

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH
"The Church by the Side of the Road"

www.topsailunited.ca

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Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am-12:00pm

Minister: Rev. Kathy J. Brett (cell 771-9779)

Music Director: Hayley Hynes

Youth Program & Tech Coordinator: Brett Vey

Office Administrator: Dawn White

Whatever you do,
work at it with all your
heart... It is the Lord
Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24



SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
LABOUR DAY

Check out our website at www.topsailunited.ca
and like us on Facebook

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND SHARING TIME

INTROIT: Lord Prepare Me

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

The work of God is love.

Loving God is our work.

Let us work together.

In love, let us work together with God.

And may this time of worship inspire the loving work God calls us to do.

Robin Wardlaw, Toronto

HYMN: #227 For the Fruit of All Creation

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvest of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to god.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

OPENING PRAYER

Edie Rasell, Posted on the United Church of Christ website.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

ACT OF PRAISE: #958 Halle, Halle, Halle

THE PEACE:

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

HYMN: All Our Work (tune #333)

All our work and all our being
come from you, most gracious Lord.
Ev'ry task which lies before us
is Creator's will outpoured.
Help us as we build your kingdom
know we labor not in vain;
give us sure and deep conviction
for the tasks that you ordain.

Some may nurture those who hunger,
tend and heal the broken heart;
set our flagging spirits dancing,
spark our vision through their art.
Others teach and offer counsel,
bear life's burdens, ease its care;
strive for justice, peace, and freedom
for all people ev'rywhere.

Let us labor in the knowledge
that no task can be too small;
that the God who stretched the heavens
no less shaped the least of all.
Give us strength, Lord, to accomplish
what you set our hands to do,
that by serving those around us,
we return the gift to you.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: (unison)

Healing God, you do all things well. Illumine our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that we may receive your words and in return demonstrate your grace to the world. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 45, VU#769

RESPONSE: God has blessed you forever and ever.

My heart overflows with a noble theme;
I utter the song I have made for the king,
My tongue like the pen of a ready scribe.

**You are the fairest, the most handsome;
God endows your speech with grace;
God has blessed you forever. R**

Gird your sword on your thigh, O hero,
In splendor and majesty.

**In your majesty ride on to conquer
In the cause of truth and justice.**

Let your right hand teach by awesome deeds,
Arrows sharp in the heart of royal enemies.

**The nations shall fall at your feet.
Your divine throne endures forever.**

Your royal sceptre is righteousness;
You love right and hate what is wrong.

**Your God has anointed you
With more oil of gladness than all your peers.**

All your garments are fragrant
With myrrh, aloes, and cassia;

**Out of the ivory palaces
Stringed music makes you glad. R**

EPISTLE READING: James 1:17-27

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN: #509 [Here I Am Lord](#)

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

SUNG OFFERTORY: What Can I Do

*What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (unison)

We work for you, God, in whatever we do. Paid labour, volunteer work, our home life – all our time we spend for you. Thank you for jobs which provide us with an income or pensions that support us. We share the fruit of our labour with you, knowing that you are the Great Provider. Use these offerings in your kingdom work, as you provide good news, healing and hope to all people. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: #713 I See a New Heaven

*I see a new heaven.
I see a new earth
As the old one will pass away,
Where the fountain of life flows
And without price goes
To all people who abide in the land.*

There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,
Yielding her fruit, firm in her root,
The Tree of Life will be. **R**

There, there where death dies and our lives are born again,
Body and soul, struggling but whole
Like flowers after the rain. **R**

There, there where the darkness brings visions from above.
There where the night, bearing new light,
Reveals the promise of love. **R**

There, there where we work with the love of healing hands.
Labour we must, true to our trust
to build a promised new land. **R**

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Diann Neu in [*Imaging the Word: An Arts and Lectionary Resource, Volume 1*](#), 1994.

Posted on [Interfaith Worker Justice](#).

LIFE AND WORK OF OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

OFFICE HOUR CHANGE

TUC office will be closed on Mondays and Fridays starting
Aug 30th till September 30th.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

To help with the high cost of school supplies, we are seeking donations of “Back to School”
items such as crayons, pencils, exercise books etc. to distribute to schools in our community.

MEN'S CLUB MEETING

The Men's Club will have a dinner meeting on Monday, September 9th at 6:30pm. All are welcome.

MEN'S CHOIR PRACTICE

The Men's Choir will have a practice on Thursday, September 5 at 7:30pm.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

During our family service on September 15th, we will be blessing the backpacks of the children and youth present as a sign of blessing them for a great school year. All children/youth are welcome.

CLEAN UP DAY

On Sunday, September 22, we will clean up around our neighborhood at 4pm. Following the clean-up we will share in food. All ages are welcome to come along as we live with respect in creation and join together in fellowship. More details to follow.

AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

The TUC Coffee Group will be hosting an Afternoon Tea Party on Wednesday, October 9th from 2-4pm. Tickets are available from the office at a cost of \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Entertainment provided by Avalonia.

COASTAL SOUND CHOIR SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

Are you looking to join a choir, we are one month away from the start of our 2024/2025 season. Coastal Sounds choir & Aurora Women's Choir are looking for new members and would love to meet you. Please email Abra at aurorachoir.ad@gmail.com

CAFÉ OF MEMORIES

On Sept. 3rd from 2-4pm at Freemason's Hall, come join Lodge Westmoorland & the Alzheimer Society, as they host an afternoon of entertainment with The Sweet Forget-Me Nots and refreshments for people living with dementia and their care partners! Limited space so call to register @ 709-576-0608. Free of charge!

FIRST UNITED CHURCH CONCERT

Come join us on Saturday, Sept 14th, 2024 at 7pm for the 'The Irish Descendants'. Tickets are only \$30 and can be purchased at our church office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 12 noon, or after our 11 am Sunday Worship service. For further information, please call our church office at 709-368-2194.