



## NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

April 14, 2024

10:30 am

*Third Sunday of Easter  
Holy Humour/Bright Sunday*

Welcome!

*“As followers of Christ, we are called to be a  
worshipping and learning, receiving and giving  
community of faith, hope and love.”*

Newcastle United Church Mission Statement

---

*As we gather as a faith community, we acknowledge that we are on sacred land rich in the legacy, culture, and spirituality of the Indigenous people. It is home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people. We acknowledge that we live and work on land that is under the Williams Treaty, which has been the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee Nations, as well as many other Indigenous nations. These lands today are under the care of the Mississauga's of the New Credit First Nations people.*

*We acknowledge this land, out of respect for the many Indigenous nations who have cared for the lands and waterways from the beginning of time and continue to do so. Today we are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and to worship on their traditional lands.*

*We are committed to learn and understand the truth of our shared history, confronting our past and present so that we can strive to build a future together upon true reconciliation, living out what the original ancestors of Turtle Island envisioned: sharing the resources of the land and waterways, and to live in harmony with one another as one people.*

## ***Approaching God With Praise***

**Welcome**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Announcements**

**\* Indicates for congregation to stand as you are able.**

**Prelude (A centering time) “What a Friend We Have In Jesus”** Ragtime arrangement by Steven K. Tedesco

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

L: What burns longer a red candle or a blue candle

Answer: ...

**A: But the Light Of Christ shines forever.**

### ***Call To Worship***

L: Joy is on the loose,

**A: In the wiggles of the children,**

L: The whispers of the youth,

**A: The smiles of the adults.**

L: We praise God for this glorious day,

**A: Let the praise break forth**

**in the most unlikely places and in silly ways.**

L: Joy and praise fill our hearts and is in our songs

**A: Let the laughter be deep, for we are part of God's creation.**

(It comes from the *Trinity United Church* website, modified by Rev B. Ransom)

**\*Hymn VU 352 “I Danced In The Morning” vv. 1-5**

**\*Opening Prayer (Unison)**

Holy One, you have taken what we call an  
absurdity and turned it into possibility . . .  
you have coaxed us to sing springtime alleluias  
where once there was a gray dawn,  
and you have called us out of the tombs we  
inhabit into undreamt tomorrows.

**We praise you for this day!**

**Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this  
Eastertide day. Amen.**

(~ from *Still Laughing God: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday of  
Easter*, posted on the United Church of Christ's *Worship Ways* website  
modified by B. Ransom)

**\*Hymn VU 958 “Halle, Halle, Halle” (sung 3X)**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle – lu – jah!**

**Sharing time ...**

***Listening For The Spirit Of God  
Through The Word***

**Scripture Readings:**

**Old Testament**

**Psalm 126:2-3**

**Psalm 98:4-9**

**Proverbs 17:22**

**Response**

L: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

**A: We give praise for the presence of God through the Word.**

**Laughter time**

**\*Hymn VU 624 “Give To Us Laughter”** vv. 1-3

**Conversation Time**

**Hymn VU 624 “Give To Us Laughter”** v. 4

**Reflection:**

**Ministry of Music: “All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir”**

**Words & music: Bill Staines**

## ***Our Response***

### **Invitation to The Offering**

**\*The Offertory Hymn MV 34**

**v. 1**

**“All Is Done For The Glory Of God”**

**All is done for the glory of God.**

**Amen! Amen!**

**All depends upon our glorious God.**

**Amen! Amen!**

**Amen! Amen! Amen!**

**All is done for the glory of God.**

**Amen! Amen!**

***Words and music: Abel Nkuinji***

### **Dedication Of The Offering**

### **Prayers of the People**

**\*Closing Hymn: Vu 253 Sing Your Joy**

### **Closing remarks**

***\*Commissioning & Benediction***

**\*Sung Blessing - “Go Now In Peace”**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
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 from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen, amen, amen.**

**Words can be found on the screens or in front of  
Hymn book.**



**Contacting Rev. Bryan Ransom directly**

905-922-8394

[minister@newcastleunitedchurch.org](mailto:minister@newcastleunitedchurch.org)

**Contact the Church**

905-987-4515

[newcastleunitedchurch@bellnet.ca](mailto:newcastleunitedchurch@bellnet.ca)

**Contact Lynne in the Office**

905-987-4515

[office@newcastleunitedchurch.org](mailto:office@newcastleunitedchurch.org)

**Book the Hall**

[property@newcastleunitedchurch.org](mailto:property@newcastleunitedchurch.org)