

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**
 - **Clergy:** **Rev. Bruce Kearley**
 - **Youth Program Coordinator:** **Heather Cronhelm**
 - **Youth Band Director:** **Brett Vey**
 - **Musical Ensemble:** **Inspiration Band**
Courage Choir
 - **Office Manager:** **Jacqui Kennedy**
 - **Caretaker:** **Roger Richards**
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February 19th 2017 - 7th after Epiphany

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME as we gather together to worship God. Today we take time to celebrate Black History Month. By looking at the past may we gain understanding and perspective. May we go forward from this day with renewed courage and commitment to work towards a day when there is truly justice for all. Let us seek God's guidance so that we may join hands with all of humankind. Let us do so rejoicing in the knowledge that Christ walks with us!

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(responsive)*

One: Summoned by the Creator, we come together in worship.

Many: It is a strong and generous invitation to celebrate;

One: to celebrate God.

Many: and each and all of us made in the image of God.

One: O my! What beauty!

Many: What glorious colors and hues!

One: Gathered in worship of this beautiful God,

Many: and in the company of God's beautiful creations;

One: We cannot help but sing and dance and shout!

Many: With hearts readied in love, souls pregnant with praise,

One: and bodies inclined to act anew;

All: We come together to worship God.

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*)

We journey and travel in a world that does not treat everyone as a friend. A world that does not respect, care, and value each person equally. Oh God, please help us to pray and work toward a new world, your world. Amen

Hymn: *Kumbaya My Lord* (please see insert)

CHILDREN'S TIME:

SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 31:6-8
Luke 10: 25-37

Ministry of Music: *Man in the Mirror* by Michael Jackson
Presented by the Courage Choir and Inspiration Band

REFLECTION: *Finding Courage for Change*

Hymn: *We Shall Overcome* (please see insert)

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: (in unison)

God bless these gifts we give 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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:

One: Faithful God, we thank you that we are known by you.
And you have called us to go into the world to do your work.

Many: Lead us we pray.

One: You called us to love and be loved as we do justice in your field.

Many: Help us we pray.

One: We come in humility asking that you will give us courage and wisdom to become ambassadors of your peace and reconciliation.

Many: Hear us we pray.

One: You made us like you and called us to be unique. As you look at us you see the same people you created in your image.

Many: Help us we pray.

One: Help us Lord, that we may be able to stand up against any injustice.

Many: Hear us we pray.

All: We are glad to be your people as we all come together with one voice, answering and making a commitment that we will not keep quiet if there is injustice, but we will stand up and do your work of love, peace, and reconciliation. As you have called us to be one, we recommit ourselves to this calling. We pray all this through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

HYMN: *Spirit of Gentleness VU # 375*

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION: *(read responsively)*

One: Although the road is long and the journey is hard

All: Although the mountains are too high and the valleys are too low

One: By your grace give us hope

All: By your power give us strength

One: By your mercy give us wisdom

**All: So that we may continue to go where you lead us
Until all your children are safe from harm.**

One: May we go with your light shining in us. Amen

Parts of the service are taken from services for Black History Month found on United- Church.ca
How long will we have to cry? A service of lament for anti-black racism.
A recommitment to anti- racism
Celebrating the Journey