



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

March 17th, 2024

10:30 am

Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Happy St. Patrick's 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) "Be Thou My Vision" Traditional Irish melody (arr. Victor Labenske)

Lighting the Christ Candle

We Light the Christ Candle as a symbol of our trust in Jesus as we journey towards the cross, this Lenten season. Let the Light of Christ give us the courage to find the ways toward reconciliation and forgiveness so that the healing light of wholeness can restore harmony and unity in all matters of living.

****Call To Worship***

L: The Lent journey continues with making sacrifice.

A: We are encouraged to give our lives to God.

L: We are called upon to give of ourselves to others as Christ gave his life for all humanity.

A: Lord, help us to reach inward in confession and outward in service.

L: Be with us this day and walk with us on this journey.

A: AMEN. (By Nancey Townley modified by Rev. B Ransom)

Extinguishing the Fifth Candle of Lent: Forgiveness

L: Jesus has taught us that we must forgive, but at times we find this too hard to do. We have been hurt, and we have hurt others. At times we have become angered by the actions of another to the point that we carry a grudge, and sometimes, this grudge can define who we are.

We extinguish this candle as a reminder of our lack of faith in Jesus Christ to help us to forgive as we are forgiven, to help us to love as we are loved.

Prayer in Unison

Faithful God, forgive us for our shortcomings and help us to forgive others. As we journey towards the cross this Lenten season, help us to let go of our grudges and to forgive; and to seek forgiveness where we have gone wrong. Amen.

(Gill Le Fevre, Walton Memorial U.C., Oakville, Ont. Modified by Rev. B. Ransom)

***Opening Hymn: MV 17 “God In The Darkness”**

**God in the darkness, God beyond our knowing,
patient creator, seed in secret growing,
rock of the living, water ever flowing,
come and renew us.**

**God in the darkness, God in all our grieving,
friend of our tears, companion never leaving,
drawing us past the limits of believing,
come and renew us.**

**God in the darkness, God of holy dreaming,
giver of hope, and pledge of our redeeming,
Spirit of truth, our memory and meaning,
come and renew us.**

Words: Elizabeth J. Smith Music: Colin Gibson

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

Scripture Readings:

New Testament

Gospel of John 12:20-33

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 703 “In The Bulb There Is A Flower”
vv. 1-2**

Conversation Time

**Hymn: VU 703 “In The Bulb There Is A Flower”
v.3**

Reflection: Seeking to See Jesus

Ministry of Music: “Be Still, My Soul”

Soloist: Karen Nichol

Words: Katherina von Schlegel Music: Jan Sibelius

Mission and Service

Our Response

Invitation to The Offering

***The Offertory Hymn VU 542 “We Give You But
Your Own”**

**We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone,
we give it gratefully.**

Dedication Of The Offering

Prayers of the People

***Closing Hymn: VU 135 “Beneath The Cross of Jesus”**

***Commissioning & Benediction**

***Sung Blessing - Irish Blessing**

**May the road rise to meet you,
may the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand,
and may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**
Traditional Irish Folk Song

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

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

office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Book the Hall

property@newcastleunitedchurch.org