

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

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."
- **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**
- **Minister:** **Rev. Wayne Cole**

**Sunday, Nov. 3, 2019; 10:30 AM
THE GATHERING**

Organ Prelude

Lighting the Christ Candle

Introit: Bread of Life, Feed my Soul (MV #194 v.1&3)

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (*responsive*)

M: Our hearts are filled with joy when we think of those who have framed our faith.

P: We appreciate all those people who have taught us the great lessons of faith and life.

M: We offer our love and support to those who labor diligently in the world, helping those in need.

P: We give of our substance, our prayers, and our support to their work.

M: Lord, encourage us in our work, that we might bear witness to your love.

P: Keep us ready to serve you in all that we say and do. AMEN.

Congregation Sings: Deep in Our Hearts (MV #154 v.1)

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;
Deep in our hearts there is a common story,
Telling creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
Deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
Deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
Justice and peace in harmony.

*Words: John Wesley Oldham, 1995. MusiP: Ron Klusmeier, 1996.
www.musiklus.com. Used by permission.*

Opening Prayer

Lord God of love and peace, open our hearts today to receive the invitation of Jesus to come and be present in our lives. Release us from our smallness and create an atmosphere of confession and healing love in our hearts and our spirits. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name, AMEN.

Hymn: We Are Pilgrims (VU #595)

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Readings:

New Testament: Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-2

(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.)

Gospel: Luke 19: 1-10 (Minister)The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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

Sermon: "How to be Big in God's Eyes"

Anthem: This Do in Remembrance of Me (Judy Hunnicutt)

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Greeting

M: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: **And also with you.**

Communion Hymn: All Who Hunger (VU #460)

M: Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners and invites them to the table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's
forgiveness.

P: **Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought,
word and deed by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we
have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. For the
sake of your son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may
delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the
glory of your holy name.**

(Silence for Personal Reflection). **Amen.**

M: Lord, have mercy.

P: **Christ, have mercy.**

M: Lord have mercy.

(The Assurance of Forgiveness)

M: Sisters and brothers,
anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether,
the past is finished and gone;
everything has become fresh and new.
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

(Presenting of the Gifts)

M: As a forgiven and reconciled people
let us with joy present our gifts at the Table of the
Lord.

Offering and Offertory Hymn: The Church Is Wherever
God's People (VU #579 v.2)

The Church is wherever God's people are helping,
Caring for neighbours in sickness and need.

The church is wherever God's people are sharing
The words of the bible in gift and in deed.

Words: Carol Rose Ikeler 1959 © 1963 W.L. Jenkins. Used and adapted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. MusiP: English carol. Arrangement: © 1971 F.R.C. Clarke.

(The Great Thanksgiving)

M: Blessed are you gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth.
We give thanks and praise,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who was tempted in every way, yet did not sin.
By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil,
and to live no longer for ourselves alone,
but for him who died for us and rose again.
Therefore, with angels and archangels,
and all who served you in every age,
we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

P: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

M: Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth
we recognize the fullness of your grace:
light, life and love,
revealed in words that confront and comfort us,
in teachings that challenge and change us,
in compassion that heals and frees us.
And now we gather at this table to remember
and to be filled with such longing for your realm,
that we may rise together to turn our worship
into witness and to follow in your way.
At this time we remember all those
with whom you would have us share this feast.

- We pray for all who are in sorrow and in pain...
- all who are ill or alone...
- all who live with fear, oppression or hunger...
- for all whom the world counts as last and least...
- We pray for the church and its varied ministries...
- for nations as they strive for peace and justice...

- for those who suffer loss of family, friends' property
- for our families and our friends...

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ's life and death, proclaiming his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

**P: Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

M: O God, pour your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who share this loaf and this cup may be the body of Christ: light, life and love in the world. In this hope and as your people, we praise you.

**P: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever.**

M: And now gathering all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, we are bold to say/sing:

P: Our Father... (please sing)

(The Breaking of the Bread and the Lifting of the Cup)

(The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup):

Servers:

**"The body of Christ, given for you";
"The blood of Christ shed for you".**

Prayer after Communion

**All: We give thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us at your table
by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.
Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one
another, and send us forth into the world united**

**in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of
the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen**

Hymn: Sent Forth by God's Blessing (VU #481)

Commissioning (unison)

We shall not be afraid to witness to the love of God through Jesus Christ. We go in peace, knowing that God's peace and love go with us. **AMEN.**

Benediction: (*Minister*)

Choral Benediction: Wherever You May Go (MV #216)

Organ Postlude

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

In loving memory of
Ruby Florence Mercer
from Debbie Mercer

In loving memory of
Ruby Mercer
from Jack Badcock

In loving memory of
Ruby Mercer
from Frank & Christine Deering

In loving memory of
Ruby Mercer
from Ronald & Sharon Crane

In loving memory of
Ruby Mercer
from David & Lorraine Parsons

In loving memory of
Gustav Frey
from Rosie Frey, Don, Mark & Scott Richards

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Equip a Child for School

In India, Mission & Service partner Human Rights and Advocacy Research Foundation works with fishing communities, urban poor, traditional farmers, prisoners, Dalits (people of low caste), and Adivasis (Indigenous people) in the continuing struggle for economic and social justice.

One of its programs helps children whose families cannot provide essential school supplies. In addition, it educates the children on their human rights. Here are two of the children who have benefitted from this program.

Lilly is 15 years old. Her mother is a street fish vendor, and her father is a daily wage fisher who is not well. Lilly says, "Sometime we struggle to make ends meet." Lilly wants to become an accountant. Her mother, Mohana, says, "I will not forget this timely help which prevented me from going into debt."

Thilagavathy is 15 years old. Her father is a fisher and is unable to contribute much to the family's income. Her mother is a street fish vendor whose income sustains the family. Thilagavathy wants to become a police officer. Her mother says, "She is bright in her studies, and I did not have the means... I am so thankful."

With Mission & Service partners, the United Church works to achieve access to education for everyone, regardless of income or social status. This work is an essential part of securing greater justice, broad-based participation in society, and the eradication of poverty.

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.