

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

May 6th, 2018

6th of Easter Sacrament of Holy Communion

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! Loving God, open our hearts to love more freely and more fully. Abide in our hearts. Flow into our lives with wonder and joy. Help us to offer ourselves generously, as we learn how to be a friend and show the gifts of true friendship. Amen.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: Harmonia Mundi (Translation: 'World Harmony') Text Sean Deibler

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive Based on Psalm 98)

One "Sing to the Holy One, sing a new song! The One who has done marvellous things!"

All: We sing with our hearts as we love one another. God's love creates ripples of love.

One: "God remembered the covenant of love and fidelity toward the house of Israel."

All: We rejoice with our lives as we love one another. God's love creates ripples of love.

One: "Sing to the Holy One... Let the sea roar...and the mountains shout together..."

All: We give praise to God with our hearts and our lives as we love one another. God's love creates ripples of love.

One: Let us worship God!

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, in his love we shall be strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (In Unison)

Loving God, you teach us to love one another. Help us to do that well, with a spirit of truth and trust. Help us to know when we are called to show love. Help us to know when showing love means holding our tongue, or saying "I'm sorry," or providing care and attention. Grant us the blessing of being cared for by our friends and by our families. Help us to be a people of friendship and loving kindness. Amen.

HYMN: #382 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

WE LISTEN & RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 98 (#818 VU)

John 15: 9-17

SERMON: "Loving Friends"

HYMN: #457 "As We Gather at Your Table"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

OFFERTORY: "The Church is Wherever God's People" (VU#579)

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (In Unison)

God, may our friendships be a blessing to all creation. May our words, actions, and deeds serve you. May the gifts of our resources, our time, and our energies serve you in this time and place. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: “When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides” (MV #169)

GATHERING PRAYER:

CONFESSION: (in unison)

One: Gracious God, we know what it means to be a friend. Forgive us for the times when our friendship has faltered. Forgive us for the times we have forgotten how to be a friend to ourselves. Forgive us for the times we have forgotten how to be a friend to others.

All: **We know what it means to be loved. Forgive us for the times we forget how to love ourselves. Forgive us for the times we forget how to love our neighbours. Forgive us for the times we forget how to love one another.**

One: We know what it means to delight in creation. Forgive us when we forget how to care for your world.

All: **We know what it means to show your love. Forgive us when we forget to help those in need. Forgive us when we turn away from the needs we see around us. Forgive us for the times we leave acts of love for another day.**

One: We know what it means to be forgiven. Forgive us when we forget how to show forgiveness. Forgive us when we forget how to pursue justice in love.

All: **We know what it means to be gathered. Forgive us when we forget to extend hospitality and welcome. Forgive us for closing our doors and shutting down opportunities to be your love in the world. Forgive us for the times we abandon our call to our neighbours.**

All: **Amen!**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS
BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORD’S PRAYER: (sung #959)

(Communion is shared)

HYMN: #625 “I Feel the Winds of God”

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Draw the Circle Wide” (MV #145)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

Today's bulletin is dedicated to the glory of God and donated

In loving memory of a beloved Mother, Mother-in-law, Grandmother &
Great Grandmother

Dolly Bennett

on the 25th anniversary of her passing
from Bob, Debbie, Sheri, Gregory, Christy & Brynn