



NEWCASTLE UNITED CHURCH

September 29, 2024

10:30 am

Rev Bryan Ransom, B.A., MDiv.

Donna Barber, ARCT

Welcome!

Truth and Reconciliation Sunday

“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

Announcements

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

Prelude (A centering time) "As the Deer"

Words and Music by Martin Nystrom (arr. Phillip Keveren)

*To fall in love with God is the greatest romance;
to seek him is the greatest adventure;
to find him is the greatest human achievement.
~Saint Augustine*

Lighting the Christ Candle

O Great Spirit, Creator of all light and life: as we gather in this sacred space to celebrate the Orange Shirt Sunday, we now light the Christ candle as a symbol of your divine presence among us. We remember the words of Christ, the Light of the World, who calls us to be beacons of hope, healing, and reconciliation.

We pray that the light of this candle will guide us in our worship, illuminate our hearts, and inspire us to walk together in the footsteps of Christ. May we be bearers of this light in a world yearning for peace, justice, and reconciliation. In the name of the Creator, the Great Spirit, we pray. Amen.

Call To Worship

L: Creator,
We give thanks for the knowledge you give to us
through all the traditions of the world.
Help us to honour the gifts that each tradition offers.

All: We seek to take the path of love.

L: **(Please Face East)** We give thanks for the east,
for the sun that rises to begin each new day.
We give thanks for new life, for youth.
We give thanks for new learning and new experiences.

All: We seek to take the path of love.

L: **(Please Face South)** We give thanks for the south,
for the growth of the summertime in our lives,
for the teachings to be kind to ourselves and others.
Help us, who are elders, love and respect children and youth.
Help us to care for the elderly and those who cannot care for
themselves.

All: We seek to take the path of love.

L: **(Please Face West)** We give thanks for the west,
for the understanding of how to care for the earth.
Creator, help us to use this understanding
to bring joy and new life to the world.

All: We seek to take the path of love.

L: **(Please Face North)** We give thanks for the north.
Help us to receive gifts of wisdom and new perspectives from all
peoples.

Help us to grow our roots of compassion deeper as we journey.

**All: (Turn and face the minister) Together we will take the path of
love and respect for ourselves and for each other. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn: VU 248
“When Long Before Time”**

vv. 1-6

Opening Prayer (In Unison)

Great Spirit, Creator of all, we come before you in humility and reverence, giving thanks for your loving presence. You have brought us together on this day, uniting us in our shared journey of healing, reconciliation, and celebration.

As we approach you, Holy One, we seek to honour the wisdom, spirituality, and strength of the Indigenous Peoples of this land. We acknowledge the heartbeat of Mother Earth and connecting us to the voices of our ancestors.

Open our hearts, Great Spirit, to receive your guidance and grace. Help us to embrace the beauty of diversity, to listen with respect and compassion, and to learn from the teachings of Indigenous peoples.

During this sacred time of worship, fill us with your Living Spirit, that we can journey together on the path of understanding and love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

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

Scripture Reading

New Testament: Matthew 19:16-22

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 157**

vv. 1-4

“I am A Child Of God”

**I am a child of God,
I am a glimpse of God's new creation.
I am a child of God,
I am a child of God.**

**I am an endless prayer,
I am a yearning for contemplation,
I am an endless prayer,
I am an endless prayer.**

**I am an angry voice,
I am compassion and consternation,
I am an angry voice,
I am an angry voice.**

**I am a cry for peace,
I am commitment and dedication,
I am a cry for peace,
I am a cry for peace.**

Conversation Time

***Hymn: MV 157**

v. 5

**I am a song of joy,
I am the moment of jubilation,
I am a song of joy,
I am a song of joy.**

Words and music: Cheryl and Bruce Harding

Reflection

Announcements

Sunday September 29th, 2024

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

Today's Greeters are Judy and Myno Van Dyke

Scripture and Announcements Reader is Marie Narini.

Bible Study will be cancelled this week and will resume on October 9th.

Foodbank Day-please leave any food items on the pew on the north wall. Clarington East Food Bank will also gratefully accept monetary donations. We thank you for your generosity.

Next week will be Worldwide Communion Day.



Coffee Time

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

Crock Pot Dinners

Our first Community Crockpot Dinner will be this Mon. Sept. 30 at 5pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the hall if you'd like to contribute with a crockpot or dessert or something else that's special. We'd love to see you then! Free will offering.

Sept. 30th, Oct 7th and 28th, and Nov 4th and 18th.

Key Chains



There are still lots of 200th Anniversary Key Chains available. They are in the office. \$5 each. See Lynne during the week, or on Sunday. Marie or Marlene have some as well.

UCW Fall Workshop 2024

Frankford United Church

61 Mill Street, Frankford, Ontario,

Theme: One More Step – Deep + Bold + Daring

Please Register by Sept. 25th by contacting: Nancy Sutherland by email at f.n.sutherland@sympatico.ca or by phone 705-750-0001

\$20

Choir Rehearsals

We will continue this week, on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. If you are not currently in the choir, but love singing, please come out and join us.



UCW Meeting Change

Next UCW meeting will be Oct 7th instead of the 14th.

200th Anniversary Events

Concert Announcement

Sunday, October 6th at 7:00 pm – Plan to attend a fun-filled concert featuring guitarist/vocalist Meredith Cutting, a wonderful entertainer! He was the "Singing Policeman" on the 'Uncle Bobby' show for 8 years and he loves to get the audience involved – singing along to familiar songs by composers such as Gordon Lightfoot, Johnny Cash, John Denver & many others. He's also a terrific storyteller. Freewill offering.

Breakfast and The Beatles!

October 12th, Newcastle UC will be hosting a breakfast by Gus (from Massey House). Featured will be The MapleBeats. They are a fabulous group playing Beatles songs. Come have breakfast and a bit of dancing to a great band. Doors open at 8:30. Breakfast starts at 9:30. Band will play from 9:45 to 10:30. Tickets from Myno or Lynne, \$20 each

Stewardship Second. September 29th

Jesus lived as a human being. He knows what it's like. Look around you and see whose pain you might ease today.

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

We appreciate all donations and can accept PAR, envelope givings, and

e-transfer at nucetransfer@gmail.com or through CanadaHelps. **You can scan our QR code to the left to donate.**

If you have any questions please contact our interim treasurer, Susan at 289-927-6297 or

treasurer@newcastleunitedchurch.org



SCAN ME

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

Ministry of Music "Sisters Let Us Walk Together"

Words & Music: Judith Snowdon (Verse 3 added by Donna Barber)

Our Response

Prayer of Lament:

L: We remember the children of the Indian Residential Schools. We remember how they were plucked up from their homes by a system of arrogance that denied a good way of life. Their tears, their hunger, their loneliness and their fear is not forgotten. The shame that was taught, lingers yet. The pain that was inflicted upon their bodies remains.

A: We remember the parents, the aunties; the uncles; the grandmas and grampas left to grieve the empty places in their homes and their communities.

Mothers were left with tear-stained aprons; fathers suffered in unyielding silence; How was it they were expected to carry on, having lost their joy, their purpose? And how was it that their community could continue to come together to celebrate life and move together toward a bright future, when their future is gone?

L: How long will it take to strengthen family, homes, and spirits? How long will it take to heal the memories?

Who must we be, and what must we do to restore integrity and dignity to your world?

God of all great transformation,
in our lament we cry out to you.

God of all healing power,
in our pain we call your name.

God of all life,
in our hope we come before you in humble prayer.

A: We pray that all your children may once again sing and dance the songs planted in their hearts since time immemorial. We pray that in their play and in their learning, they be strengthened in wisdom and truth. May they carry the knowledge of their ancestors—those ways of life that brought abundance and joy to this pilgrimage on earth.

We pray for the children’s health and wholeness; may they reconnect with your unending love that they may once again know who they are; their giftedness; and their value. We remember those children who have found their home in you.

L: We acknowledge those who left this earth having heard no words of apology or lament. We are grateful that you hold these ones close and have granted to them eternal peace. As we move ahead into a time of truth telling and reconciliation:

We pray for parents and extended family. Release them from their feeling of guilt and burden. Lift them from their grief. May their homes once again ring out with laughter and hope.

May their communities reflect the joy of their presence. May they come together to work toward reclaiming and renewing minds, bodies, emotions and spirits.

And finally, we pray that one day this world, your world, will be a place where children are no longer harmed and will never again be removed from a mother’s embrace, or a father’s helping hand.

A: We pray in the name of Jesus, your Son, who showed us a way to your Kingdom come on earth for all my relations.

By Rev. Maggie McLeod, Executive Minister, Aboriginal Ministries Circle

Invitation to The Offering

***The Offertory Hymn: MV 34**

v. 1

“All Is Done For The Glory Of God”

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

Pastoral Prayers

***Hymn: MV 90 (sung twice)**

v 1

“Don’t Be Afraid”

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger,

my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid.

**My love is stronger and I have promised,
promised to be always near.**

Words: John L. Bell & Graham Maule Music: John L. Bell

***Closing Hymn: VU 402**

vv. 1-2 & 4

“We Are One”

***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 "On Eagle's Wings"

Words & Music by Michael Joncas (arr. Douglas E. Wagner)

Resource used for the development of this service came from the United Church Resources <https://united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/reconciliation-and-indigenous-justice>

The Initial apology was made by The Rt. Rev. Bob Smith Moderator Of The United Church Of Canada in 1986.

A second apology was made by the Rt. Rev. Bill Phipps in 1998.

To former students of United Church Indian Residential Schools, and to their families and communities:

“As Moderator of The United Church of Canada, I wish to speak the words that many people have wanted to hear for a very long time. On behalf of The United Church of Canada, I apologize for the pain and suffering that our church's involvement in the Indian Residential School system has caused. We are aware of some of the damage that this cruel and ill-conceived system of assimilation has perpetrated on Canada's First Nations peoples. For this we are truly and most humbly sorry.”

“To those individuals who were physically, sexually, and mentally abused as students of the Indian Residential Schools in which The United Church of Canada was involved, I offer you our most sincere apology. You did nothing wrong. You were and are the victims of evil acts that cannot under any circumstances be justified or excused.”

“We know that many within our church will still not understand why each of us must bear the scar, the blame for this horrendous period in Canadian history. But the truth is, we are the bearers of many blessings from our ancestors, and therefore, we must also bear their burdens.”

Our burdens include dishonouring the depths of the struggles of First Nations peoples and the richness of your gifts. We seek God's forgiveness and healing grace as we take steps toward building respectful, compassionate, and loving relationships with First Nations peoples.

We are in the midst of a long and painful journey as we reflect on the cries that we did not or would not hear, and how we have behaved as a church. As we travel this difficult road of repentance, reconciliation, and healing, we commit ourselves to work toward ensuring that we will never again use our power as a church to hurt others with attitudes of racial and spiritual superiority.

“We pray that you will hear the sincerity of our words today and that you will witness the living out of our apology in our actions in the future.”

The Right Rev. Bill Phipps
Moderator of The United Church of Canada