



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

March 2nd, 2025

10:30 am

Transfiguration Sunday

Session Committee

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

***We ask the congregation to stand as you are able.**

Prelude (A centering time) "You Raise Me Up"

Words and music: Rolf Lovland & Brendan Graham

Lighting The Christ Candle

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

"Listen to Jesus and follow him. That's the message of the Transfiguration."— Pope Francis

No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world — Robin Williams

***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 come together today in awe and wonder to worship God who transforms our lives.

A: we also come burdened down with the worries of the world and the struggles of our individual lives.

L: but in the midst of worries and struggles is God our radiant source of love and hope.

***Hymn VU 333** **vv. 1-3**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

- 2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

Announcements

Sunday March 2nd, 2025

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

Today's Greeters are Diane Winchester and Elaine Spicer.

Scripture Reader is Diane Winchester.

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 treats brought to you by Ministry and Personnel.

Community Soup Suppers

Our last crock pot supper will be tomorrow evening. If you are bringing a dish, please sign up on the sheets by the office door. The Stewards thank you for your continued support of the dinners.

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.



The June issue of *Broadview* will be a historic keepsake edition celebrating the United Church’s 100th anniversary — **a once-in-a-lifetime issue** filled with powerful stories, pivotal moments and reflections on the past, present and future of the church.

Inside this special edition, you’ll find:

- ✓ **Historic Letters** – A glimpse into letters to the editor from the time of church union
- ✓ **Theological Roots** – The key ideas that shaped the denomination
- ✓ **Watershed Moments** – Defining milestones from a century of faith in action
- ✓ **The New Curriculum, Reimagined** – A stunning graphic narrative about the groundbreaking Christian education program
- ✓ **Looking Ahead** – What’s next for the United Church?
- ✓ **The Indigenous Church** – Confronting colonialism and fighting for equality
- ✓ **Moderators’ Reflections** – Memories and insights on the church’s impact


For the first time ever, you can **pre-order additional copies** and when you make an **in memoriam or tribute donation** before March 15, the name of the person you are honouring will be published in the keepsake issue.

Broadview
SPIRITUALITY, JUSTICE AND ETHICAL LIVING

Pre-Order Additional Copies Now

Subscribers will receive the June keepsake. If you don't subscribe, you can pre-order a single issue. Church groups can bulk order at a discount. You won't want to miss this extraordinary reflection on 100 years of faith, justice and community.

- **Price:** 1 copy \$7.00, 2-10 copies \$5 each, 11+ copies \$4 each
- **Order Deadline:** April 7
- **Delivery Date:** May 9

 **Secure your church's bulk copy discount:** tinyurl.com/broadview100UCC
or by calling 416-960-8500 ext 227




 For single copy purchases, go to:

tinyurl.com/Broadviewshop

A Beautiful Opportunity to Pay Tribute

We all know beloved church leaders or congregation members who have shaped our lives and faith communities. We invite you/your church to honour the lasting impact of someone who made or is making a difference in your congregation or the wider church. By making a **tribute 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 and service have profoundly shaped your faith community and the broader story of the church. Please spread the word!

 **Donate online by March 15 here:**
broadview.org/donate or by
calling 416-960-8500 ext 230





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

property@newcastleunitedchurch.org

March 2: Transfiguration Sunday

Living in God's presence changes us. We will become more generous, more caring, more loving.

Opening Prayer

God of mountaintops and valleys and everywhere in between, we thank You for meeting us where we are. We thank You also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal. Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for Your alive Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus Christ, also shine in us for the good of the world. Amen.

Listening For The Spirit Of God Through The Word

Scripture Reading

New Testament **Luke 9:29-36** Jesus' Transformation

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 371

vv. 1, 2

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

1 Open my eyes, that I may see
 glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
 place in my hands the wonderful key
 that shall unclasp and set me free.

 Silently now I wait for thee,
 ready, my God, thy will to see.

 Open my eyes, illumine me,
 Spirit divine!

**2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

Conversation Time

Hymn VU 371

v. 3

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

**3 Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

Reflection

Ministry of Music “Love Lifted Me”

Words and music: James Rowe & Howard E. Smith

Our Response

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

Loving God, we pray for openness.

Open us to receive your light within us as a gift from You
and being able to spread that light in service to You
through the world.

Loving God, we pray for openness.

Open us to the practical needs of those closest to us and
give us the determination to respond.

Loving God, we pray for openness.

Open us to opportunities to encourage the downhearted
and take our hesitation away.

Loving God, we pray for openness.

Open us to a renewed vision of our faith community and
inspire us with a willingness to serve.

Loving God we pray for openness.

Open us to fresh ways of looking at our planet and the
challenges that it holds and remind us of the part we
might play in its renewal.

Loving God, we pray for openness.
That we may end our reluctance and be ready to act
boldly.

Loving God, we pray for openness.
Open us to hear how we can be Your light for others in
the world today we lift up our prayers for them to You
now.

Loving God, we pray now the pray that You taught us...
Our Creator who art in heaven....

—David Sparks, *Called to Act: Prayers with Roots in the Gospel of Mark*
(By David Sparks, adapted and modified)

***Closing Hymn VU 509**

vv. 1-3

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

****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: “Shine Jesus Shine”

Words and music: Graham Kendrick