

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

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."
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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Ministers: | The Congregation |
| - Youth Program Coordinator: | Brett Vey |
| - Organist: | Beth Cranston |
| - Choir Director: | Andrew Cranston |
| - Choir: | Men's Choir |
| - Office Manager: | Jacqueline Kennedy |
| - Caretaker: | Roger Richards |
| - Minister: | Rev. Wayne Cole |

United Church of Canada

Topsail United Church

Sunday, September 22, 2019; 10:30 AM

THE GATHERING

Organ Prelude

Choral Introit: There Is A Balm in Gilead (VU #612)

Welcoming & Announcements

THE APPROACH

Call to Worship (Responsive):

M: We look upon our world, our neighborhoods, our families,
and see suffering and want.

P: **How long, O Lord?**

M: We see deep suffering, brutal violence, destroyed
homes, and ravaged nations.

P: **How long, O Lord?**

- M: Let your compassion come quickly to meet us, for we are brought low.
- P: **How long, O Lord?**
- O: Help us, O God of our salvation!
- A: **Help us, O Source of our hope!**

Congregation Sings: Come In, Come In and Sit Down (VU #395)

Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.
You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain;
So share in the laughter and cry in the pain, for we are a part
of the family. (Refrain)

Words, Music: James K. Manley © 1984 James K. Manley, 747 Plymouth Rd., Claremont, CA 91711, USA. Arrangement: © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People.

Opening Prayer (unison):

God of our salvation, you see your world laid waste with false worship, injustice, and indifference, and we tremble at your anger. Only in your tears, born out of vast love, do we find hope. Open to us the way of your tears—the way that leads us back to your love. Teach us to serve you and you alone, that you may deliver, forgive, and renew our world at last. Amen.

Hymn: VU #626 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Time with the Youth

Prayer of Confession (unison):

We confess that we find your medicine hard to swallow. The quick fixes of this world are so much more pleasant, leaving us free to go back to our usual routines. But your medicine is powerful. And if we take it, it will remake and renew our lives. It will reorient us to you and to you alone. Turn us toward your love for justice and true worship. Forgive our sins, for which you weep. Forgive our hesitation. Grant us courage to choose you as our physician, and to serve you and you alone.
(*Silent Reflection*). **AMEN.**

Words of Assurance: (Minister)

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 8: 18-9;1

(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.)

Psalms: 79: 1-9:1 VU page 793

(Reader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

All: Thanks be to God.)

New Testament: Timothy 2: 1-7

(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.)

Gospel: Luke 16: 1-13

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

Sermon: "Making It Count"

Anthem: Precious Lord, Take My Hand (Thomas A. Dorsey)

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn: VU #508 Just as I Am

Minute for Mission: See back cover

Invitation of the Offering:

God, in Jesus Christ, has given us much to be faithful for. Our tithes, gifts, and offerings may seem little in comparison to God's gifts to us, but we are called to be faithful over all that we have: our time, our talents, our gifts, and our service. When we give of ourselves, we practice the spiritual discipline of stewardship. When we are faithful over a few things in this life, in the life to come we may be faithful over much, much more.

May God bless us in our giving, that God's kingdom may be here with us on earth.

Offering

Offertory Hymn: The Church Is Wherever 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. Music: English carol. Arrangement: © 1971 F.R.C. Clarke.

Offertory Prayer (unison):

Lord, we got up this morning, ate our breakfast, got dressed, and came to church—all to give you praise and thanksgiving. May these gifts be a blessing for those who had no bed this morning from which to arise; for those who had no breakfast and are hungry this day; for those who have no new clothes; for those who long to worship you but cannot. Take these gifts and use them as you will, O God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

THE SENDING FORTH

Hymn: VU #342 You Servants of God

Commissioning: (Responsive)

M: Is there a physician who can heal us and our world?

P: **The one true God can heal us.**

M: Is there a balm in Gilead?

P: **The one true God can heal us.**

M: Look to God for your healing and renewal, and for the healing and renewal of our world. Amen.

Benediction: (Minister)

Choral Benediction: Revive Us Again (HFG #574 v.4)

Organ Postlude

World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel, International Day of Peace

KidZone!

Our gifts for Mission & Service support programs for children and families living in community housing areas like Ardglen in Brampton, Ontario.

The Journey Neighbourhood Centre looks like every other store in the strip mall where it is located, but once you enter, you encounter a different world—one filled with art, laughing children, enthusiastic volunteers, and interns from the Social Work program at Ryerson University. One of these interns is Maria, who came to Toronto as a teen from Colombia to live with her father.

"At first, I didn't like it here," says Maria, sitting at the table preparing snacks for the children who would be arriving from school to participate in the KidZone program. "Over time I have come to really love this country, and I wanted to do something to make a difference in the world. That is why I chose social work." Maria and the other interns speak passionately about the centre and the children who come through the door. "They are just wonderful!" Maria exclaims.

Your gifts offer children and families in community housing a place to come to share in food and fun.

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.

[Companion video available. View or download at www.youtube.com/unitedchurchofcanada.