

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

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
- Youth Program Coordinator: Brett Vey
- Organist: Beth Cranston
- Choir Director: Andrew Cranston
- Choir: Mixed Choir
- Office Manager: Jacqueline Kennedy
- Caretaker: Roger Richards
- Clergy: Rev. Bruce Kearley

Sunday, April 1st, 2018

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: Early morning. Most people are still sleeping. Dawn is just breaking. Three women appear.

All: Look the tomb is empty! Our Christ has gone! Where can he be?

One: Sun is arising. Light is growing. Shadows are receding.

All: Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has been raised as he has told you.

One: Warmth rises from the sunlit earth. Dew shines on the long grass. A bird sings ...

All: He has been raised indeed! Dawn of our lives. Strange warmth in our hearts!

One: Come, let us worship the Risen Lord!

(Written by **Read Sherman & Daphne Craig**, Prayers to share workshop, Ottawa Presbytery, *Gathering*, Lent/Easter/Pentecost 2006, page 37. Used with permission.)

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

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Loving God, we lift our hearts in praise. This very day we know that life rules over death. All your promises to your people now hold new meaning. Christ is risen from the dead and we have new life because of that. You had proclaimed "Yes!" as a challenge to the problems of the world. As we hear that bold proclamation, help us to find new ways to make it our proclamation in our day-to-day living. Amen.

HYMN: #161 "Welcome Happy Morning"

LITANY OF AFFIRMATION: (responsive)

L: Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation acceptable to God.

anyone who fears God and does what is right is

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.

SCRIPTURE:

Mark 16: 1-8

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:

MEDITATION: *"Going Ahead of you"*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: "Because He Lives"

GATHERING PRAYER:

INVITATION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Merciful God, for the times we doubt and not serve, forgive us. For the times we forget and not share, forgive us. For the times we become entangled by greed, and power, forgive us. For the moments our grief takes over our lives, comfort us. For the moments where we cannot find hope, give us hope.

God, we recognize the times that we turn away from the suffering around us; when we become too busy, get caught in the routines and tasks of each day, when we become numbed by the growing needs in the community that surrounds us, when we become unfriendly to those who ask for help. God, in your mercy, forgive us. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

THANKSGIVING PRAYER:

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP:

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (#959 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: