

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

Office Telephone: 834-4567, Hours: Mon. – Fri. 9-1 Fax: 834-6200

"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
 - **Choir:** Combined Choir
 - **Office Manager:** Lynn Mercer
 - **Caretaker:** Roger Richards
 - **Communion Servers:** Dianne & Bruce Kearley
-

Sunday, April 20th, 2014

***EASTER COMMUNION CELEBRATION
8:00 A.M.***

WELCOME & HAPPY EASTER!

WE GATHER IN JOY AS GOD'S PEOPLE

ORGAN PRELUDE:

CHRIST CANDLE IS LIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: Early morning. Most people are still sleeping. Dawn is just breaking. Three women appear.

All: Look the tomb is empty! Our Christ has gone! Where can he be?

One: Sun is arising. Light is growing. Shadows are receding.

All: Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has been raised as he has told you.

One: Warmth rises from the sunlit earth. Dew shines on the long grass. A bird sings ...

All: He has been raised indeed! Dawn of our lives. Strange warmth in our hearts!

One: Come, let us worship the Risen Lord!

(Written by **Read Sherman & Daphne Craig**, Prayers to share workshop, Ottawa Presbytery, *Gathering*, Lent/Easter/Pentecost 2006, page 37. Used with permission.)

INTROIT:

**Rejoice the Lord is King! Your risen Lord adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say rejoice**

PRAYER OF APPROACH: #174

HYMN: #157 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

LITANY OF AFFIRMATION: (responsive)

L: Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation what is right is acceptable to God. anyone who fears God and does

P: By the grace of God I am what I am.

L: God raised Jesus on the third day and made him manifest to those God chose, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

P: By the grace of God I am what I am.

L: God commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that Christ is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

P: By the grace of God I am what I am.

L: To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

P: By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know he holds the future
And Life is worth the living
Just because He lives.**

SCRIPTURE: John 20: 1-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

HYMN: #161 "Welcome Happy Morning"

OFFERING & DOXOLOGY:

**From God we have the gifts of earth;
From Christ's stone tomb we have our birth;
We offer now our tithe and pray
That Christ bring justice in our day.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Living God, accept these our gifts, given to bring purpose where there is hesitancy, courage where there is struggle, comfort where there is sadness, assurance where there is self-doubt, justice where there is powerlessness. These gifts are the gifts of life. Bless them and bless us. Amen

MEDITATION:

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: "This Do In Remembrance Of Me"

GATHERING PRAYER:

INVITATION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of Easter, we pray behind imposing gravestones – touchstones of our limitations; our confinement in grief; our despair in the ache of anger, the haunting of fear; flatness of spirit within the breadth of life.

We pray, clutching the gravestone from the inside. Gentle our restrictions, purify us through doubt, fashion us through surrender and trust.

Ready us, waken us, raise us as your children to be part of the Easter story. (*Moment of Silence*) This we pray, in the name of the one who, unafraid, gave himself over to life. Amen.

(Written by *Daryl Webber*, Ebenezer P.C., Campbellville, Ont., *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2013, page 40. Used with permission.)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

THANKSGIVING PRAYER:

(The Bread is broken & The Cup is lifted)

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP:

(Communion is shared)

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (sung)

HYMN: #173 "Thine Is The Glory"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Stay With Us" (#182 – VU)

ORGAN POSTLUDE: