

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."

- Ministers:	The Congregation
- Youth Program Coordinator:	Heather Cronhelm
- Organist:	Beth Cranston
- Choir Director:	Andrew Cranston
- Choir:	Mixed Choir
- Office Manager:	Jacqueline Kennedy
- Caretaker:	Roger Richards
- Clergy:	Rev. Bruce Kearley

April 23rd, 2017

2nd of Easter

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! For Christians, it is important to grasp the truth of the Easter story, to have faith in Christ's resurrection. But is truth the same as fact? Facts are things that can be proven (and thus, presumably, can also be disproven). Truth, though, is different. Truth can be based on fact, or it can be based on faith. Today's classic story about Thomas coming to the truth about the risen Christ can be helpful for those who struggle with aspects of this story today. As we will encounter again in a couple weeks, the facts of resurrection are bizarre, sometimes stretching the imagination a little too far. But the truth of it – that Christ is risen, and comes to be with us even in the midst of our greatest fears – is real.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: "Jesus, Stand Among Us" (VU396 v.1)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: When doors were shut and the world was kept out,

All: resurrection found the disciples.

One: When the church gathers and the world waits outside,

All: resurrection finds us.

One: When fear grew and new questions were found,

All: resurrection found the disciples.

One: When faith leads us into new questions about life,

All: resurrection finds us.

One: When suffering remained and the city was hostile,

All: resurrection found the disciples.

One: When Christ gathers with his followers in living worship,

All: resurrection finds us.

One: Come, let us worship God!

CONGREGATION SINGS: #577 "I've Got Peace Like A river"

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (In Unison)

God of great surprises, God of unbounded joy, into our uncertainties and faltering this day your voice echoes in our hearts: Breathe deeply, take good heart, do not be afraid. Amen.

HYMN: #391 "God, Reveal Your Presence"

TALK TIME:

WE LISTEN TO & RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Jeremiah 29: 10-14

John 20: 19-31

ANTHEM: "When We Seek Language" (MV 49)

SERMON: "Let Go and Let God"

HYMN: #158 "Christ Is Alive"

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

OFFERTORY:

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)

We offer you these gifts and those given through PAR, O God, as testament to the fact that we have come out of hiding. We are here, ready to go and proclaim your message of love, forgiveness, and hope to all the world. Use us, with all our doubts and questions, to proclaim this simple truth to the world. We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER:

HYMN: #382 "Breathe On Me Breath of God"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Protect Me, God" (VU737 v.6)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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

In loving memory of
Albert & Beryl Thistle & youngest brother Keith Thistle
from daughter Margeurite Hillyard & family
a donation has been made to the Cemetery Fund