

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

March 4th, 2018

3rd in Lent/Sacrament of Holy Communion

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! Psalm 19 speaks of Creation's testimony to God, and is an opportunity to continue thinking about recovering a Christian theology of Creation.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: "To The Desert Jesus Came" (VU #113 – v.3)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: God's commandments are clear.

All: They make clear our vision and straight our paths.

One: Human wisdom and understanding are thwarted,

All: and unified in Christ's reconciling love.

One: All that we have been, are and will become

All: is through the providential work of God.

One: Come, let us worship the one who provides, sustains, and nurtures.

All: We come to worship God.

One: Let us worship God!

"Lenten Light"

(Lighting of the **Christ** Candle to increase the light on our Lenten Journey)

CONGREGATION SINGS: *"We Are Marching in the Light of God"*

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (In Unison)

As all creation sings praises to God today we lift our voices to join the choir. We sing of the joy and glory of being embraced by the God of light. We sing of the sweetness of being held in love by the God of justice. We sing with voices filled with awe, knowing that we have a place in your realm, that is no less than that of the stars in the heavens, and we are grateful. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

HYMN: #663 *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

WE LISTEN & RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 19 (#740 – VU)

John 2: 13-22

SERMON: *"Contemplate God's Glory"*

HYMN: #325 *"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

OFFERTORY: (VU #958)

Halle, halle, hallelujah

Halle, halle, hallelujah

Halle, halle, hallelujah

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (In Unison)

God's blessings are more abundant than the rain of springtime. Our hope is fully in the One who provides for our every need. We are able to give joyfully what we first received from God. We offer our gifts, generous God, to be used to share your love with one another, the community around us, and the world. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: "All Who Are Thirsty" (MV #4)

GATHERING PRAYER:

CONFESSION: (in unison)

God, you call us into the marketplace and into the wilderness too, but sometimes we are too frightened to go into desert places. We fear the nudge and urge of the Holy Spirit that might call us to alter our lives. The status quo seems easier. It's what we are used to. Forgive us God and help us to remember that even in the wilderness you are there. God, help us to set foot in the desert, to embrace emptiness and silence. Help us trust that we will be filled. Amen!

(Adapted - Written by *Sheryl Spencer*, Mount Forest P.C., Mount Forest, Ont. **Gathering**, Lent/Easter, 2015, page 32. Used with permission.)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (sung #959)

(Communion is shared)

HYMN: #659 "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Like A Rock" (MV #92)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

We Are Marching in the Light of God VU #646)

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God. (x2)

We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of God. (x2)

Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen kwen-khos',
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen kwen-khos'. (x2)

Si-ya-ham-ba, ham-ba, si-ya-ham-ba, ham-ba
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen kwen-khos'. (x2)

