

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

March 3rd, 2019

Transfiguration Sunday & The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME: Pascal wrote, "keep something beautiful in mind." Beauty is one way we understand God's glory. In Luke 9:29, Jesus tries to inspire the disciples into seeing the true nature of divine love within him and the divine love to which they were called. Beauty is not just niceness and sweetness, something that melts in adversity. It is something that calls us past the adversity into greater clarity, depth, and balance. Beauty is fullness. It beckons us to continue on the path of becoming. It is an image of the divine. The person who appreciates the sunset may set their eyes on the horizon of our call as human beings. Taking time to see and feel the glorious can sustain us when we are on the frontlines – healing the sick, advocating for change, navigating conflict.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: "Oh A Song Must Rise" (MV142)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

One: Beauty-finders, praise God who is Glory and Honour.

All: The ground beneath us quakes at the greatness of God.

One: Lovers of justice, praise God who is righteous.

All: We praise God who establishes equity and realizes justice.

One: Holy is God. Let us worship.

CONGREGATION SINGS: "Let All things Now Living" VU242 [v.1]

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

O God of radiant truth, unveil our faces to the beauty and light in all your Creation. Bestow on us freedom to see the divine image bestowed on each of us. Help us to fall in love with the unique beauty you have created in every earthly thing. Free our hearts, free our minds to the wonder of you. Amen.

HYMN: #460 "All Who Hunger"

WE LISTEN & RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Exodus 34: 29-35

Psalms 99 (#819 – VU)

Luke 9: 28-36

SERMON:

HYMN: #375 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

OFFERTORY:

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

(#543 – VU v. 1 – Words: William Walsh How 1858, alt.)

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

God's glory is abundance; we give our gifts and offerings as praise for your glory. Dedicate these gifts that we may all be lovers of beauty and justice for all your glorious creation. Amen

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM: "Come Be Fed"

GATHERING PRAYER:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(Responsive)*

One: Mountaintops can be wonderful places, where we look out and see the world in new ways.

All: Mountaintops can be lonely places – cold and desolate.

One: Sometimes we want to stay on a mountaintop, unwilling to face the “real” world.

All: Sometimes we find ourselves drawn back to valleys, to city streets, to places that can be invigorating to places that can be threatening and overwhelming.

One: Sometimes we go up mountains – or into valleys – to avoid God.

All: Sometimes we want to be alone with our thoughts, and alone with God.

One: Sometimes we want to run away, to escape, to leave God somewhere else. In those times, O God, find us.

All: Remind us that we need never run from you.

One: Help us celebrate your presence – in loud times and quiet times.
(*silent reflection*) 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)*

HYMN: #651 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Behold, I Make All things New” (MV115)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

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

In loving memory of grandparents

Alex & Martha Butler

and niece ***Jane Brown***

from Barbara

In loving memory of our friend and long time member of Topsail UCW

Helen Nixon

from the Coffee Group

In loving memory of

Dean Ryan

son of Edna & Tom Ryan

from the Coffee Group

In loving memory of

Ed LeGrow Sr.

a great supporter of the work of the Outreach Committee

from the Outreach Committee