



# NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

Sixth Sunday Of Lent

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

10:30 am

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) "The Palms"**

Music: Jean-Baptiste Faure; English words: Theodore T. Baker

**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: Give thanks to God, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.

**A: Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest!**

L: Let Israel say, "God's love endures forever!" and all who fear God say, "God's love endures forever!"

**A: Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest!**

L: With God on our side, what can we fear? What can humankind do?

**Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest!**

L: We shall triumph over those who surround us and stand in confidence in God!

**A: Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest!**

L: God is our strength and our might. God has become our salvation!

**A: Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest!**

**Hosanna to God, Hosanna in the highest!**

adapted from Psalm 118

## **Extinguishing the Sixth Candle of Lent: Faithfulness**

**L:** We are at the end of our Lenten journey, and as disciples of Jesus we remember the events of long ago, when the twelve disciples entered Jerusalem with Jesus, but then deserted him a few days later. At times in our own lives, we remember that Jesus is with us. At other times, we may feel abandoned, that Jesus is not with us. We light this candle as a symbol of our lack of trust in Jesus Christ who will always remain faithful, even when we let fear overcome our faith. Let us pray:

**In Unison**

**A: Holy One, you have journeyed with us through the valley of the shadow. Even though you help us through to the other side we remain unconvinced of your promise to us that “you will never abandon us”(John 14) . Help us to remain faithful to you, even in times of deepest doubt.**

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

**\*Hymn VU 122 “All Glory, Laud and Honour”  
REFRAIN**

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

**Scripture Reading:  
New Testament**

**Gospel of John 12:12-19**

***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 123 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” vv. 1-2**

**Conversation Time**

**Hymn VU 123 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” v. 3**

## **Reflection: Parade Towards Resurrection**

### **Ministry of Music: “He Came Riding on a Donkey”**

Words & Music: Gordon Light

#### ***Our Response***

#### **\*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**

#### ***Communion***

#### **Invitation To The Table**

#### **\*Communion Hymn VU 467 “One Bread, One Body”**

#### **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**L: May the God of this week be with you.**

**A: May God journey with you as well.**

L: People of God, offer your hearts in these moments.

**A: We open the closed gates of our fears to the God who comes to us.**

L: Children of God, sing loud praises to the One who approaches.

**A: We praise our God whose steadfast love is forever.**

L: This is your doing, Imaginative God,  
transforming the emptiness of chaos  
into the creation of beauty and hope where  
palms waved in summer breezes,  
colts frolicked in green meadows,  
children joyfully played in the streets.  
You created all this goodness, all this grace,  
for those shaped in your image,  
but we took the nails and wood offered by sin  
and crucified your dreams for us.  
You continued to invite us through  
your love, sending women and men to call us home,  
but we rejected the prophets,  
even as we continued to rebel against you.  
So, you chose to become one of us,  
not in glory or power or wealth,  
but in humility, so we might be saved.  
So with those who wave palm branches,  
with those who stand at the back of the crowd,  
we offer our thanksgiving to you:

**A: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of gracious love.  
Morning by morning, creation sings its praise to  
you.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who has a Teacher's tongue.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

L: This is your doing, God of our lives.

Though sharing in your holiness,  
your Child chose to become human.

Setting aside glory,

Jesus came to fill us with grace.

Taking off eternity's robes,

Jesus knew our days of loneliness and fear.

Leaving behind all majesty,

Jesus became as humble as a little child

who gazes at everything with awe and wonder.

Deciding to set down power, Jesus went to the cross,

letting death think it had defeated him as it gathered

him in its cold embrace, until you breathed new life

into him, the resurrecting Spirit of love being revealed

for all.

As we step forward in fear and doubts to follow,

as we know how easily we would betray Jesus,

we sing of the mystery we call faith:

**A: In steadfast love, Jesus was born;**

**with steadfast trust, Jesus died;**

**through steadfast grace, Jesus was raised from**

**death; for steadfast hope, Jesus will come to**

**open the gates of eternity for all.**



L: As you pour out your Spirit on the bread and the cup and your community gathered on this day, we know that this is your doing, Holy God. For through the bread which is broken, you feed us, so we might become one with the excluded, so we might bring healing to the hurting. And through the Cup which is blessed, you open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, our mouths, so we might speak out against oppression, so we might see each person as our sister or brother, hearing in their words your voice of love.

And when the gates of time and history are closed, as eternity with you swings wide open, we will lift our voices with everyone from every time, and of every place, forever singing of your steadfast love, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.  
(c) 2018 Thom M. Shuman)

We Remember. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

## **Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

**Post Communion Prayer: (In Unison)**

**God, your bread and your cup renew our spirits. No matter the times we have failed to show up to your call, or to our own needs, or to the cries of our neighbors, you receive us again. May your unending grace be our foundation as we journey with Christ towards justice. Amen.**

**(<https://enfleshed.com/liturgy/communion-liturgies/>)**

**\*Closing Hymn: VU 105 “Dust And Ashes Touch Our Face”**

***\*Commissioning & Benediction***

**Sending Forth**

L: God sends us forth in this week of holiness.

**A: We will go to clothe those who are cold,  
we will offer our hearts to those who are lonely.**

L: Jesus walks with us through the pain of the week.

**A: We will listen to those who cry out for help,  
we will forgive those who betray us.**

L: The Spirit comforts and strengthens us on this journey.

**A: We will take the hands of all who stumble  
along the way, we will lean on strangers when we  
cannot take another step.**

L: Let us go in the Name of the One who created us,  
In the Name of the One who Loves us,  
And in the Name of the Holy Spirit who guides us in  
our daily life.

**A: Amen.**

((c) 2018 Thom M. Shuman modified by Rev. B. Ransom)

**\*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.**

**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**

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

**Book the Hall**

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

***We are now live streaming.  
Please look for us on our YouTube channel***

***<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](mailto: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](mailto:treasurer@newcastleunitedchurch.org)**

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