

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

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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

Office Manager:

Nicole Ivey-Cross

Caretaker:

Roger Richards

Youth Band Director:

Brett Vey

Musical Ensembles:

Courage, Inspiration

November 15, 2015

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! *The 1994 General Council made the decision that Children’s Sunday should be celebrated annually across the church on a Sunday close to November 20, the date of National Child Day in Canada and the anniversary of the United Nations ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child includes Article 31, which affirms a right to rest and leisure, play and recreational activities, and participation in cultural life and the arts. We pray all children experience the right to play. Gerald Manley Hopkins’ poem “As Kingfishers Catch Fire” reminds us that “Christ plays in ten thousand places”.*

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

One: When children play on the streets of Syria, Kenya, Afghanistan, Conception Bay South, and our neighboring communities,

All: Christ plays in ten thousand places.

One: When children create their own spaces for mystery and wonder,

All: Christ plays in ten thousand places.

One: When children play outdoors for the pleasure and joy of being able to,

All: Christ plays in ten thousand places.

One: When children tumble and chase, play-fight, and run through fall leaves,

All: Christ plays in ten thousand places.

One: We gather in worship celebrating in God's eye what in God's eye we are— Christ—for Christ plays in ten thousand places.

GATHERING PRAYER: "Let Us Play"

WORDS OF WELCOME | CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

HYMN: #357 "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

TALK TIME

ANTHEM: "Where Have All The Flowers Gone"

PRESENTATION

HYMN: #224 "Sing A Happy Hallelujah"

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 7: 31 – 35

REFLECTION:

PRAYER: [See Below - responsive]

OFFERTORY:

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more
It's just like a magic penny, hold on tight and you won't have any
Lend it, spend it, and you'll have so many, they'll roll all over the floor
Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HYMN: [Below] "Jesus Loves The Little Children"

BENEDICTION:

One: Go into the world: Dance, laugh, sing and create.

All: We go with the assurance of your blessing, O God.

One: Go into the world: Risk, explore, discover and love.

All: We go with the assurance of your grace, O God.

One: Go into the world: Believe, hope, struggle, and remember.

**All: We go with the assurance of your love, O God.
Thanks be to God!**

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

*Today's bulletin has been dedicated to the glory of God and donated
In loving memory of my Brother*

David Miller
from Sandra

+++

In loving memory of
Mary Harris
on the first Anniversary of her Passing
from Bob and Debbie Bennett

Children play to understand the world around them.

Let us pray that adults remember their play and commit to supporting children's play. May we refuse to dismiss play as frivolous or a luxury or attempt to restrict it through fear.

Children's play is fundamental to survival, well-being, health and development.

Let us pray that all children have time, space, and licence to play.

War, violence, discrimination, abuse, exploitative labour, water and food shortages, and other toxic stressors are obstacles to play.

Let us pray that adults take action to reduce these and protect the right of children to be children.

Children need a play environment that gives them the feeling that the world is full of things to explore, where space and resources evoke imaginative play.

Let us pray for the provision of safe playgrounds for all children and especially for child refugees, children living with disabilities, and those from minority groups. May safe play space be restored quickly following natural disasters and emergency situations.

Children, as children, have a different way of seeing, feeling, and acting in the world. This comes alive in their play.

Let us pray that in supporting children's right to play, we pay attention not simply to the outward expressions of play, but to the conditions in which "playfulness" thrives.

Children use play to make order in a chaotic world.

Let us pray for children whose daily lives are chaotic, unpredictable, or violent.

All children play.

Let us pray for the children we hold close to our heart.

God our Playmate, keep us a playful people, recognizing the value of all the children in your playground. AMEN.

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus calls the children dear, "Come to Me and never fear
For I love the little children of the world
I will take you by the hand, lead you to a better land
For I love the little children of the world"

*Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world
Red, brown, yellow, black and white
All are precious in His sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world*

Jesus is the Shepherd true, and He'll always stand by you
For He loves the little children of the world
He's a friend who's always near
And with Him you need not fear
For He loves the little children of the world

I am coming Lord to Thee, and your friend I'll always be
For you love the little children of the world
On my journey, on my way, in your holiness I'll stay
For you love the little children of the world