

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

Fully accessible for people with physical disabilities

P.O. Box 13010, Station Topsail, Conception Bay South, NL, A1W 2K1

www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net

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"The Mission of Topsail United Church is:

- To offer to all the opportunity to come to know God as revealed in Jesus Christ;
- To grow in faith through worship, study and prayer;
- To care for each other and all of God's creation; and
- To encourage and empower each other to use our talents within the Church."

- Ministers:	The Congregation
- Clergy:	Rev. Bruce Kearley
- Congregational Designated Minister:	Steven Rogers
- Organist:	Beth Cranston
- Choir Director:	Andrew Cranston
- Musical Guests:	The Anchormen Chorus
- Office Manager:	Lynn Mercer
- Caretaker:	Roger Richards

October 27th, 2013

23rd after Pentecost

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! As the church year draws to a close and culminates in the glory of Christ's reign, we celebrate the transformative power that God gives to the church, the body called to live together as disciples of Christ. As we delve deeper into what it means to live as one, we often grapple with internal and external barriers, histories of shame, and feelings of unworthiness. The scriptures this week celebrate how nothing stands in the way of God's love, and no distance is too great for God's grace to reach. (Ecumenical Prayer Calendar: The Indian Ocean islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Maldives.)

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE

INTROIT: "Steal Away"

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive –Seasons of the Spirit)

One: We are called to God's house, a dwelling place for all people.

All: All of us!

One: Happy are those who find themselves in the presence of God.

All: All of us!

One: All of us! Let us worship God!

CONGREGATION SINGS: "Kum By Ya"

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (In Unison – Seasons of the Spirit)

Praise to you, O God, from the wilderness of Sinai to the order of Jerusalem. By your awesome deeds, you call us into beauty and reverence. By your abundance, you remind us of your grace. The mountains are strengthened by joy. The rivers are full of life. The pastures overflow with new life. All of creation sings together for joy. Though we have known drought, we will welcome rain. Though we have known shame, we will not wallow there, but instead seek to live in your mercy. Amen.

HYMN: #597 "Simon, Simon A Fisherman Was He"

SUNDAY SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP COVENANTING

L: A covenant is a special agreement we make, with God as our partner. God made a covenant agreement and promise with Noah, with the rainbow as a symbol. Moses and the Hebrew people made a covenant with God through the 10 Commandments. Jeremiah talked of a covenant that would be written on people's hearts. We recognize this covenant through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Through him, we know that the covenant is for all people.

Today we renew our own covenant with God and each other in our church youth programs.

ALL: **We, the people of Topsail United Church, seek to live in God's way. We promise before God to work together in building a community of love and faith.**

Coordinator: (Placing a Bible on the Communion Table)

I place this Bible as a symbol of the covenant we make this day.

Coordinator, Teachers & Helpers:

We promise before God to give our time, our effort, and our love to nurture the growth of those in our care.

Teacher: (Placing a Teachers' Pak on the Communion Table)

I place this Teachers' Pak as a symbol of the covenant we make this day.

Sunday School Students:

We promise before God to grow in love and faith, and to help others also grow in love and faith.

Youth: (Lighting a candle on the Communion Table)

I light this candle as a symbol of the covenant we make this day.

Congregation: (Congregation To Stand)

We promise before God to pray and support you in this important work.

ALL: We are a community in process - a community growing. May we build a solid foundation of trust in God and love for one another. And may God bless us and guide us in our growing together. We pray in Jesus name, AMEN.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 65 #782 (God crowns the year with goodness.)

Luke 18: 9-14 (The Pharisee and the tax collector go to pray.)

ANTHEM: "I Come To The Garden Alone"

SERMON "*Life Together*"

HYMN: #508 "Just As I Am"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere
And some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.
Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make
Be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (In unison – Seasons of the Spirit)

God we dedicate these gifts in honour of the gifts you bestow on Creation. You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; you provide the people with grain, for you have prepared the earth for abundance. Let our gratitude be our promise to spread your abundance to all living things throughout Earth, so that no one is in need. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: #375 "Spirit of Gentleness"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION "This Little Light Of Mine / Do Lord"

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Today's bulletin has been dedicated to the glory of God and donated

†††

In loving memory of daughter/sister

Debbie Rideout

ever remembered and loved by Mom & Dad, Douglas & Donna

To the glory of God and in loving memory of

Elwin Hann

by Wendy Hann

In loving memory of

Eric Francis

a donation has been made to the Roofing Fund by William & Gloria