

**How often have I desired
to gather your children
together as a hen
gathers her
brood**



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

March 16th, 2025

10:30 am

Second Sunday of Lent
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

***Indicates for congregation to stand as you are able.**

Prelude (A centering time) "Abide With Me"

William Monk/Henry Lyte arranged by John Purifoy

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.

*"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves...What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation."
— Catherine Doherty*

***Opening Hymn VU 376**

v. 1

"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: Let us open our hearts to God's love today.

P: In the midst of winter darkness, we seek the brightness of God's love.

L: Don't be afraid. God is with you.

P: With the Lord's help, we can overcome the darkness.

L: The Lord is your light and your salvation.

P: Even though everything around us is disturbing, God's love is constant. Thanks be to God. AMEN.

By Nancy C. Townley

***Hymn VU 336**

vv. 1-3

"Christ Whose Glory Fills The Skies"

- 1 Christ whose glory fills the skies,
Christ the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
daystar, in my heart appear.**

- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warm my heart.**

- 3 Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**

Announcements

Sunday March 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 Gwen Holmes.

Scripture Reader is Brian Reid.

Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 10 am.



Coffee Time

Please join us in the church hall for fellowship after the service. Today's treats brought to you by Session.

Tax Receipts

Any Tax Receipts not picked up recently, have been mailed out. Please watch your mailbox if you are looking for one.

Cheese Orders

Cheese forms are in the narthex and the Emily St Vestibule. Orders Due today, March 16th.

Dates to Take Note of...

March 20 th 7:00 pm	Vision 200 Meeting
April 13 th , 18 th , 20 th	Easter Communion Dates
May 11 th	Baptism
June 8 th , Pentecost	Communion, 100 th Anniversary United Church

East Central Ontario Region UCW Annual Meeting

ECORC Annual UCW Meeting is on April 10th, 2025 at Westdale United Church in Peterborough. “Called by the Spirit” is this year’s topic. Cost is \$30. Register at.....

<https://ecorcuccan.ca/event/east-central-ontario-region-ucw-annual-meeting/>

Flourishing in Faith, Church, Community and Leadership

Cambridge United Church, in Lindsay.

Saturday, April 5th from 1:30 to 4:30 pm, Moderator Carmen will lead an event on the theme “Flourishing: in Faith, Community and Leadership.” This is for open to everyone of High School age and up (including Seniors). We are requesting that those wishing to attend this event, to please register by visiting our event page where you will find more details and a registration

form. Please register no later than Wednesday, March 26th as this will help us to prepare. Questions? Call Jim Phelps at
(705) 879-0443.

<https://ecorcuccan.ca/event/high-school-age-youth-and-young-adults-gathering-april-5-at-130-pm/>

On Sunday, April 6th at 10:30 am, Moderator Carmen will preach at our Worship Service. Please join us afterwards for refreshments and a short Q & A time in the gym. Unable to join in person? You can watch the service on YouTube. Search Cambridge Street United Church.

Meredith Cutting Concert

Newcastle United Church will be again hosting an evening of song with Meredith. “Love and Spring is in the Air” Please join us on April 26th, at 7 pm. Free Will Offering.

Stewardship Second.....

March 16th: Second Sunday in Lent

It is not easy to be generous, to care for creation, and to love your neighbour when everything around you teaches greed and individualism, but stand firm.



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

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

Contact the Church

905-987-4515

newcastleunitedchurch@bellnet.ca

Contact Lynne in the Office

905-987-4515

office@newcastleunitedchurch.org

Book the Hall

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Extinguishing A Lenten Candle - Opening Prayer – Candle of Peace

Lenten Liturgy by Mary Jo Harrison/ UC Gathering 2025 L/E p.68

***Hymn VU 108**

v.1

“Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights”

**1 Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter Day.**

Solo-Karen Nichol “Every Day is A Gift from God”

Nancy Price & Don Besig

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

Scripture Reading

New Testament: Gospel of Luke 13:31-35

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 VU 112**

vv. 1-2

“O God, How We Have Wandered”

**1 O God, how we have wandered
and hidden from your face;
in foolishness have squandered
your legacy of grace.**

**But how, in exile dwelling,
we turn with fear and shame,**

**as distant but compelling,
you call us each by name.**

**2 And now at length discerning
the evil that we do,
by faith we are returning
with hope and trust in you.
In haste you come to meet us,
and home rejoicing bring,
in gladness there to greet us
with calf and robe and ring.**

Conversation Time

***Hymn VU 112**

v. 3

“O God, How We Have Wandered”

**3 O God of all the living,
both banished and restored,
compassionate, forgiving,
our peace and hope assured.
Grant now that our transgressing,
our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
in pardon, and in peace.**

Reflection: Open To The Future

Ministry of Music “There's a Quiet Understanding”

Words and Music: Tedd Smith

Mission and Service – Colleen

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 703 vv. 1-3
“In The Bulb There Is A Flower”**

**1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**2 There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,**

bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

**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 "I Am Thine O Lord"

Fanny Crosby & William Doane