



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

April 28, 2024

10:30 am

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Earth Day

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) "For the Beauty of the Earth" (arranged by Donna)

Lighting the Christ Candle

L: Spirit of Life, Cradle of beginnings, Your Light of Life shines through it all. Let the light from this Christ Candle shine through all of the wonders and mysteries of creation revealing your living presence.

Call To Worship

L: Planet Earth, spinning silently through space:

A: Celebrate your beauty and your grace, your special place in our solar system.

L: Planet Earth, gleaming green and blue:

A: Rejoice in your ocean currents as they dance and swirl with hope.

L: Planet Earth, pulsing with life:

A: Join in praise with all your fauna and flora as they sing their songs to the Lord.

L: Planet Earth, enveloped in the breath of God:

A: Bless all your creatures this day with the life-giving breath of God.

L: Planet Earth, our precious, fragile home:

A: Celebrate, with all your children, God's presence in our planet home,

L: Spin, Planet Earth, spin!

A: Sing, Planet Earth, sing!

L We remember the wonders of planet Earth.

A: We remember our excitement when we first saw the orb of Earth, the mystery of a living green blue planet, a fragile speck of stardust made into a magnificent home.

L: We remember and rejoice.

A: Thank you, God, for the privilege of seeing Earth anew as a gift from you. AMEN!

(<https://seasonofcreation.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/liturgy-planet-earth-sunday-1.pdf> modified by Rev. B. Ransom)

***Hymn VU 409 "Morning Has Broken"**

vv. 1-3

Announcements

April 28th, 2024

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

Today's Greeters are Sue Bell and Gail Empey

Biblos Reader is Joyce King

Bible study will resume this week!



Coffee Time

Please join us after today's service for
Coffee/Tea in the Hall. Today's treats are
being supplied by Congregational Life.

Mark the Date!

From the Stewards: We are planning a yard, bake and plant sale at NUC on Sat. June 8th. All contributions are welcome, so please start cleaning out, transplanting in your garden, and baking. More details to follow!

Food Bank

This week is Food Bank donations. All donations, including monetary donations, are gratefully accepted. Donations may be left on the bench along the north wall.

Missing a Jacket?

There has been a wayward jacket hanging in the church hall for several weeks. If you are missing a small black ladies winter jacket, maybe it is yours!

Office Hours

Lynne is in the office on Tuesday and Thursdays, from 10:30 to 2:30. If you need to reach her you can call the church at 905-987-4515 or via email at office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Events at the Church

If you are ever wondering what is going on at the church, you can look up our website and check the calendar. Scroll down the page to see the calendar.

https://www.newcastleunitedchurch.org/?page_id=3950

Announcements!

If you have something to share with the congregation, let Lynne know by Thursday mornings to make sure it gets included in the bulletin.

We are now live streaming services...

<http://bit.ly/47uMdHt>

**Or go to YouTube and Search:
Newcastle United Church**

Service will begin streaming at 10:30



We appreciate all donations and can accept PAR, envelope givings, and e-transfer at nucemailtransfer@gmail.com or through CanadaHelps. **You can scan our QR code to the left to donate.** If you have any questions please contact our interim treasurer, Susan at 289-927-6297 or treasurer@newcastleunitedchurch.org

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

***Opening Prayer – Reconciliation (Unison)**

Creator God, we come before you in a time of crisis. We know that much of your creation struggles; we begin to see and acknowledge the changes around us; we search for the causes and the cures and the collaborative ways we can commit to care for creation. We want to do what's right but we don't always know what that is, or agree how best to do it. Help us learn what we must, listening to the diverse voices of creation itself. Help us understand and love what you have loved and called "very good." Enliven that understanding, we ask, to allow ourselves to be moved to act as we should and to halt actions that harm. Guide us as we try to discern how best to truly listen to each other as well as creation and heed your call. We ask for forgiveness where we have taken too much or cared too little, for hearts willing to listen and change and will to follow through. May the knowledge of your presence and the assurance of your love shape our time here and always. We pray in your name, Amen.

—From For the Love of Creation, [Earth Sunday Service](#), 2023. Free to use with attribution.

***Hymn MV 30 "It's A Song Of Praise To The Maker"**

**It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea.**

REFRAIN

**And by the Spirit, you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.**

**It's a call of life to the Giver,
when waves and waterfalls roar.
It's a call of life to the Giver,
when high tides break on the shore..... REFRAIN**

**It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the bumblebees hum along.
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the summer breeze joins the song..... REFRAIN**

**It's the chorus of all creation;
it's sung by all living things,
It's the chorus of all creation;
a song the universe sings..... REFRAIN**

Words: Ruth Duck Music: Ron Klusmeier

Listening For The Spirit Of God Through The Word

Scripture Readings:

New Testament

Romans 1:18-25

John 1:1-14

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 293 “We Praise You, Creator” vv. 1, 2**

Conversation Time

***Hymn VU 293 “We Praise You, Creator” v. 3**

Reflection

Ministry of Music: Medley - "Somebody Bigger Than You and I" with "This Is God's Wondrous World"

Our Response

Invitation to The Offering

***The Offertory Response 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 307 “Touch The World Lightly”
vv. 1-4**

****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.

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