



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

March 3rd, 2024

10:30 am

Third Sunday Of Lent

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)

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: Creator, we come.

A: Welcome us into this holy space where boundaries do not exist and acceptance is readily given to all.

L: Creator of creation,

A: During these brief moments of worship in this sacred space, transform us, reconnect us to what matters and remind us that we are sacred to you.

L: Creator of this sacred space,

A: Let our words, our prayers, our song proclaim the holiness that fills all space and time.

L: Creator, you made everything sacred let us behold all of creation and be in awe of your Holy Presence.

A: Let us worship!

Extinguishing the Third Candle of Lent: Trust

L: God has proven trustworthy throughout history, but at times we question and doubt, and even deny, God's presence in our lives. Sometimes we forget the larger picture and focus only on that moment, that period of time, when we experience God's absence. We worry and fret about what is happening and what will happen next, rather than trusting in our Savior. We extinguish this candle as a symbol of our faith in Jesus Christ, that his presence is with us, and that we are not alone.

Let us pray:

A: God of hope, help us to remember the promise that you will never leave us or forsake us. As we journey towards the cross this Lenten season, remind us of your presence, and help us to remember to trust in you. Amen.

[\(http://www.rev-o-lution.org/2012/02/03/lent-easter-worship-resources/](http://www.rev-o-lution.org/2012/02/03/lent-easter-worship-resources/) modified by Rev. B. Ransom)

***Hymn: “Jesus, Stand Among Us” VU 396**

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

Scripture Readings:

New Testament Gospel of John 2:13-22

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: “Draw The Circle Wide” vv. 1-2**

MV 145

CHORUS

Draw the circle wide,

Draw it wider still.

**Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side
draw the circle wide.**

**1 God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms..... CHORUS**

**2 Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call..... CHORUS**

Conversation Time

**Hymn: "Draw The Circle Wide" v.3 MV 145
3**

**Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door..... CHORUS**

Reflection: "Sacred Space"

Ministry of Music: "Happy Are They"
Composed by Natalie Sleeth

Our Response

Invitation to The Offering

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

**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: “May The God Of Hope Go With Us”** **VU 424**

****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.

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

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