

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

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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
- Organist:	Beth Cranston
- Choir Director:	Andrew Cranston
- Choir:	Mixed Choir
- Office Manager:	Nicole Ivey-Cross
- Caretaker:	Roger Richards

February 7th, 2016

Transfiguration Sunday/Communion

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME St. Irenaeus, one of the earliest theologians in the life of the church, once wrote, "the glory of God is humanity fully alive." It's not so much that one causes the other – that our being alive makes God glorious – but rather that the two dance together. When we are fully alive, we are filled with God, and God is in turn glorified. Surely Moses experiences this as he came down from the mountaintop with God's rules of life and the glory of God is seen in Christ.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: "Come and Find the Quiet Centre" (v1 – VU374)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: Let us glorify God on mountaintops.

All: Praise God!

One: Let us glorify God in deep valleys.

All: Praise God!

One: Let us glorify God in times of hope.

All: Praise God!

One: Let us glorify God in times of despair.

All: Praise God!

One: In all things, in all times, in all places:

All: Let us praise our God.

One: Come, let us worship.

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free,
Silently now I wait for thee,
Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

Wherever we find ourselves, O God, may we remember that you are present. There is no place where we can run from your love, there is no place we can hide from you, there is no place where you will not find us, and love us, and hold us close. May we experience and celebrate you in this time of worship. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

HYMN: #315 "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty"

Congregational Recognition & Support of *Heather Cronhelm*
upon entering the Discernment process for Ministry within
the United Church of Canada.

INTRODUCTION:

Doreen Cave — Chair — Worship & Sacraments

PRAYER: (in unison)

In the presence of God and one another we give thanks for the example and lasting love of Jesus Christ who walks with us on life's journey. As a congregation we celebrate with *Heather* her decision to discern a call to Ministry within the United Church of Canada. We surround her with our prayers, support, care and encouragement. Gracious God surround *Heather* and all of us with the encouragement of your Spirit and the energy of your love as a community of faith called to be your disciples. We pray in Jesus name. Amen!

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Exodus 34: 29-35 (Moses is radiant as he comes down the mountain.)

Psalms 99 (#819 — God rules and delights in justice)

Luke 9: 28-36 (Jesus is transfigured upon the mountain)

SERMON: "Fully Alive"

HYMN: #299 "Teach Me, God to Wonder"

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:

Open us to trust, loving God, your presence in our world and in our lives. Take the gifts we offer, and use them – even in ways we cannot yet imagine – to bring positive changes in the lives of those around us, and those far away. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

AHTHEM: "Anthem for Communion" (Gilbert M. Martin)

GATHERING PRAYER:

CONFESSION: (responsive)

One: Mountaintops can be wonderful places, where we look out and see the world in new ways.

All: Mountaintops can be lonely places – cold and desolate.

One: Sometimes we want to stay on a mountaintop, unwilling to face the "real" world.

All: Sometimes we find ourselves drawn back to valleys, to city streets, to places that can be invigorating to places that can be threatening and overwhelming.

One: Sometimes we go up mountains – or into valleys – to avoid God.

All: Sometimes we want to be alone with our thoughts, and alone with God.

One: Sometimes we want to run away, to escape, to leave God somewhere else. In those times, O God, find us.

All: Remind us that we need never run from you.

One: Help us celebrate your presence – in loud times and quiet times.
(silent reflection) Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (sung)

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

HYMN: #314 "Come Now, Almighty King"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Oh A Song Must Rise" (MV 142)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Today's bulletin has been dedicated to the glory of God and donated;

In loving memory of Sister-in-Law

Marion Thomas

by Yvonne Lewis

In loving memory of

Jane Brown

age 11, and Grandparents

Alex & Martha Butler

by Barbara

In loving memory of a

beloved Father, Father-in-Law and Grandfather

Heber Bennett

by Bob, Debbie, Sheri, Gregory

In loving memory of a

beloved Brother, Brother-in-Law and Uncle

Scott King

by Debbie, Bob, Sheri, Gregory