



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

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**

May 3rd, 2015
5th of Easter/Communion

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME: Jesus is the true vine, and we are the branches, called to live together in the Christian family as an Easter people. God tends the vine so that we may produce the fruits of justice and love. When we abide in God, we bear fruit of that love to others. All are welcome to become part of this community.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE

INTROIT: "Come In, Come In and Sit Down" (VU #395)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

One: Jesus is the true vine.

All: We are the branches.

One: People of the loving vine grower, we gather here to seek God's care. Open your hearts: let God's Spirit tend you, let God's word cleanse you, let God's commandment of love abide in you, let us avail to the loving attention of our God and be fruitful. Let us worship God!

CONGREGATION SINGS: (VU #401)

Worship the Lord, (Worship the Lord)
Worship the Father, the Spirit, the Son.
Raising our hands, (Raising our hands)
In devotion to God who is one.

Bringing the bread and the wine to the table
Asking that we may be led and enabled,
Truly united to build new communities,
Worship and work must be one.

Worship the Lord, (Worship the Lord)
Worship the Father, the Spirit, the Son.
Raising our hands, (Raising our hands)
In devotion to God who is one.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

OPENING PRAYER: (In unison)

Loving God, we come together to reconnect to you, the source of love. No one has ever seen God, but here, connected to one another, God lives in us. Grafted again to the taproot of love in this time together, we strengthen ourselves to reach out like branches bearing good fruit to the world. Abide with us in this time, O God, so that we will continue to abide in love now and always. Amen.

HYMN: #574 "Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love"

CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT WITH OFFICIAL BOARD

- Board Members -

Joanne Avery	Lloyd Hobbs
Freeman Budgell	Valerie Howe
Paul Burt	David Jones
Dale Butt	Glenys Moran
Boyde Clarke	Wanda Saunders
Mildred Coles	Bond Swain
Gillian Corbett	

SCRIPTURE

MINISTER:

Let us hear the message of scripture. There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. Christ is like a single body which has many parts. If one part of the body suffers, all other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all other parts share its happiness. All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it. (1 Corinthians 12)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

MINISTER: We celebrate with joy and gratitude that you have been called by God, and chosen by the people of **TOPSAIL PASTORAL CHARGE** for leadership in the church. This ministry is a blessing, a honour, and a responsibility. It recognizes your special gifts and calls you to work among us, with us, and on our behalf. We thank you and challenge you to offer your best to God, and to all God's people.

COVENANT QUESTIONS AND PROMISES

MINISTER: As you come to assume the duties of your office, let us make a covenant before God and with one another. As a disciple of Jesus Christ, will you continue to live out your faith with praise and thanksgiving? Will you carry out your responsibilities in this congregation with integrity and joy?

MEMBERS: **I will, God being my helper.**

MINISTER: Will the congregation please stand. Will you, the congregation of Topsail United Church honour the leadership of these people? Will you assist them through daily prayer, generous support, and personal example, so that, together, we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ?

PEOPLE: **We will, God being our helper.**

PRAYER: **(in unison)**

Loving God, you have called these people to serve you. Send your Holy Spirit upon them and upon us all that we may keep the promises we have made today. Help them to fulfill their responsibilities. May their leadership help us all to reflect your love and grace always. Amen.

DECLARATION:

In the name of God: Creator, Christ, and Spirit, we recognize and affirm you in your ministry as the Official Board of Topsail United Church.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

1 John 4: 7-12, 18-21 (Let us love one another)

Psalms 22: VU #746 (Parts 3 & 4)

John 15: 1-8 (Jesus is the true vine)

SERMON: ***"Abiding in Love"***

HYMN: #235 "O Worship The King"

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)

God longs for all of us to live bountiful lives. We share these gifts from the bounty with which we are blessed, in order that they may be a blessing to others. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: "One Bread, One Body" (VU #467)

GATHERING PRAYER

CONFESSION: (In unison)

Gracious God, we give thanks for the life of Jesus; his work among us, and for those who carry on Christ's mission. We try to continue Christ's work, and pass on Christ's light, but sometimes we are scared; that Christ's work will be too costly, or too hard. *(A moment's silence)* Sometimes we let the light go out; we let everyday concerns extinguish it. *(A moment's silence)* Sometimes we are reluctant to pass the light on: we don't want to share, believing our way is the right way. *(A moment's silence)* Gracious God, through Jesus Christ, may your love surround us and bring us forgiveness and peace. **Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (Sung - VU #959)

*(The Bread is broken & The Cup is lifted)
(Communion is shared)*

HYMN: #460 "All Who Hunger"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Deep In Our Hearts" (MV #154)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Today's bulletin has been dedicated to the glory of God and a donation to the Roofing Fund has been made

*In loving memory of
Dave Williams
from wife Jean & Family*

+++

