

# TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

*"The Church by the Side of the Road"*

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

[www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net](http://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."

- <b>Ministers:</b>	<b>The Congregation</b>
- <b>Clergy:</b>	<b>Rev. Bruce Kearley</b>
- <b>Congregational Designated Minister:</b>	<b>Steven Rogers</b>
- <b>Organist:</b>	<b>Beth Cranston</b>
- <b>Choir Director:</b>	<b>Andrew Cranston</b>
- <b>Choir:</b>	<b>Mixed Choir</b>
- <b>Office Manager:</b>	<b>Lynn Mercer</b>
- <b>Caretaker:</b>	<b>Roger Richards</b>

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*April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015*  
*4<sup>th</sup> of Easter*

## **SERVICE NOTE**

**WELCOME!** In the ancient near East, no one was more present with sheep than a shepherd. That closeness and attention to the needs and natural tendencies of the flock makes the shepherd a wonderful metaphor to explore what it means for God to care for God's world, and what it means for us to live in that care.

## **WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **MUSICAL PRELUDE:**

**INTROIT:** "Lord Prepare me to be a Sanctuary" (MV18)

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (responsive)

One: We come together today in the knowledge of God's love for us through Jesus' amazing grace.

**All: We come together to give our thanks,**

One: we come together to confess our failings, we come together to learn more of the nature of God,

**All: we come together to gather strength for the journey, we come together to be restored.**

One: We come together because we are God's own and we are thankful. Let us worship God!

**CONGREGATION SINGS: #356** (sing twice)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And God's righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Hallelu, hallelujah

### **WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK**

**OPENING PRAYER:** (in unison)

Loving Shepherd, through the gift of gathered community may we know your attentive care, abundant beauty, and the power of reconciliation. We pause now, and, in the silence, we hear you call each of us by name and are welcomed and enfolded by your love. Guide us, protect us, feed us, renew us, love us. Amen.

**HYMN:** #445 "A Little Child the Saviour Came" (verses 1 & 2)

## **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

One: Let us celebrate the gift of grace given to us in the Sacrament of Baptism.

**All: There is one body and one spirit; we have one hope in Christ.**

One: There is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God, Creator of us all.

All: **Out of the waters of Baptism, we rise with new life, forgiven, renewed, and one with Christ, members of Christ's body.**

## INTRODUCTION & VOWS

One: Let us pledge to these persons our support and care.

All: **As a Baptized and Baptizing church, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within the community of faith. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH:** The Creed (VU #918)

## THE BAPTISM

**HYMN:** #445 "A Little Child the Saviour Came" (verses 3 & 4)

### WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

#### SCRIPTURE READING:

1 John 3: 16-24 (Love not just with words, but with actions.)

John 10: 11-18 (Jesus is the good shepherd.)

#### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**SERMON:** *"The Shepherd's Care"*

**HYMN:** #747 "The Lord's My Shepherd"

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

#### MINUTE FOR MISSION

**OFFERTORY:** (VU #540)

Grant Us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living, we may offer faithfully.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (in unison)

We know that the God of justice is concerned about all people and all places, and so we send these gifts into the world today, not just to serve our own, but to serve all those in need. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**HYMN:** #422 "God Be With You"

#### COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

**CHORAL BENEDICTION:** "Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands" (MV173)

#### MUSICAL POSTLUDE

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### GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

*Today we are pleased to welcome into membership of our  
Church family through The Sacrament of Baptism*

***Sadie Ashley Tulk***

*daughter of Terry Tulk & Amanda Squires of CBS, NL.*

*and*

***Bentley Paul Rendell***

*son of Michael Rendell & Stephanie Snow of CBS, NL..*