

**TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH**

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

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Check out our website at [www.topsailunited.ca](http://www.topsailunited.ca)

And like us on Facebook

**June 8, 2025**

**Penecost Sunday**

**Happy 100th Birthday United Church of Canada**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**



## **WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND SHARING TIME**

#### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

We respectfully acknowledge the territory on which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk. We also recognize that the island of Newfoundland is the traditional homelands of the Beothuk and Mi'kmaq peoples; and that the original people of Labrador are the Innu and Inuit. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation, and honour this beautiful land together.

#### **LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

We light this candle as a reminder that divine light surrounds us, blessing us with the knowledge that God is with us; and that Jesus gives us direction for our way and the Holy Spirit unites us with grace.

Thanks be to God for light and love and guidance.

#### **INTROIT: #822 All People That on Earth (vs. 1 & 3)**

All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing out your faith with cheerful voice  
Delight in God whose praise you tell,  
Whose presence calls you to rejoice.

Enter the sacred gates with praise;  
With joy approach the temple walls.  
Extol and bless our God always  
As people whom the Spirit calls.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Friends, gather here in this place today to remember the church of the past, the one cradled by the spirit on the first Pentecost; the 100 years of ministry of the United Church and the assurance that the Spirit continues to draw us in and send us out to service.

We come to celebrate the 100 years of witness and service of this United Church of ours. And in this time may we deepen our spirituality; so that we may go into the world as bold disciples of Christ, daring to do justice wherever there is need.

#### **HYMN: #331 The Church's One Foundation**

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord;  
We are his new creation by water and the Word;  
From heaven he came and sought us that we might ever be

His living servant people, by his own death set free.

Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
One charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name professing and at one table fed,  
To one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.  
Though with a scornful wonder the world sees us oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "how long?"  
But soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,  
We wait the consummation of peace forevermore;  
Till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

We now on earth have union with God the Three in One,  
And share through faith communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, happy ones, and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

**OPENING PRAYER:** (responsive)

Eternal God, on the day of Pentecost you poured down your Holy Spirit upon the Church waiting for the promise of direction and purpose for its ministry.

On Pentecost Sunday, 100 years ago you poured your Holy Spirit upon the Union which came to be known as the United Church of Canada.

Today we celebrate that, on this Pentecost, that you pour your same Holy Spirit upon us and it connects us with all of our ancestors in faith.

We wait with one heart, that Jesus may be made known in the midst of us, the Head of the Church and the same Spirit breathing on us may make the gifts of your grace and truth known to us.

O God in our adoration and in our gratitude, we also acknowledge that we are often block your Spirit from entering our hearts, willingly following paths that separate us rather than focusing on the bond that connects us with you and each other.

O God forgive us,

(Silent confession)

Renew us by your Spirit and your grace,

And may we live by your Spirit in all that we do.

May we feast in fellowship and love, and live in unity; and join in perpetuating the church in the days and years to come.

Blessing us with your divine wisdom, guide our hearts for good in all things; so that unity and peace may prevail and that truth and righteousness may flow from all that we do. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE:**

Friends, the Good News is, that we are restored to grace because God the Creator loves us, Christ the Redeemer frees us and the Holy Spirit the Sustainer accepts us. We are forgiven and renewed.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

**ACT OF PRAISE: #822 (vs 2)**

Know that there is one God, indeed,  
Who fashions us without our aid,  
Who claims and gives us all we need,  
Whose tender care will never fade.

**THE PEACE:**

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

**THEME CONVERSATION:** The Story of Pentecost

Language – mumble, mumble

Wind – sound of the wind

Tongues of Fire – wave banners

Holy Spirit – God is with us.

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** God of the Mountain

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: #822 (vs 4)**

Proclaim again that God is good,  
Whose mercy is forever sure,  
Whose truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 104, VU#827 (Part Two)

Bless, O my soul, the Almighty, who rules all creation.

O God, how manifold are your works!  
With Wisdom at your side you make them all;  
the earth is full of your creature. R

There lies the great and mighty Sea,  
teeming with living things both great and small.  
Upon it sail the ships, and there is Leviathan,  
the monster you made to play in it.  
All these look to you,  
to give them their food in due season.  
What you give them they gather up.

When you open your hand,  
you fill them with good things.  
But when you hide your face they despair.  
When you take away their breathe, they die,  
and return to dust.  
But when you send out your spirit, they live again,  
and you renew the face of the earth. R

May your glory, O God, endure forever.  
May you rejoice, O God, in your works.  
When you look at the earth it trembles,  
when you touch the mountains they smoke.  
I will sing to God as long as I live.  
I will praise my God while I have being. R

**GOSPEL READING:** Luke 6: 27-38

REFLECTION: "We Believe In God: One Hundred Years Seeking to be Faithful" Rev. Alan Hall

**HYMN: #510** We Have This Ministry

We have this ministry  
And we are not discouraged;  
It is by God's own power  
That we may live and serve.  
Openly we share God's word,  
Speaking truth as we believe,  
Praying that the shadowed world  
May healing light receive.  
We have this ministry, O God, we receive our living.

O Christ, the tree of life,  
Our end and our beginning,  
We grow to fullest flower  
When rooted in your love.  
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay,  
Called to service by your grace,  
Different cultures, different gifts,  
The young and old a place.  
We have this ministry, O God, receive our giving.

The yoke of Christ is ours,  
The whole world is our parish;  
We daily take the cross,  
The burden and the joy.  
Bearing hurts of those we serve,

Wounded, bruised and bowed with pain,  
A Holy Spirit, bread and wine,  
We die and rise again.  
We have this ministry, O God, receive our loving.

**REFLECTION:** "We are called to the Church" Sarah Charters

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** A New Creed

We are not alone. We live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

## **MISSION AND SERVICE STORY PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS**

**SUNG OFFERTORY:** #191 (MV)

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:**

O God, many and good are your gifts to us. For your creating and recreating energy, the love found in Jesus Christ and the passion and fire of your Holy Spirit which continues to unite and sustain us, we remain thankful.

We give these gifts as a sign of our deep gratitude and willingness to serve as bold disciples of Jesus, as we dare to work for justice. We ask that you would bless these gifts, those who are served by them, and us the givers. May this offering be a sign that your Spirit is alive amongst us. Amen.

## **WE CELEBRATE AT THE TABLE**

**INVITATION:** (The Song of Faith)

Carrying a vision of creation healed and restored,  
we welcome all in the name of Christ.  
Invited to the table where none shall go hungry,  
we gather as Christ's guests and friends.  
In holy communion  
we are commissioned to feed as we have been fed,  
forgive as we have been forgiven,  
love as we have been loved.

The open table speaks of the shining promise  
of barriers broken and creation healed.  
In the communion meal, wine poured out and bread broken,  
we remember Jesus.  
We remember not only the promise but also the price that he paid  
for who he was,  
for what he did and said,  
and for the world's brokenness.  
We taste the mystery of God's great love for us,  
and are renewed in faith and hope.

**HYMN: #194** (MV) Bread of Life, Feed My Soul  
Bread of life, feed my soul,  
As the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart  
With the grace and mercy you impart.

I have heard your voice calling,  
"Come, my friend, and share  
In the feast that is laid out for you  
To show how much I care."

Bread of life, help me live  
A life as pure and true as Jesus did.  
Bread of life, help me see  
The boundless love of Christ for you and me.

I have heard your voice calling,  
"Come, my friend, and share  
In the feast that is laid out for you  
To show how much I care."

Bread of life, feed my soul,  
As the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart  
With the grace and mercy you impart.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:**

God is with us!  
We are not alone!  
Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to God.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy Mystery that is wholly love, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description. Father, Son and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love, you are creative and self-giving, generously moving. In all the near and distant corners of the universe, nothing exists that does not find its source in you. Even when we turn away from you, you are with us; your presence never fails us, your gifts of hope and new life transform us. We praise you for Jesus Christ, eternal as your love, our bond to one another. We rejoice with all your people of every time and place, and with angels and archangels, to proclaim the glory of your name:

**#203 (MV)**

O holy, holy, holy God,

O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above

Bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav'n,

Creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes

And bears your name always!

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place. In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did. On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke it and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me." After supper, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, pour it and shared it, saying, "This is the new covenant, remember me."

We do remember Jesus. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again. In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**#204(MV)**

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to transform these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us. Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower. So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we taste and see your goodness, so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another. Through Christ, with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy.

**#205(MV)**

Amen, amen O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!

Amen, amen O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!



## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **BREAKING THE BREAD AND FILLING THE CUP**

## **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:** (unison)

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### **HYMN: #625 I Feel the Winds of God Today**

I feel the winds of God today;  
today my sail I lift,  
though heavy oft with drenching spray  
and torn with many a rift;  
if hope but light the water's crest,  
and Christ my bark will use,  
I'll seek the seas at his behest,  
and brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries  
my vain regretful tears,  
until with braver thoughts shall rise  
the purer, brighter years;  
if cast on shores of selfish ease  
or pleasure I should be,  
O let me feel your freshening breeze,  
and I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love  
and how that love was shown,  
lift high the blood-red flag above;  
it bears your name alone.  
Great pilot of my onward way,  
you will not let me drift;  
I feel the winds of God today,  
today my sail I lift.

### **BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH:**

Go from this place and serve your God as bold disciples of Christ, with a deep faith, daring for justice.

We go into the world as witnesses of the Spirit in our midst, willing to serve God, our neighbours and all creation.

Go and may the Love of God, the Peace of Christ and the Communion of the Holy Spirit hold you, keep you, strengthen you and bless you, this day and forevermore.

Amen.

**CHORAL BLESSING: #884 We Shall Go Out with Joy**

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field  
will clap, will clap their hands!

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)  
while you go out with joy.

**LIFE AND WORK OF OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Mon. June 9	Tai Chi	9:30am (CH)
	Sparks	6:00pm (CH)
Tues. June 10	Tai Chi	10:00am(CH)
	Family Resource Centre	12:00pm (CH)
	Ringling of Bells	6:30pm(S)
	Official Board	7:00pm(BR)
Wed. June 11	Coffee Group	10:00am (CH)
	Inspiration Group	7:00pm (S)
	CBS Youth Choir	6:30pm (CH)
Thurs. June 12	Family Resource	9-12pm (CH)
	Girl Guides	6:30pm (CH)
	Choir	7:30pm (S)
	Winners in Sobriety	8:00pm (CH)
Fri. June 13	Tai Chi	9:30am (CH)
Sun. June 15	Worship	10:30am (S)
	Aurora Rehearsal	6:30pm (S)

CH = Church Hall, BR = Boardroom, S = Sanctuary

**Special Welcome to our Special Anniversary Guests:**

Sarah Charters (Executive Minister for Philanthropy & President of the United Church Foundation) and Rev. Alan Hall (Executive Minister of Shared Service-Pensions, Benefits, Human Resources and Payroll, GCO Administration, Legal and Incorporated Ministries.

**Family Service:** Next Sunday, June 15th join us for our summer closing with our Youth. Worship will take place outside (weather permitting) followed by barbeque provided by the Men's Club.

**Ring the Bell:** On Tuesday June 10th the actual date of our 100th anniversary, our First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council is inviting churches with bells to ring them 100 times in celebration. Join us at 6:30 pm as we make a joyful noise unto God.

**Annual Lobster/Cold plate Takeout:** Topsail United Church will be holding a Take out Lobster Dinner on Thursday, June 19th. Pick up time will be from 4:30 until 6pm. Meal will consist of lobster (1.5 – 2lb) There will be three different salads, lettuce, tomato, cheese, roll, and dessert. Cost is \$35. To reserve please call the Church Office at 709-834-4567 or Brad 709-682-2804. The cut off to purchase tickets in June 16.

**Father's Day Memorial:** Please contact the church office if you would like to place a memorial in the bulletin for Father's Day, June 15th. Deadline will be June 12th.

### **100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

June 10th marks 100 years of the Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice of the United Church of Canada and we will celebrate tonight.

The United Church of Canada celebrates Centennial with special Newfoundland worship service A worship service in the historic Gower Street United Church in St. John's, NL, will commemorate the 100th anniversary of The United Church of Canada, which was formed by an Act of Parliament on June 10, 1925.

The service at Gower Street UC honours Newfoundland's integral role in the history of The United Church of Canada – both as the historic home of Methodism in Canada, and because Newfoundland joined the United Church more than two decades before it joined the confederation of Canada.

**WHEN:** June 8, 2025, 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Gower Street United Church, 99 Queens Rd, St. John's, NL.

**WHAT:** Centennial worship service

Rev. Prof. Dr. Jerry Pillay, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, will address the special in-person service, which will be livestreamed nationally on The United Church of Canada's YouTube channel.

Parking is available at the Anglican Cathedral and St. Andrew's Church (the Kirk). Arrive early to ensure seating. There are many pre-service activities that will take place before the service begins. There will be child care available and educational sessions for children attending.

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