I fall:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
- 3 When the darkness appears,
and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,
at the river I stand,
guide my feet, hold my hand:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home. < >

Blessing as We Go Forth:

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

All: We go in celebration.

One: Let us go from this place living the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in love.

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

All: We go in hope and peace.

One: Let us go in peace.

All: Peace be with us! Amen!

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 April 21st 2024

East Camden Pastoral Charge

Moscow United Church & Riverside United Church

[East Central Ontario Regional Council]

THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS for April 21st

Duty	Paul Andrews
Elevator	Gerry Milburn
Greeters	Marion Milburn, Judy Henderson Fran Morton, Boyce Orr
Scripture Reader	Bruce Newmaster
Congregational Elder	Mary Hess Northey
Sunday School Coordinator	Maggie Crawford
Nursery Coordinator	Gale Osmond
Sound	Alex Brunton/Al Bartholomew
Video	Nelson Pickett
Videographer	Kathy Common
Coffee Fellowship	Finance Committee
Coffee Fellowship (May)	Pastoral Care

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. **Next date: May 12th**. We also accept Interac NUC Treasurer: treasurernuc@gmail.com

OUR NURSERY FOR OUR YOUNGEST CHILDREN is along the main corridor across from the kitchen.

WE WOULD LOVE IT IF YOU WOULD CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING:

Greeters, elevator operators and Sunday Duty persons. If you are not already on our volunteer list, please consider helping out. If you could spare one Sunday every 4 or 5 weeks. Please contact the office.

"VIDEO SLIDESHOW OPERATORS" & "AUDIO TECH" required. We are looking for more people to sign up to help with Sunday video & sound. No previous experience required and you will be trained. To find out more information please call the office.

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 for one. 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.

GRACE BUCK INCOME TAX SERVICE will be preparing Income Tax returns again this year at Northminster. Scheduled date: April 23, 2024
For further information please call 705-745-4303

Sunday, April 21st following the worship service is our “Spring Luncheon”. Sandwiches, veggie & dessert will be served, along with coffee/tea. Please join us!

TUESDAY COFFEE HOUR is returning on May 7th to June 25th.
Each Tuesday 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

COFFEE CUPBOARD is starting to get low. We would appreciate any donations of coffee.



CHANGE IN WORSHIP TIME beginning Sunday, May 5th thru and including Sunday, June 30th. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. for a trial period.