

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

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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**
- **Office Manager:** **Jacqueline Kennedy**
- **Caretaker:** **Roger Richards**
- **Minister** **Rev. Wayne Cole**

United Church of Canada

Topsail United Church

Sunday, August 18, 2019; 10:30 AM

THE GATHERING

Organ Prelude

Welcoming & Announcements

THE APPROACH

Call to Worship (Responsive)

L: The mighty One summons us from sunrise to sunset.

P: Out of perfect beauty, God shines forth.

L: God calls to heaven and earth, "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me."

P: The heavens declare the righteousness of God, the judge of people and nations.

L: Let us not forget God, but with thanksgiving as our sacrifice, let us be a people of justice.

P: We worship the God of our salvation.

Congregation Sings: VU# 374 (v.1) Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Shirley Erena Murray © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Attributed to Benjamin Franklin White. Harmony: reprinted from Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978, by permission of Augsburg Fortress.)

Opening Prayer (unison)

Gracious God, thank you for seeking us out, for gathering us before you, for not keeping silent in the face of our need. Thank you for calling us into account, and for challenging us with strong words to be a people of covenant and justice. Thank you for assuring us that we need not be afraid, for it is your good pleasure to give us your kingdom. In courage and hope, we come before you this hour, to hear your Word and prepare our hearts for the unexpected hour of your coming. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: VU # 635 All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Time with the Youth

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God, your call for justice is so clear that we are amazed at how easily we fail to hear you over the din of daily life. We want to cease to do evil. We want to learn to do good. Yet, we rarely do all we can to rescue, defend, and plead for those in need. As you have sought us out, so we seek your pardon. Grant us courage, we pray, as persons, as communities, and as nations, to bring about the justice you desire. Amen.

(Silent Reflection). **AMEN.**

Words of Assurance: (Minister)

AMEN.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.)

Gospel: Luke 12: 32-40

(All: Praise be to Christ, the Living Word)

Sermon: "What is your passion?"

Ministry of Music: "Til the Storm Passes By (Mosie Lister)"

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn: VU # 580 Faith of Our Fathers

Minute for Mission:

Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa

It seems more important than ever for the Christian church to foster intentional ecumenical and interfaith partnerships. The Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCMURA) is a pan-African Christian organization that was started in 1959 to build good relations between Christians and Muslims. It brings together communities of faith, in spite of their differences, to work together for justice, peace, and reconciliation.

Countries in Africa are advised to stay secular, says the Rev. Dr. Joseph Mutei, Programme Director of PROCMURA. "There is so much fighting happening these days, and religion has been the most divisive factor here, aside from economic factors." While this is not unique to Africa, it is evident there that education is a key tool in fostering good relations for Africans. PROCMURA has partnered with St. Paul's University in Nairobi, Kenya, to create a Master of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations program. Mutei has a strong conviction that religious education such as this will lead to a deeper understanding of

each other's beliefs. He says, "education should be the foundation of what is happening around the country of Kenya and the continent of Africa."

A visitor listening to the students in this program was moved by their enthusiasm for engaging in work they hoped would help others understand Christian-Muslim relations. Canadians have much to learn from this organization. We give thanks for the United Church's partnership with PROCMURA through Mission & Service.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

Invitation of the Offering

Offering:

Offertory Hymn: VU # 540 Gran Us, God, the Grace

Your work, O God needs many hands to help you everywhere,
And some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we
share

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:
Be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake. **Amen**

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

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

God of love and mercy, we share these gifts as a symbol of the ways in which we seek to be a presence of peace and justice in our world. Help us, O God to keep our focus on the needs of others and the well being of our neighbours and the earth, as we go forward in Christ's name. Amen

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

THE SENDING FORTH

Hymn: VU #675 Will Your Anchor Hold

Commissioning: (*Unison*)

In the days ahead, may we cherish and remember that we are one connected, human family on one fragile planet, with one amazing God.

Benediction: (*Minister*)

Organ Postlude

Today's Bulletin is dedicated to the *Glory of God* and donated

In loving memory of husband, father & grandfather
George Baggs
from Sandra and family

In loving memory of
Baby Tippett
from mom

A donation has been made to the Cemetery fund