

Blessed are the Poor



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

February 16th, 2025

10:30 am

Sixth Sunday of Epiphany

Rev Bryan Ransom MDiv

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

Land Acknowledgement

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

Prelude (A centering time) ““He Leadeth Me”

arranged by Donna Barber

Lighting The Christ Candle

We light the Christ Candle in hope that the light glows, reconnecting us with the Spirit of the Living Christ as we worship together in this place.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for.

We are the change that we seek.” —

Barack Obama

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.” —

Nelson Mandela

***Opening Hymn VU 376**

v. 1, twice

“Spirit of The Living God”

1 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

****Call To Worship***

L: We are blessed!

A: Blessings are not based on wealth or possessions.

L: We are blessed!

A: When we recognize the mystery of God is everywhere.

L: We are blessed!

A: When we are held in compassion and able to love others in the same way.

L: We are blessed!

A: When our joy comes from beyond ourselves.

L: We are blessed!

A: When we gather to worship in the presence of the Creator.

L: So, as we gather here, let the blessings of worship pour into our lives.

by Rev Sharon Lohnes modified by Rev. B. Ransom

Opening Prayer

Creator, in humility we come seeking Your presence today. Let Your gentle spirit temper our spirits to walk with those who have no place or voice in our community. Let Your compassion open our hands to be gentle in embracing those who live in fear and in the margins of our communities. Let Your Word today help us to

Announcements

Sunday February 16th, 2025

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

Today's Greeters are Beth West and Dorothy Stapleton.

Scripture Reader is Nathan Blesse.

Bible Study will be on Wednesday at 10 am.



Coffee Time

Please join us in the hall after the service for fellowship. This week's Coffee Time brought to you by Mission and Service.

Annual General Meeting

Reminder that the AGM will be on February 23rd, at 1:00 pm, in the church hall, after the service and lunch. We hope you will be able to join in.

Community Soup Suppers

Our soup suppers will continue this month. If you are bringing a dish, please sign up on the sheets by the office door. Next dinner dates will be **Feb 24th**, as well as **March 3rd**.

Office Hours

Lynne will be away on Tuesday, but will be in the office on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

World Day of Prayer

Newcastle United Church will hold this year's World Day of Prayer on Friday March 7th, at 1:30 pm. All are welcome.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

February 19 th 11:30 am	Session Meeting
February 20 th , 7 pm	Vision 200 Meeting
February 23 rd , 1 pm	Annual General Meeting
March 7 th , 1:30 pm	World Day of Prayer
March 9 th	Easter Communion Dates
April 13 th , 18 th , 20 th	
May 11 th	Baptism
June 8 th , Pentecost	Communion, 100 th Anniversary United Church

Food Bank

Next week is Foodbank week. Please bring any unexpired donations and place on the pew on the north wall. Monetary donations also gratefully accepted and can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you.

Camp Quin Mo Lac Positions

We are so excited to get the summer underway and look forward to meeting the team that will usher our campers through the 75th year of camping at Quin-Mo-Lac. Please note the application deadlines below and submit your application today! Application Deadlines:

- Volunteer Counsellors – Application deadline
March 16, 2025

June Plant Sale

The Stewards are planning their annual Yard, Plant and Bake Sale for Sat. June 14. It's a great opportunity to clean out and pack up your 'old stuff', split your perennials, and do some baking, all to support the running of our church. We couldn't do it without your help!

Opportunity to Pay Tribute - Observer

We all carry the memory of beloved church leaders or congregation members who have shaped our lives and faith communities. Their legacy lives on in the work they did and in the lives they touched. We invite you/your church to honour the lasting impact of someone who made a difference in your congregation or the wider church. By making a memorial donation online or by phone before March 15, you'll celebrate their devotion and service in a meaningful and lasting way.

Their name will be featured in the June historic keepsake centennial edition. This is a beautiful opportunity to pay tribute to those whose lives have profoundly shaped your faith community and the broader story of the church. Please spread the word!

Donate online here <https://broadview.org/donate/> or by phone at 1-800-936-4566 Ext. 230

You can pre-order extra copies of the Broadview 100th Anniversary Edition. Order Deadline: April 7

Delivery Date: May 9. Secure your church's pre-order by calling 416-960-8500 ext 227

Stewardship Second... February 9

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Fishing for people and caring for our catch should be our greatest work,

Honouring the time and energy invested by church members is an essential part of stewardship.



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.

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

905-987-4515

office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Book the Hall

property@newcastleunitedchurch.org

welcome those who are ridiculed and seen as a burden. Holy One, guide our worship with Your words of hope and comfort, to be able to make our lives and Your world a more inclusive and welcoming place. Amen.

by Rev. B. Ransom

***Hymn VU 222**

vv. 1-4

“Come Let US Sing”

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

Scripture Reading

New Testament Luke 6:17-26

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 345**

vv. 1, 2

“Come, Children, Join to Sing”

Conversation Time

***Hymn VU 345**

v. 3

“Come, Children, Join to Sing”

Reflection

Ministry of Music "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"

Our Response

Minute For Mission

Invitation to The Offering

***The Offertory Hymn VU 588 v. 3**

"Many Are the Lightbeams"

**Many are the gifts given, love is all one.
Love's the gift of Jesus.**

**Many are the gifts given, love is all one;
we are one in Christ.**

Dedication Of The Offering

Prayers of the People

***Closing Hymn MV 169 vv. 1-3**

"When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides"

**1 When hands reach out beyond divides
and hope is truly found,
each chain of hate will fall away
and bells of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace, of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace shall sound,
each chain of hate will fall away
and bells of peace shall sound.**

**2 When fear no longer guides our steps
and days of war are done,
God's dream for all shall live anew;
our hearts will heal as one,
our hearts will heal, will heal as one,
our hearts will heal as one,
God's dream for all shall live anew;
our hearts will heal as one.**

**3 When race and creed blind us no more,
a neighbour's face we'll see,
and we shall dance the whole world round,
for love will set us free,
for love, yes love will set us free,
for love will set us free,
and we shall dance the whole world round,
for love will set us free.**

Words: Keri K. Wehlander Music: Composer unknown
(Tune: KINGSFOLD – "I Feel the Winds of God")

****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: "Great Is the Lord"

Words and Music: Deborah & Michael Smith (arranged by Lee Evans)

Next Sunday, the service will be focused on Black History Month.