

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

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."
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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Ministers: | The Congregation |
| - Clergy: | Rev. Bruce Kearley |
| - Youth Program Coordinator: | Heather Cronhelm |
| - You Band Director: | Brett Vey |
| - Musical Ensemble: | Inspiration Band |
| | Courage Choir |
| - Office Manager: | Jacqui Kennedy |
| - Caretaker: | Roger Richards |

September 18th 2016

22nd after Pentecost/World Food Sunday

SERVICE NOTE

Welcome as we gather together on World Food Sunday. We gather as a community to praise God and to reflect on the call God has given to us to love and serve others. May we live in the world as community and work together in God's love, power and wisdom. We pray that a time will come when no one will go hungry.

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive) Sera Tulk

One: O God you are the source of all life.

All: You are with us always.

One: You reveal yourself as a seed,

All: that we may taste, be nourished, and grow in you.

One: You reveal yourself as water.

All: that we may be softened and cleansed by you.

One: You reveal yourself as earth

All: that we may be nurtured and grounded in you.

One: You reveal yourself as wind,

All: that we may be touched and inspired by you.

One: You reveal yourself as fire,

All: that we may be refined and energized by you.

One: You reveal yourself as a child,

All: that we may wonder with amazement at your wisdom and beauty. We are your people, God. We come to worship you!

CONGREGATION SINGS: (sing twice)

Draw the circle wide, Draw it wider still
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison) Shannon Collins

Creating God, provide us with all that we need to grow into who you have created us to be. As the womb of the earth nourishes seeds, may we be nourished by this gathered community and the assurance of your Holy presence. As the sun provides energy, leading seeds to transformation, May we find the courage to embrace new life, through the example of Jesus. As water refreshes and replenishes the growing seedlings, may we be restored by the movement of the spirit. Amen

HYMN: *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me # 575 VU*

CHILDREN'S TIME:

**COVENANTING WITH HEATHER CRONHELM
YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH**

Presider: We are here in the presence of God to covenant with Heather Cronhelm in her position of Youth Program Coordinator at Topsail United Church.

Presenter: I present Heather Cronhelm to be received in the position of Youth Program Coordinator for Topsail United Church.

Statement of Purpose:

One: The church recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

All: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

One: Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

All: All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

(1Corinthians 12: 4-11)

Presider: Heather, God has called you to the ministry of Youth Program Coordinator within this congregation. You have accepted this call, and have expressed your willingness to serve as the Spirit enables you. Having prayerfully considered the calling and responsibilities of your ministry will you serve in Christ's name and for the glory of God?

I will, God being my helper.

Presider: Do you promise to exercise your ministry faithfully, bearing witness to the love of Christ?

I do, by the grace of God.

Presider: Congregation please stand. Members of this congregation, you have heard the promises of Heather, who has answered God's call to service. Let us pledge to her our support as we say together – **We celebrate our partnership with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to honour your ministry of Youth Program Coordinator and support you with prayer and encouragement, that together we may be the church of Jesus Christ.**

Presider: *(Please welcome Heather with us.)*

Prayer: Let us pray. Loving God, we thank you for Heather, who has responded to your call to ministry with us. Bless her in the position of Youth Program Coordinator. May your love fill all our hearts and unite us in your ministry in this congregation and beyond. We pray in Jesus name. Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP COVENANTING

L: A covenant is a special agreement we make, with God as our partner. God made a covenant agreement and promise with Noah, with the rainbow as a symbol. Moses and the Hebrew people made a covenant with God through the 10 Commandments. Jeremiah talked of a covenant that would be written on people's hearts. We recognize this covenant through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Through him, we know that the covenant is for all people.

Today we renew our own covenant with God and each other in our church youth programs.

ALL: **We, the people of Topsail United Church, seek to live in God's way. We promise before God to work together in building a community of love and faith.**

Coordinator: (Placing a Bible on the Communion Table:)

I place this Bible as a symbol of the covenant we make this day.

Coordinator, Teachers & Helpers:

We promise before God to give our time, our effort, and our love to nurture the growth of those in our care.

Teacher: (Placing a Teachers' Pak on the Communion Table:)

I place this Teachers' Pak as a symbol of the covenant we make this day.

Sunday School Students:

We promise before God to grow in love and faith, and to help others also grow in love and faith.

Youth: (Lighting a candle on the Communion Table:)

I light this candle as a symbol of the covenant we make this day.

Congregation: (congregation to stand)

We promise before God to pray and support you in this important work.

ALL: We are a community in process - a community growing. May we build a solid foundation of trust in God and love for one another. And may God bless us and guide us in our growing together. We pray in Jesus name, AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 58: 10-11 Rachael Moores

Matthew 14:15-21 Dylan Callan

Ministry of Music : the Courage Choir & the Inspiration Band

Heal the World by Michael Jackson

REFLECTION: *Divide or Multiply?*

HYMN: *When I needed a neighbor # 600 VU*

OFFERTORY:

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you'll 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'll end up having more

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Father bless these gifts we bring you. Give them something kind to do. May they help someone to love you. Father may we love you too. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER:

God we humbly pray,

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We pray for the health of the earth, upon which all of life depends. We pray for all who touch the earth as farmers, miners, foresters, fishers and backyard gardeners, that we all may remember that you are with us and that this is your world.

We are called to be the church.

We pray for all who gather in your name, who seek to do your will. May we, like seeds, be full of promise, be whole and grow in fertile soil as examples of your goodness in your world.

We are called to celebrate God's presence.

We are amazed by your constancy! We pray for awareness of your presence in the world, in the beauty of the flowers, the singing of the birds, the scent and flavors of food, in our tingling of feelings.

We are called to live with respect in creation.

We understand that we are just one part of the balance of your creation. We pray that we may understand how to live respectfully with all life here. May we learn to live interdependently and justly with our neighbours.

We are called to love and serve others.

We now are the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We pray for the caregivers whose kindness and compassion demonstrate your love. We pray for those who suffer, who are oppressed, who are marginalized. May we like seeds planted in good soil, receive what is needed to live meaningful lives that serve you.

We are called to seek justice and resist evil.

We live in a world of conflict and injustice. May we recognize opportunities to build peace and reconciliation. We pray for peacemakers and justice seekers who bring your message of peace, love, and holy wisdom through courageous and inspiring actions.

We are called to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

We are inspired by Jesus, a seed of love who demonstrated compassion through his actions, educated for justice through his parables, and is our living hope through his death. And God, we offer these prayers that we carry silently in our hearts(silence).

**I live in death, in life beyond death, God is with us we are not alone
Thanks be to God. Amen**

SENDING FORTH: in Unison

**As we return to our daily lives,
May our thoughts be prayerful
Our prayers be actions,
And our actions be the seeds of blessing
In God's world.
Amen**

Parts of the service have been taken from worship services found on united-church.ca *Seeds of Sovereignty* and *Recognizing Food is Sacred: Seed Service*

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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

In loving memory of
James Mansbridge
by wife Jean & family