



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

January 11th, 2026,

10:30 am

Baptism of Jesus

Welcome!

“Newcastle United Church's ministry is to live out God's love through strengthening our faith, by encouraging kindness and hospitality, and learning to live out the presence of Christ in our lives.”

Gathering With God And One Another

**Indicates for congregation to stand in body or in spirit.*

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

As we prepare to worship in this place, we acknowledge that we are gathered within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas and Chippewas of the Anishinaabeg, known today as the Williams Treaties First nations.

We recognize that Indigenous peoples have been serving as stewards of this land for thousands of years – long before European settlers came and began claiming it. Indigenous communities continue their care for the land, and we are called to join them, living into the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

We honour the light of Creation at work in all of our hearts and commit to journeying together in truth, gentleness and love.

Announcements

Lighting The Christ Candle

Moment of Preparation: “Winter-The Four Seasons”
Composed by Antonio Vivaldi
Silence is kept.

Call To Worship:

One: All who thirst, come to the water.

All: We long to drink deeply of those living streams.

One: Come, all who are weary.

All: We yearn for the peace that passes human understanding.

One: Come, to recall the waters of the Jordan washing over Jesus.

All: We hope for the Holy Spirit to wash over us, refreshing us and renewing us for our life's work.

One: Let us worship our God in the beauty of holiness.

***Hymn: VU 100**

vv. 1-5

"When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized"

- 1 When Jesus comes to be baptized,
he leaves the hidden years behind,
the years of safety and of peace,
to bear the sins of humankind.**
- 2 The Spirit of the Lord comes down,
anoints the Christ to suffering,
to preach the word, to free the bound,
and to the mourner, comfort bring.**
- 3 He will not quench the dying flame,
and what is bruised he will not break,
but heal the wound injustice dealt,
and out of death his triumph make.**
- 4 O Spirit help us be like Christ:
to live in love and charity,
to walk in truth and justice now,
and grow in Christian dignity.**
- 5 We praise you, God, source of all life,
we praise you, Christ, eternal Word,
we praise you, Spirit, gracious gift;
your triune presence fills our world.**

Opening Prayer:

All: O God, we come amazed at the depth of your love for us and for your world. You bless us with the fullness of your grace as you enter into the reality of our lives—the reality of pain and fear, of joy and hope. In this time of worship, free us from all that would keep us distant from you, and inspire us to follow in your way. Jesus’ baptism reminds us of how much you delight in each one of us. Inspire us to delight in you and in one another. Amen.

A Time for Healing and Renewal

The Lord’s Prayer

Promise of God’s Healing Love:

One: At our birth, we are blessed with great potential.

All: Praise be to God, who equips us to do God’s work!

One: In baptism, we are entrusted by God to live love in all of our relationships.

All: Praise be to God, who forgive us and sees us as worthy to share in God’s work!

One: Through our life, God in Christ shows us the more compassionate way.

All: Praise be to God, who in Christ guides us on our journey towards wholeness!

Conversation Time

***Hymn: VU 644**

vv. 1-7

“I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry”

Announcements

Sunday January 11th, 2026

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

Today's Greeters are Debbie Dunham and Sue Bell.

Today's Reader is Diane Winchester.

Bible Study

Bible Study continues this week on Wednesday from 10 am to 10:45 am. From 10:45 to 11:15 we will be piloting a **new program** that explores the **wisdom that aging brings**. All welcome!



Coffee Time

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

Adult Baptism

The Sacrament of Adult Baptism is set for Sunday, February 15th. **Transfer of Memberships** will also happen on this day. Preparation for Adult Baptism includes attendance at 3 classes, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 25th, February 1st and February 8th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. These dates can be changed to accommodate your other commitments. The classes will explore spiritual practices, scripture, church history and what it means to be a Christian today in an increasingly secular world. Please call the church office to indicate your interest, or email Rev. Elaine at minister@newcastleunitedchurch.org.

Dates at a Glance....

January 12 th , 2026 at 1 pm	UCW Meeting
January 13 th , 2026 at 7 pm	Official Board Meeting
January 20 th , 2026 at 7 pm	Visioning Team
January 25 th , 2026	Reports Due for AGM
January 26 th , 2026 at 4:30 pm	Crock Pot Dinner
February 22 nd , 2026 at 12:30 pm	Annual General Meeting

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes are now available in the Narthex on the southside. Please make sure to pick up yours as well as for those who may not always be able to make it to the church. If you take a peek at the second envelope in your box, you will notice an opportunity to donate towards the costs of our offering envelopes. A donation of \$10 will go a long way in helping offset our costs for envelopes. There are also some envelopes for those on **PAR** (Preauthorized giving either through your bank account or credit card) on the southside of the Narthex. **Other ways to give** are through e-transfer, and Canada Helps. Thank you so much for all your support!!

Social Media Pictures

We are taking a few pictures in church these days so that we can add some photos of church happenings to the church website and social media channels. When a photo is included, no names will be published. If you would prefer not to be included in any photos on the website, Facebook or Instagram, please inform Lynne, in the office. Thank you!

Announcements

Just a reminder about announcements. Please have announcements to Lynne by noon on Thursdays, to be printed in the bulletin. Please let Lynne know of any meetings you will be hosting in the church so she can keep up to date on the calendar.

Crock Pot Dinners

Crock Pot Dinners will resume again on January 26th, at 4:30 pm. Subsequent dates will be February 9th, and 23rd, and March 9th at 4:30 pm.

Would you like a visit?

Rev. Elaine is available for pastoral visits in the winter months. If you would like to have a visit, please don't hesitate to call the church at 905-987-4515 or email Elaine directly at minister@newcastleunitedchurch.org.

Stewardship Second,

January 11, First Sunday after Epiphany

No matter what our background, our culture, our race, our identity, when we do what is right, we are all acceptable to God. May our gratitude overflow into generosity!



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

treasurer@newcastleunitedchurch.org

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

Ministry in our church is shared between the congregation and staff.

Minister: Rev. Elaine Hall

Office hours: Tuesday to Thursday, 9:00 am to noon
(church)905-987-4515 (home)905-985-1633
minister@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Church Administrator: Lynne Jefferson

Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 am - 4:30 pm.
905-987-4515
office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Church Organist/ Choir Director: Donna Barber
Choir practice: Thursday, 3:00 p.m.

Book the Hall

property@newcastleunitedchurch.org

- 1** I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
- 2** I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.
- 3** When you heard the wonder of the word,
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
- 4** If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.
- 5** In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young.
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
- 6** When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.
- 7** I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

Listening For God's Word

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17

Response:

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

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

Ministry of Music: "As the Deer Pants for the Water"
Psalm 42 Music: Martin Nystrom Words: Lydia Pedersen

Message: "Back to Normal"

***Hymn:**VU 96 "Will You Come and See the Light" vv 1-5

1 Will you come and see the light from the stable door?

**It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star,
it will show you who you are;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

2 Will you step into the light that can free the slave?

**It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed
there's a longing to be freed;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

**3 Will you tell about the light in the prison cell?
Though it's shackled out of sight, it is shining well.
When the truth is cut and bruised,
and the innocent abused,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

**4 Will you join the hope, alight in the young
girl's eyes,
of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?
When the lowest and the least
are the foremost at the feast,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

**5 Will you travel by the light of the babe new
born?
In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,
and the darkness all about
is too dim to put it out:
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

Responding To God's Word

Invitation to The Offering

***Offertory Hymn: VU 81 v. 3**
"As with Gladness Those of Old"
**As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.**

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Going Into The World

***Hymn: VU 120 "O Jesus, I Have Promised" vv. 1-4**

**1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:
I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.**

**2 O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I
hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul
from sin.**

**3 O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and
still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-
will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my
soul.**

**4 O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.**

***Commissioning & Benediction**

***Sung Blessing - "Go Now In Peace"**

Lyrics can be found on the inside cover of
Voices United or on the screens.

Postlude "It Is No Secret"

Words & Music: Stuart Hamblen