



# NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

10:30 am

Lynn Liddell LLWL  
Donna Barber ARCT

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**

**Announcements**

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

**Prelude (A centering time) “I Love to Tell the Story”**

Music by Catherine Hankey (arranged by Phillip Keveren)

**Lighting The Christ Candle**

**\*Opening Hymn VU 958**

**sung twice**

**“Halle, Halle, Halle”**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu – jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu - jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle – lu -jah!**

**Halle - lu - jah!**

**Halle - lu - jah!**

***\*Call To Worship***

**One:** We gather today like travelers on a journey,  
sometimes uncertain, sometimes hopeful,  
sometimes not even aware of the One who walks  
beside us.

**All:** Yet Christ meets us on the road,  
in our questions, in our conversations,  
in the breaking of bread, and the sharing of stories.

**One:** Come, all who seek,  
all who wonder, all who long to recognize God in the  
ordinary places of life.

**All: We open our hearts and our eyes.  
We are ready to be surprised by grace.  
We come to worship the Risen Christ!**

**\*Opening Hymn VU 595**

**vv. 1-6**

**We Are Pilgrims**

- 1 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.**
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.**
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.**
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.**
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.**
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.**

# *Announcements*

**MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU.**

Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

Today's Greeters are Florence and Bob Inkster.

Scripture Reader is Brian Reid.

Bible Study is cancelled for this week.



## **Potato Bonanza**

Please join us in the church hall for Baked Potato Bonanza. Baked potatoes with all the fixings. Brought to you by The Stewards. Free Will Offering

## **Congregational Meeting**

There will be a Congregational Meeting, **today**, immediately after the service. Please plan to attend, if you are able.

## **Lakeridge Presbyterial UCW Meeting**

The Lakeridge Presbyterial UCW Meeting will be held on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at Maple Grove United Church at 7 pm. Refreshments at 6:30 pm. Brenda Metcalf will be speaking.

## Dates to Take Note of....

TODAY!!!!!!	Congregational Meeting
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	Baptism
June 8 <sup>th</sup> , Pentecost	Communion, 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary United Church

## From the Stewards....

The Stewards have a few spring fundraisers planned:

\*TODAY, after the service and congregational meeting, we will have our "Baked Potato Bonanza" fundraiser.  
Free Will Offering

\*May 5 and 12 at 5pm, we'll be hosting two Community Salad Suppers. Please sign up in the hall to contribute to the dinners.

\*And don't forget our Yard, Plant and Bake Sale on Sat. June 14. Clean out, dig out, bake up, bring it all over for our annual sale!

**We couldn't do all our work  
without you**



## Broadview Interview

The oldest living United Church moderator has lived through a colossal amount of change — both in Canadian society and in the church itself. But as Erin Pepler discovered when she interviewed him earlier this year, he's very serene about the future. You can only

read the interview at <https://broadview.org/bruce-mcleod/>

**Speaking of our cherished elders, do you know of any United Church centenarians who would be up for an interview with Broadview in the near future? Please email me at [e.prestwich@broadview.org](mailto:e.prestwich@broadview.org) .**

## **ECORC Spring General Meeting**

Join us at our Regional Council gathering on May 23rd and 24th as we celebrate, reflect, honour and plan together at St. Paul's United Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church located at 178 Church St, Bowmanville. <https://ecorcuccan.ca/2025-ecorc-spring-annual-meeting-may-23-and-24/>

Nathan Phillips Square in Toronto, will play host to the



**CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
*Celebrating faith and freedom since 1867*

Christian Music Festival on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Events will start at noon and run until 9 pm. Performances by local bands as well as local vendors with food and merchandise. <https://christianmusicfestival.org/>

*Stewardship Second....*

*May 4: Third Sunday of Easter*

*Sometimes it takes a short, sharp shock to help us see the needs that are right in front of us and respond to them.*



We appreciate all donations and can accept PAR, envelope givings, and e-transfer at [nucetransfer@gmail.com](mailto:nucetransfer@gmail.com) using the answer “Newcastle”. You can also send via [Canadahelps.org](http://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 [office@newcastleunitedchurch.org](mailto:office@newcastleunitedchurch.org) *Thank you for your donations which make our continued ministry possible.*

**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**

905-987-4515

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

**Book the Hall**

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

## **Opening Prayer (Unison)**

**Loving God,**

**you meet us on the dusty roads of our lives —  
in our questions, in our struggles, in our everyday  
routines. You walk with us even when we do not  
recognize your presence.**

**Open our eyes this day, we pray.**

**Open our hearts to your grace.**

**In the breaking of bread, in the sharing of words,  
in the quiet spaces and the gathered community,  
may we find you beside us.**

**Surprise us with your goodness, ignite our hearts  
with your love, and send us out to tell the story of  
hope. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray.**

**Amen.**

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

### **Scripture Reading**

**New Testament: Gospel of Luke 24:13-35**

### **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 MV 12 “Come Touch Our Hearts” vv.1-5**

**1 Come touch our hearts that we may know  
compassion,**

**from failing embers build a blazing fire;  
love strong enough to overturn injustice,  
to seek a world more gracious,  
come touch and bless our hearts.**

**2 Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,  
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;  
create a space for spirit to grow in us,  
let life and beauty fill us,  
come touch and bless our souls.**

**3 Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,  
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;  
help us to open doors of understanding,  
to welcome truth and wisdom,  
come touch and bless our minds.**

**4 Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,  
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;  
that we may rise to follow and to serve,  
steady now our nerve,  
come touch and bless our wills.**

### **Conversation Time**

**5 Come touch us now, this people who are gathered,  
to break the bread and share the cup of peace;  
that we may love you with our heart, our soul,  
our mind, our strength, our all,  
come touch us with your grace.**

Words and music: Gordon Light

### **Reflection: God in the Ordinary**

**Ministry of Music “As We Walked Home at Close of Day”** Words: The Iona Community Music: Georg Joseph

## ***Our Response***

### **Invitation to The Offering**

**\*The Offertory Hymn VU 544**

**“In Gratitude And Humble Trust”**

**In gratitude and humble trust**

**we bring our best today**

**to serve your cause and share your love**

**with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us**

**in Jesus Christ, your Son,**

**teach us to give ourselves each day**

**until life's work is done.**

### **Dedication Of The Offering**

### **Prayers Of The People**

**\*Closing Hymn VU #87**

**vv. 1-4**

**I Am the Light of the World**

**REFRAIN**

**'I am the light of the world!**

**You people come and follow me!'**

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery**

**of what you were meant to do and be.**

- 1 When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and the shepherds have found  
their way home,  
the work of Christmas is begun: REFRAIN**

- 2 To find the lost and lonely one,  
to heal the broken soul with love,  
to feed the hungry children with warmth  
and good food,  
to feel the earth below, the sky above! REFRAIN**
- 3 To free the prisoner from all chains,  
to make the powerful care,  
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,  
to see God's children everywhere! REFRAIN**
- 4 To bring hope to every task you do,  
to dance at a baby's new birth,  
to make music in an old person's heart,  
and sing to the colours of the earth! REFRAIN**

***\*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.

**Postlude "Walk With Me"** Words & Music: John S. Rice