

**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](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."
- 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

**Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**EASTER COMMUNION CELEBRATION**

**8:00 A.M.**

**WELCOME & HAPPY EASTER!**

**ORGAN PRELUDE:**

**CONGREGATION SINGS:**

Joyful, joyful we adore you God of glory, life and love,  
hearts unfold like flowers before you opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away,  
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

**CHRIST CANDLE IS LIT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)**

One: It is early in the day, and we have discovered a great truth.

**All: Jesus is risen. He is risen indeed!**

One: It is early in the day, and we have gathered to give thanks.

**All: Jesus is risen. He is risen indeed!**

One: As spring brings forth new life, as the egg hatches a new bird, as bulbs bring forth new flowers, so God brings forth new promise, new life, new love.

**All: Jesus is risen. He is risen indeed!**

One: Thanks be to God.

(Written by **George Allan**, Chatham, Ont. **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2016, page 39. Used with permission.)

**HYMN:** #157 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

**PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

God of new life; you are with us in this sacred space, in this sacred moment, as you are with all people in all times and in all places. God of liberty, hear our joyful cries of hallelujah, for we need no longer look for you in death, the tomb is empty. We need no longer seek you in the empty tomb, you are alive. We witness you in life, abundant and bountiful life. Hallelujah! Amen

**HYMN:** #161 "Welcome Happy Morning"

**LITANY OF AFFIRMATION: (responsive)**

L: Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God.

**P: By the grace of God I am what I am.**

L: God raised Jesus on the third day and made him manifest to those God chose, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

**P: By the grace of God I am what I am.**

L: God commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that Christ is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

**P: By the grace of God I am what I am.**

L: To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

P: **By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.**

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow  
Because He lives all fear is gone;  
Because I know he holds the future  
And Life is worth the living  
Just because He lives.**

**SCRIPTURE:** John 20: 1-18

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**HYMN:** #703 "In The bulb, There Is A Flower"

**OFFERING & DOXOLOGY:**

**From God we have the gifts of earth;  
From Christ's stone tomb we have our birth;  
We offer now our tithe and pray  
That Christ bring justice in our day.**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)**

Living God, accept these our gifts, given to bring purpose where there is hesitancy, courage where there is struggle, comfort where there is sadness, assurance where there is self-doubt, justice where there is powerlessness. These gifts are the gifts of life. Bless them and bless us. Amen

**MEDITATION:**

### **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**ANTHEM:** "Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah"

**GATHERING PRAYER:**

**INVITATION:**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Loving God, we come before you this morning praising your holy name. We thank you for this day of resurrection. May our lives be resurrected as well, so we may be your sons and daughters. Sometimes God, we wander away from you and forget who and whose we are. We know, God, that you created us and that we are yours. Help us to remember this when we are discouraged, grieving, or confused. Help us to return to you, O God, through your Son, our Saviour, who is alive and with you through all eternity. We thank you for this special day, God, and we lift our prayers to you in Christ's name. Amen!

(Written by *Allister Rose*, Lansdowne-Mallorytown P.C., Lansdowne, Ont. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2016, page 41. Used with permission.)

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER:**

**BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP:**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: (sung)**

*The Bread is broken & The Cup is lifted)*

*(Communion is shared)*

**HYMN:** #173 "Thine Is The Glory"

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION:** "Joy comes with the Dawn" (VU166)

**ORGAN POSTLUDE:**

