

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

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."

- Ministers:	The Congregation
- Youth Program Coordinator:	Brett Vey
- Organist:	Beth Cranston
- Choir Director:	Andrew Cranston
- Choir:	Mixed/Men's Choirs
- Office Manager:	Jacqueline Kennedy
- Caretaker:	Roger Richards
- Clergy:	Rev. Bruce Kearley

March 31st, 2019

4th, in Lent

Welcome one and all to Rev Bruce's farewell service. It is hard to believe this day has come. While we may feel sadness, it is also a time to make a joyful noise! Let us celebrate the countless ways both Rev Bruce and Dianne have enriched our lives over the years! Let us congratulate them as they enter into a well-deserved retirement!

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet.

and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

(Traditional Celtic Prayer # 349 VU)

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

*I Feel the Winds of God Today, You Are There, Make Me a Channel of
Your Peace, My Life Flows On, I See a New Heaven*

INTROIT: Make a Joyful Noise (VU #820 v.1)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsive)

One: From all the times that we have felt the presence of God in our lives.

All: We come to offer our praise and thanksgiving.

One: From the many examples of service shown by people of the church, past and present.

All: We come to be inspired and encouraged.

One: From journeys known and pathways of service yet to be experienced.

All: We come to find the way of Christ in God's world.

One: We can be assured that we are not alone. Let us join in a communal statement of our faith. **(#918 - VU)**

One: Let us worship God!

CONGREGATION SINGS: The Church by the Side of the Road (B.D. Ackley)

Thro' the mist of years I can seem to see the church of my
childhood days; And its' mem'ries sweet, so with joy replete, shall
live in my heart always.

CHORUS:

**Then on memory's page I can see again, the church by the side of
the road; And wherever I roam, it is guiding me home, the
church by the side of the road.**

And the old, old songs that we used to sing, I'm singing them o'er
and o'er; they give strength and cheer, when the clouds draw
near, and lead to the other shore.

CHORUS

"A Journey with Jesus – Lenten Candle Liturgy"

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (In unison)

Creating God, who painted the stars in the sky, who stirs the wind on the waves, who is with us throughout our lives, help us to see your image in the night sky, to hear your voice in the rush of water, to feel your love in the sun on our faces or the touch of another. Make us more aware of these signs that we might be renewed and reassured on our journey. Amen.

HYMN: Here I Am, Lord (VU #509) – *For Dianne.*

TALK TIME

WE LISTEN & RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 49: 14-16

Psalms 100

Mark 9: 38-41

ANTHEM: I'll Fly Away / Sweet By & By Medley – Men's Choir

SERMON: *"The Journey Continues"*

HYMN: Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore (VU #563)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY:

*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!*

(VU #701 Words, Music: Jim Stratheide © 1986 Desert Flower Music. Used by permission.)

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (In unison)

Gracious God, you are generous beyond understanding. You have given us everything good and we thank you. We ask that you accept our giving to you, with our money, our time, with our energy, our talents. We ask that you bless every situation where our gifts go to work in the generous spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Written by *David Sparks*, Summerside, B.C. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2019, page. 35 Used with permission.)

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION

ANTHEM: The Holy City (Stephen Adams) – Mixed Choir

HYMN: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (VU #220) – *For Rev Bruce.*

This hymn was played on the night Rev Bruce was ordained at George Street United Church on May 26th, 1985.

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: I Will Never Forget You, My People (Songs for a Gospel People #71) – *Dedicated to Rev Bruce & Dianne.*
With additional words written by the Mixed Choir.

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION: Since Jesus Came into My Heart (HFG #639)

What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought
Since Jesus came into my heart!
I have light in my soul for which long I have sought,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

CHORUS:

Since Jesus came into my heart! Since Jesus came into my heart!
Floods of Joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll...
Since Jesus came into my heart!

I shall go there to dwell in that city I know,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
And I'm happy, so happy, as onward I go,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

CHORUS x2

MUSICAL POSTLUDE: He Gives Me Peace Within (Malcom V. Boulter)

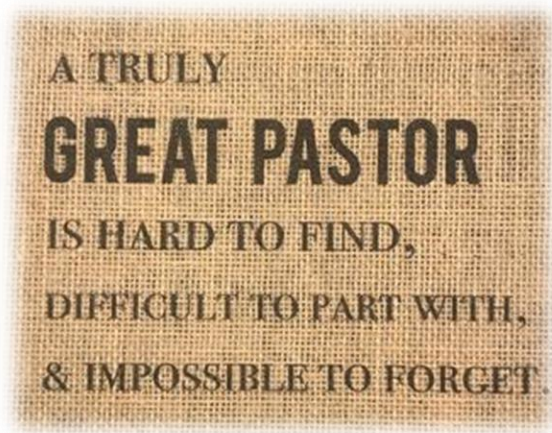


Today's bulletin is dedicated to the glory of God and donated by the Men's Club

**In celebration of the ministry of Rev Bruce with Topsail United Church,
for his wisdom, friendship and leadership we are truly grateful
Our blessings for Rev. Bruce and Dianne in their retirement**

CONGRATULATIONS REV BRUCE & DIANNE!

WE LOVE YOU
AND WILL MISS YOU DEARLY!



I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.

-Philippians 1:3