

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

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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 Vey**
- **Organist:** **Beth Cranston**
- **Choir Director:** **Andrew Cranston**
- **Choir:** **Mixed Choir**
- **Office Manager:** **Jacqueline Kennedy**
- **Caretaker:** **Roger Richards**
- **Guest Clergy:** **Rev. Lisa Potter & Larry Grandy**

WELCOME & HAPPY EASTER

ORGAN PRELUDE:

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" (# 155 VU)

(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: Let us worship the Risen Christ!

CONGREGATION SINGS:

This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made.

*Words (v. 1): unknown. Words (v 2 and 3) Gerald Hobbs 1987, 1995. Music: Fijian folk melody.
Arrangement: © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People.*

WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND WORK

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (in unison)

Creator God, this is the day that you have made - a day of wonder and celebration, a day of joy and trust. Holy God, powerful God, surprising God, this is the day, this is the hope, this is the grace you have made. In Jesus Christ. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: A New Creed (# 918 VU)

HYMN: The Day of Resurrection (# 164 VU)

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 118 (#837 - VU, Parts 1,2,3) Rev. Lisa Potter

GOSPEL: Matthew 28: 1 – 10

ANTHEM: Gather Gladness from the Skies *Charles Callahan*

MEDITATION: “The Light of the World”

HYMN: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” (#232 VU)

OFFERTORY:

We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O God, from thee.

Words: William Walsham How 1858, alt.



OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Gracious God, source of all blessing and life, we offer before you tokens of the gifts and blessings you have showered on us day by day. With these gifts we offer again the lives you have given us and ask that you will use us day by day in your service, under your Spirit's leading, so that we may do and say everything to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: Because He Lives

GATHERING PRAYER:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (unison)

Loving God, you are the one who leads us from darkness into light, from captivity into freedom, from anxiety into peace, from despair into joy. Yet we long to break free, choosing independence, convinced of our own wisdom, forgetting your love and grace. Forgive us, draw close to us, embrace us once again in your loving arms, and enable us to follow you in worship and grateful service each day of our lives. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS:

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

(The Bread is broken & the Cup is lifted)
(Communion is shared)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (Unison)

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with Spiritual food, in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN: "Rejoice, the Lord is King" (#213 VU)

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION: (responsive)

One: Go forth as children of God.

ALL: We go forth to love and serve others, for all people are children of God.

One: Go forth guided by the Spirit.

ALL: We go forth to seek justice and resist evil, for that is the Spirit's movement within us.

One: Go forth in the name of Christ.

ALL: We go forth to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope, in word and in deed.

CHORAL BENEDICTION:

MUSICAL POSTLUDE: