



# NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

## National Indigenous Heritage Day

June 23, 2024

10:30 am

Rev Bryan Ransom, B.A., 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

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*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) “On Eagle’s Wings”**

Composed by Michael Joncas

“Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that, because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” (Howard Thurman)

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**L:** Spirit of Life, Cradle of beginnings, Your Light of Life shines through it all. Let the light from this Christ Candle shine through all of the wonders and mysteries of creation, revealing your living presence.

***Call To Worship***

***(Honouring The Four Directions)***

**L:** Come Great Spirit, as we gather in your name.

We face East:

To your symbol colour Red, the hue of revelation;

To your animal symbol the Eagle, strong and nurturing;

To your lessons calling us to the balance of your Spirit in Harmony with brothers and sisters;

To invoke your wisdom and grace, the goodness of the ages,

We pray:

***A: COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME.***

L: We turn to face South:

To your symbol colour Gold for the morning star.

To your symbol Brother Sun that enlightens our intellect and brings light on our path to live responsibly;

To your lessons calling us to balance of Mind in the Spirit of humility;

To invoke your spirit of illumination and far sighted vision; Help us to love you and one another with our whole heart, our whole mind, and our whole soul,

We pray:

**A: COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME.**

L: We turn to face West:

To your symbol colour Black, still and quiet.

To your animal symbol the Thunderbird;

To your symbol the Thunder mighty and purposeful;

To your lessons calling us to balance our emotions in the spirit of Gentleness and Honesty;

To invoke your spirit of introspection, seeing within;

Give us your strength and the courage to endure,

We pray:

**A: COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME.**

L: We turn to face North:

To your symbol colour white of clarity and brightness.

To your animal symbol the swan which brings us in touch with Mother Earth and growing things;

To your lessons calling us to balance of our Body in the spirit of a good sense of humor;

To invoke your spirit of innocence, trust and love;

Help us to open our eyes to the sacredness of every living thing,

We pray:

**A: COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME.**

L: We turn to complete the circle and to look:  
To God, our Creator who cleanses our Mother Earth with snow,  
wind and rain;  
To Jesus Christ, the Peacemaker who fills us with the wideness of  
mercy and Lovingly embraces all, and the Holy Spirit who inspires  
us to action:

**A: COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME. COME AND UPLIFT OUR  
CELEBRATION IN YOUR NAME WITH LOVE AND HOPE.**

L: Let us worship together in the One Spirit that has gathered us  
together in this place.

*(Note: There are several interpretations of the colours of the medicine wheel. A Cree  
adaptation is used here. We apologize if this conflicts with what is used in your Nation.  
Please adapt to your local area. [https://www.dominicancenter.org/indigenous-peoples-day-  
liturgy/](https://www.dominicancenter.org/indigenous-peoples-day-liturgy/) modified by Rev. B Ransom)*

**\*Hymn VU 248 “Long Before Time”                      vv. 1-6**

**1   When long before time and the worlds were begun,  
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,  
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,  
and even our Maker had only a dream...**

**2   ...the silence was broken when God sang the Song,  
and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,  
and with its first birth-cries creation was born,  
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.**

**3   The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,  
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;  
the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,  
the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.**

**4** Though, down through the ages, the Song disappeared,  
its harmonies broken and almost unheard,  
the Singer comes to us to sing it again,  
our God-Is-with-Us in the world now as then.

**5** The Light has returned as it came once before,  
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more;  
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice  
the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.

**6** To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise,  
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,  
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,  
be glory for ever, through life and through death.

### **Opening Prayer (In Unison)**

**L:** All powerful lord,

Yours are the praises, the glory, the honour, and all blessing. Be  
praised through all Your creatures, especially through Brother sun,  
who brings the day; and You give light through him. Praised be  
You through sister moon and the stars, in heaven You formed them  
clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy  
and serene.

**A:** Praised be You through sister mother Earth, who sustains  
us and governs us and who produces varied fruits with  
coloured flowers and herbs. We praise and bless You, lord,  
and give You thanks and serve You with great humility. Amen.

(An Indigenous prayer-author unknown- <https://www.pvnccdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/September.pdf>)

*Listening For The Spirit Of God  
Through The Word*

**Scripture Reading:**

**New Testament            Mark 4:26-34**

**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 154 “Deep In Our Hearts” vv. 1-4**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts, there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;  
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;  
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,  
justice and peace in harmony.**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
deep in our hearts there is a common current,  
flowing to freedom like a stream.**

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.**

**Reflection**

## **Affirmation of Faith (In Unison)**

**All: We are all Treaty People:  
original inhabitants  
and those who came later—  
inheritors of a diverse history,  
dwellers in a common land,  
travellers toward a better day.**

**We have known  
friendship and animosity,  
cooperation and oppression,  
blessing and pain.**

**And now we embrace  
the sacred covenant  
that heralds a new beginning:  
that softens the heart  
and dismantles the prisons of  
the present and the past.**

**We joyfully claim  
our rights and responsibilities  
as Treaty People.**

**Amen.**

*—Treaty People's Creed (2011), The All My Relations Network of Saskatchewan Conference*

**Ministry of Music: "Miigwetch, Merci, Thank You, God"**

Music & words: Jane Best

## ***Our Response***

### **Invitation to The Offering**

**\*The Offertory Hymn MV 34  
"All Is Done For The Glory Of God"**

**v. 1**



**All is done for the glory of God.  
Amen! Amen!  
All depends upon our glorious God.  
Amen! Amen!  
Amen! Amen! Amen!  
All is done for the glory of God.  
Amen! Amen!**

*Words and music: Abel Nkuinji*

## **Dedication Of The Offering**

### **Prayers of the People**

**\*Closing Hymn MV 142 “O A Song Must Rise”**

**vv. 1-3**

#### **REFRAIN**

**Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend  
Oh a song must rise once again  
Singing out God's praises and glory,  
the faithful voices blend,  
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

**From the mountains to the valleys,  
from the desert to the sea,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the voices of our leaders,  
The voice of you and me,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. REFRAIN**

**From poverty and riches,  
from the voice of young and old,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the free and the imprisoned,  
the timid and the bold,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. REFRAIN**

**From every house of worship,  
in every faith and tongue,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the villages and cities  
a new song must be sung,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. REFRAIN**  
Words and music: Paul B. Svenson

***\*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.**

**Contacting Rev. Bryan Ransom directly**

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# Announcements

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

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

Today's Greeters are Jean Evans and Diane Winchester.

Biblos and Announcements Reader is Myno Van Dyke.

Bible Study is on hiatus until Sept 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Coffee Time



Please join us after today's service for refreshments in the Hall.

## Summer Holidays

Reminder that the summer holidays will for the month of July. There will be no services. Meetings and rentals will continue.

## Mark your Calendar

Oct 12<sup>th</sup> we will host an anniversary breakfast at the church. Live music with Beatles tribute band,

## Key Chains

We have new key chains to celebrate our upcoming 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. \$5 each. See Lynne in the office.

## Cookbook

Do you have a favourite recipe? The Committee organizing the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is looking for your favourite recipes to be included in a book. Look for sheets in the narthex or in the office. Return completed sheets to the Office.

### **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 10:25



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