

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

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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 |
| - Minister: | Rev. Wayne Cole |

United Church of Canada

Topsail United Church

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020; 10:30 AM

THE GATHERING

Organ Prelude

Choral Introit: Let Us Build a House MV #1 v.1

Welcoming & Announcements

THE APPROACH

M: People of God, who do you come to worship?

P: **We come to worship the one true God.**

M: How will you worship?

P: **Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.**

M: Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

P: **Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever.**

Congregation Sings: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
VU #400

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

(Words, Music: Ken Medema 1970 © 1971 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission.)

Opening Prayer (unison):

Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. **Amen.**

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision VU #642

Time with the Youth

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scripture: Corinthians 1:18-31

(Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.)

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

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

Sermon: “The Kingdom of Heaven is Open to You”

Anthem: At the Table of the Lord (Jay Althouse)

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Greeting

L: 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.

Hymn: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace VU #684

(The Call to Confession)

L: 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.

**C: 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.

L: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

L: Lord have mercy.

(The Assurance of Forgiveness)

L: 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)

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

Offering and Offertory: What Does the Lord Require of You
VU #701

What does the Lord require of you? What does the
Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.
To seek justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly
with your God.

*(Words, Music: Jim Strathdee, 1986. Desert Flower Music. Used by
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(The Great Thanksgiving)

- L:** 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.
- C:** **(please sing VU #942) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**
- L:** 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:

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

L: 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.

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

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

C: 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

Benediction:

L: God has given us a spirit of power and love.

C: Let us go forth into the world in the power of
God's Spirit.

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn: To Show by Touch and Word VU #427

Minute for Mission: See back cover

Benediction: Blest Are They (David Haas and Michael
Joncas) v.1 & chorus

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

In loving memory of a beloved father, father in law,
grandfather and great grandfather

Heber Bennett

from Bob, Debbie, Sheri, Gregory, Christy and Brynn

Celebrating BlackHistoryMonth

Black History Month is a time to honour and celebrate the contributions of Black people in Canada and to look at the past while giving thanks as we look forward to the future. The history of Black people in Canada is part of the history of the United Church.

In 1907 Union Congregational Church formed in Montreal when Black railway porters and their wives came together to worship with dignity. This was something they were not able to do in other congregations because the church was created during a time of legal segregation: Black people could not worship as equal participants.

Nowadays, the United Church continues to work toward its commitment to be an intercultural church, although many in our congregations still encounter Black isolation and segregation.

Many congregations in diverse parts of Canada do not reflect their community. There is a clear lack of education around what it truly means to be intercultural, and there is a sense among some people of being singled out as different. Many Black people do not feel welcome at church, which should be a sanctuary from racism.

Thanks to your gifts for Mission & Service, a group called The Journeys of Black Peoples in The United Church of Canada was formed. The group strives for integration, offering help to those who come from outside the church to find a home within the church.

We have come a long way from the days of slavery and segregation, but we still have a long way to go. This Black History Month, let's take the time to learn about the saints who have gone before us and their impact that is still felt today.