



## TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

*"The Church by the Side of the Road"*

P.O. Box 13010, Station Topsail, Conception Bay South, NL, A1W 2K1

[www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net](http://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."

- <b>Ministers:</b>	<b>The Congregation</b>
- <b>Youth Program Coordinator:</b>	<b>Brett Very</b>
- <b>Organist:</b>	<b>Beth Cranston</b>
- <b>Choir Director:</b>	<b>Andrew Cranston</b>
- <b>Choir:</b>	<b>Mixed Choir</b>
- <b>Office Manager:</b>	<b>Jacqueline Kennedy</b>
- <b>Caretaker:</b>	<b>Roger Richards</b>
- <b>Clergy:</b>	<b>Rev. Bruce Kearley</b>

---

**October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

*Thanksgiving & The Sacrament of Holy Communion*

### SERVICE NOTE

**WELCOME & HAPPY THANKSGIVING!** The holiday of Thanksgiving is one that assumes the bounty of the land. Even those who have not tilled the ground for generations find themselves thinking in terms of the earth's abundance at this time of year. Perhaps it is the panoply of colors. Perhaps it is the mounds of produce in the supermarkets. Whatever the reason, this is a time in which we are very aware of the earth's harvest and our dependence on it. May we be thankful for what we have, share our blessings with others and take care of the earth.

### WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

#### THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

#### WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

**INTROIT:** "I thank You, Thank you, Jesus" (MV #188 v 1 &3)

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP:** (responsive)

One: In times of trouble & in times of peace,

**All: we give thanks.**

One: In times of doubt & in times of certainty,

**All: we give thanks.**

One: In times of sowing & in times of harvest,

**All: we give thanks.**

One: At all times,

**All: it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: Come, let us worship God

#### **CONGREGATION SINGS:** (MV#156)

Dance with the Spirit early in the morning,  
Walk with the Spirit throughout the Long day.

Work and hope for the new life abornin',

Listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

(Words and Music: Jim Strathdee, 1995)

#### **PRAYER OF APPROACH:** (In Unison)

God of harvest, we give you thanks for the beautiful colours of autumn and for the cycle of changing seasons. We also give thanks for the earth's harvest that nourishes our bodies, and for your love which sustains our spirits. Help us to care of one another, and to care for all creation, for by caring for those whom you love, we show our thanks. Amen.

**HYMN:** #516 "Come, You thankful People, come"

**WE LISTEN & RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING:**

Joel 2: (selected verses)  
Psalm 126 (#850)  
Matthew 6: (selected verses)

**SERMON:** "The Daily Walk"

**HYMN:** #291 "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION:**

**OFFERTORY:** (VU#540)

*Grant us, God, the grace of living, with a spirit large and free,  
That ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.*

(Words: anonymous. Music: attributed to Christian F. Witt, Psalmodia Sacra, adapted by Henry John Gauntlett)

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (In Unison)

Bless these gifts to your service, God. May the food and fellowship that we share together around this table, be a glimpse and taste of the beloved community that is to come; a community ruled by love, wrapped in mercy, and guided by justice. Amen.

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**ANTHEM:** "Think of Me and Remember" (Joel Raney)

**GATHERING PRAYER:**

**CONFESSION:** (in unison)

Loving Creator, at all times, and in all circumstances, we are called to give thanks to you. Yet, when feelings of despair, sadness, and fear spread quickly and overwhelm our entire being, it is hard to stop and reflect on your goodness. Help us to remember that we are complex and that our feelings do not exist in isolation; we can be sad and happy, mad and glad all at the same time. We can be grateful, while striving for more. We can give thanks while still crying our laments. Forgive us when we are so absorbed in other emotions that we neglect the discipline of gratitude. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS**

**BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** (sung #959)

*(Communion is shared)*

**HYMN:** #236 "Now Thank We All Our God"

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION:** "Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You." (William J. Gaither)

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE:**

(Literary Resources used in preparation of worship: "Gathering" & "Seasons of the Spirit")

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

In celebration of the 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on October 10<sup>th</sup> of

***Russell Parsons***

from The Men's Club

In loving memory of mother and grandmother

***Laura LeGrow***

from son Ed, daughter-in-law Deborah and daughter Christine

*In loving memory of a husband, father, grandfather & great grandfather*

***Alexander Goulding and daughter Michelle***

*from wife Elsie, son Alex (Jr.), daughters Linda, Karen, Kimberley & Lori  
14 grandchildren & 7 great grandchildren*

*In memory of a loving husband, father & grandfather*

***Dave Williams***

*from wife Jean, daughter Lisa (Sean), son Noel (Sherri)  
& grandchildren Nicholas, Nathan, Abigayle & Emma*

In loving memory of

***Fred & Catherine Button***

from Betty & family