

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:

Clergy:

Congregational Designated Minister:

Office Manager:

Caretaker:

Youth Band Director:

Vocal Director:

Musical Ensembles:

The Congregation

Rev. Bruce Kearley

Steven Rogers

Lynn Mercer

Roger Richards

Brett Vey

Rosalind Foley

Children's Choir, Rhythm Band

April 19, 2015

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! Celebrated every year on April 22, Earth Day is the largest environmental event in the world. More than six million Canadians—including nearly every school-aged child—participate in an Earth Day activity in their communities. Today, on Earth Sunday, we join with hundreds of organizations across the country to reflect upon our role in caring for creation.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

One: As the International Space Station circles around the globe, we are ever more aware that we live together on one Earth with one global ocean and one atmosphere.

All: **Our Creator God calls us into communion and community with all Creation.**

One: Our part of the covenant is to love this small planet we call home and bring harmony in the Earth community.

All: On this Earth Sunday we take time to reflect on and give thanks for the gifts of Earth, Sea, and Sky.

One: God of Earth, Sea, and Sky, come fill our hearts as your spirit fills the universe.

HYMN: #226 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

WORDS OF WELCOME | CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

ANTHEM: “Water Flowing from the Mountains”

TALK TIME

MUSICAL PRESENTATION

PRAYER:

One: Gracious God, we have taken the fruits of your creation and your merciful abundance for granted.

All: **We have uttered prayers of thanksgiving without true gratitude.**

[Musical Response]

One: Meanwhile, we have failed to recognize the suffering of the earth and of the people who have produced our food.

All: **Ignoring our connection to the rest of your creation as we reap nourishment, we move further away from your vision of your beloved community.**

[Musical Response]

One: Forgive us, O God, and transform us. Open us to the richness and beauty in connecting the food at our table to all the natural and human resources who have brought it to those tables.

All: **Help us to give thanks not just for our food but for all those who have brought it before us and to work that they might also flourish.**

[Musical Response]

One: Encourage us to work for justice for all, so that all may give you thanks and be fed. Spur us to care for earth, sea, and sky.

All: **In Christ Jesus we pray, amen.**

HYMN: [Insert] “The God Who Set the Stars in Space”

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 1: 26-31

REFLECTION

ANTHEM: “It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker”

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

One: As we present our offerings to you, O God, we realize that by your grace all things are made possible.

All: **We give thanks to you, blessed, mysterious life-giver, for one more day to experience the miracle of creation.**

One: With every breath we remember that life is a gift from you, O God, and we give thanks.

All: **With every bite of healthy food, we know the wonder of your diverse and fruitful Earth, and we give thanks.**

One: With every word, we affirm your transforming love for each of us, and we give thanks.

All: **Holy Beloved, through you all things are made new. Creation is full of your glory. All praise be yours, amen!**

HYMN: [Insert] “O Beautiful Gaia”

BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

