



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

April 20th, 2025

10:30 am

Happy Easter-Easter Sunday
Communion

Rev Bryan Ransom MDiv

Donna Barber ARCT

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

***Please stand as you are able.**

Prelude (A centering time) "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Ludwig van Beethoven (arranged by Victor Labenske)

Lighting The Christ Candle

Let the Light of Christ pierce the shadows of Good Friday. May its light shine on us this most holy of days and its light become a beacon for us, renewing all that is good within us, all that is good within our community. For Christ has risen. Hallelujah! (by Jim McKean)

The entire plan for the future has its key in the resurrection. (Billy Graham)

***Opening Hymn VU 958**

sung twice

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!

Halle, halle, halle – lu - jah!

Halle, halle, halle – lu -jah!

Halle - lu - jah!

Halle - lu - jah!

Call To Worship

L: Our long journey through the darkness is over!

P: We have danced into the light of Jesus' resurrection!

L: No more do we need to fear!

P: No more will we feel that we are alone and lost!

L: Jesus lives in our hearts and our spirits!

P: Jesus calls us to be a source of hope and joy for others!

L: Alleluia!

P: Alleluia!

***Hymn VU 352**

vv. 1-5

“I Danced In The Morning”

- 1 I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

REFRAIN

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

- 2 I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came with me and the dance went on. REFRAIN**

- 3 I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame;
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and left me there on a cross to die. REFRAIN**

- 4 I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. REFRAIN**

**5 They cut me down and I leap up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he. REFRAIN**

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**O God of Easter joy,
we come this morning
with glad shouts of acclamation.
Christ is risen.
Christ is risen, indeed.
May this time of worship
help us to truly and fully experience this Risen Christ.
May we be transformed by your life ,
with messages hope, peace and of new life we pray in the
name of the Resurrected One, Jesus Christ. Amen** (From "The
Abingdon Worship Annual 2006," edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright © 2005 by
Abingdon Press)

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

Scripture Reading

New Testament: Luke 24:1-12

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.

***Hymn VU 155**

vv. 1-4

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

**1 Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!**

- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!**
- 3 But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!
our salvation have procured; hallelujah!
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!
where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!**
- 4 Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!
praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah!
praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!
praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!**

Reflection

Ministry of Music “Because He Lives”

Composed by Bill & Gloria Gaither

Mission and Service

Our Response

Invitation to The Offering

***The Offertory Hymn VU 544**

“In Gratitude And Humble Trust”

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

Announcements

Sunday April 20th, 2025

Welcome! **We enjoy open seating**, so please, sit where you feel comfortable, and meet a new friend.

Today's Greeters are Judy and Myno Vandyke.

Scripture Reader is Nathan Blesse.

Bible Study will be on Wednesday this week.



Coffee Time

Please join us in the church hall for fellowship after the service. Today's treats brought to you by the UCW.

Tax Receipts

Any Tax Receipts not picked up recently, have been mailed out. Please watch your mailbox if you are looking for one.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting on April 27th, immediately after the service. Please share with everyone and plan to attend, if you are able.

Meredith Cutting Concert

Newcastle United Church will be again hosting an evening of song with Meredith. "Love and Spring are in the Air" Please join us on April 26th, at 7 pm. Refreshments available and a Free Will Offering.

Dates to Take Note of....

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|--|---|
| April 24 th , 7:00 pm | Vision 200 Meetings |
| April 27 th , after the Service | Congregational Meeting |
| May 4 th , after the Service | Congregational Meeting |
| Communion Dates.... April 20 th , 10:30 am | Easter Sunday |
| May 11 th | Baptism |
| June 8 th , Pentecost | Communion, 100 th Anniversary United Church |

From the Stewards.....

The Stewards have a few spring fundraisers planned:

*On April 26 at 7pm, we have Meredith Cutting, The Singing Policeman, returning for another performance, "Love and Spring are in the air!" Freewill offering, refreshments will be served.

*Sunday May 4, after the service and congregational meeting, we will have our "Baked Potato Bonanza" fundraiser.

*May 5 and 12 at 5pm, we'll be hosting two Community Salad Suppers. Please sign up in the hall to contribute to the dinners.

*And don't forget our Yard, Plant and Bake Sale on Sat. June 14. Clean out, dig out, bake up, bring it all over for our annual sale! We couldn't do all our work without you

Knitting & Crocheting Group

The Knitting and Crocheting group will meet Wednesdays after Bible Study, about 11:30. Blankets/Shawls would be donated. If you are interested, please reach out to her at 289-385-0888 or 65vmuscat@gmail.com.

Congregational Meeting

We will be having another congregational meeting on May 4th. Please plan to attend. Please share the date with others, as well.

Stewardship Second

April 20: Easter Sunday

Where would we be if the women at the tomb had not shared what they experienced? Or if the disciples had not shared their stories? Or if people of vision had not shared their faith in your community? A legacy of sharing is why we are here. What do you have to share because of the resurrection?



We appreciate all donations and can accept PAR, envelope givings, and e-transfer at nucetransfer@gmail.com using the answer “Newcastle”. You can also send via Canadahelps.org **You can scan our QR code to the left to donate.** If you have any questions please contact our treasurer, Susan at 289-927-6297

or office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Thank you for your donations which make our continued ministry possible.

Contacting Rev. Bryan Ransom directly

905-922-8394

minister@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Contact the Church

905-987-4515

newcastleunitedchurch@bellnet.ca

Contact Lynne in the Office

905-987-4515

office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Book the Hall

property@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Communion Hymn VU 466

sung twice

“Eat This Bread”

**Eat this bread, drink this cup;
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup;
trust in me and you will not thirst.**

Communion

L: What are we to make of this day? When graves are opened...
When the dead awaken...

When life refuses to be contained...

***A: Then nothing is impossible! Hope is never extinguished
and love is never conquered.***

L: We celebrate You today, Jesus,
Because You have made it clear that death does not have the last
word; Because You have filled us again with hope and faith;
Because You have given us a vision of new possibilities, new
realities,
and new ways of being.

***A: Open our minds to believe what we cannot explain;
Open our hearts to hope for what we cannot see;
Open our lives to live and to love in the midst of death and
despair;
Let resurrection happen again in us today. Amen.***

We Acknowledge Our Need

L: God, resurrection is not what we expect in our world. On the face
of things, life seems to be under threat...

our earth is grieving,
our families are fracturing,
our nations are at war,
and the light of our hope is growing dim.

A: We need the stone to be rolled away again.

L: Forgive us and all who have failed to honour and preserve life in all its diversity and glory.

Forgive us and all who have allowed relationships.

to become less important than riches or recognition.

Forgive us and all who continue to exalt our needs and desires over those of others, and who are prepared to kill to prove it.

Forgive us and all who have grown blind

to all the signs of resurrection that beckon us still.

A: We need the stone to be rolled away again. We need life to break out within us again. We need love to consume us again. Resurrect us today, O Lord, and make us agents of Your life wherever dying and grief hold sway. For Jesus sake. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer “Creator, who art in heaven.....”

We Feast at the Lord’s Table

L: Christ is risen!

A: He is risen indeed!

L: Let's celebrate this irrepressible life;

let's open our hearts to the joy and wonder of infinite possibility, of unquenched hope, of eternal resurrection.

A: We celebrate, we raise our voices and our hearts in worship and thanksgiving to the God who lives.

L: Resurrection happened because Christ was first prepared to die. Defying death, He refused to release His hold on life and love. So now, Jesus encourages us, to remember so that we too can truly

live. At supper on the night before He died

Jesus took bread and blessed it.

Then He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying:

A: This is my body, broken so that you may know life. Eat it and remember Me.

L: After the meal Jesus took wine and blessed it. Then He gave it to His disciples saying:

A: This is my blood, shed so that you may know life. Drink it and remember Me.

L: So, now, Lord of Life, we share in this meal, we celebrate together, and we remember You. And we will continue to do this until resurrection has flooded the whole creation.

A: Amen.

L: May this bread and this wine become for us in this moment your life-giving body and blood,
And may we who share this meal, be joined with you, and with one another,

as one body united in resurrection life,
and sharing with all of creation in your eternal salvation.

A: Amen.

L: As we break this bread, and share the cup we receive Christ's life

A: In all our diversity, in all our individuality, as we share this one loaf and Cup we are one. We Give Thanks

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

You are invited to come forward to receive communion.

Please come down the center aisle and return to your place by the side aisle. Please place empty communion cups in the baskets on the front pew. Thank you.

For those who are unable, please let the ushers know by raising your hand so we can serve you.

Prayer

L: We thank You, O God, for Your life, pulsing in creation
revealed in Jesus
renewed in resurrection
and available to us now.

A: Thank You for touching us again with Your life through
bread and wine;

For joining our lives with Yours through Jesus;

And for renewing resurrection in our hearts through your Holy Spirit.

L: Filled with life, we now offer ourselves to be life-bringers in the world. Touched by resurrection we pledge to resist death wherever we find it. Filled with hope we embrace the promise of eternity, and the call to make it known at every opportunity.

A: Through us may graves continue to be opened,
And may the dead continue to be awakened to new life. In Jesus Name.

Written by John van de Laar © 2009 Sacredise

***Closing Hymn VU 703**

vv. 1-3

“In The Bulb There Is A Flower”

**1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**2 There's a song in every silence,
 seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
 bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
 what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.**

**3 In our end is our beginning;
 in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
 in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
 at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
 something God alone can see.**

****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.**

Postlude "Easter Parade" Composed by Irving Berlin



Easter Memorials

DAVE AND DOROTHY BOWLER
With Love from John and Jo-Ann Smithson

NORA AND MURIEL
With Love, from Colyn

FRANK, EVA AND JOHN HOAR
With Love from Heather and Francis

MOM AND DAD BRUNTON
MOM AND DAD ROWE
FIRST GRANDSON, TRAVIS
With Love from Gary and Carole Brunton

ANNE HARRISON
With Love from The Gosse/Harrison Families

A Happy, Blessed Easter to All