***Sentence***

Quietly accept the message planted in your hearts; it can bring you salvation. James 1:21

***Collect***

Almighty God, without you we are not able to please you. Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

***Prayer over the Gifts***

God of reconciliation and forgiveness, the saving work of Christ has made our peace with you. May that work grow toward its perfection in all we offer you this day. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

***Prayer after Communion***

Holy and blessed God, as you give us the body and blood of your Son, guide us with your Holy Spirit, that we may honour you not only with our lips but also in our lives. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Readings:**

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 15.34—16.13

Psalm: 20 Refrain: **The Lord gives victory to his anointed**.

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5.6–10 (11–13) 14–17

Holy Gospel: Mark 4.26–34

**Welcome to the**

Diocesan Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor

Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Jotie Noel, T.S.S.F.

Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox

Organists/Choir Director : Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell

Parish Wardens: Sharon Smith and Rex Hillier

Office Administrator: Madonna Scott

**Parish of St. John the Evangelist**

Conception Bay South, NL

June 13, 2021

[www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com](http://www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com/)

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Office email: [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)

Office phone number: (709) 834-2336

Address: P.O. Box 13033, CBS, NL, A1W 2K1

E-transfer: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Priest-in-Charge Email: jotienoel@gmail.com

Rector’s Cell: (709) 325-2366

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**The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of:**

**Father & Grandfather, Thomas K. Smith**

**Father-in-Law Thomas E. Walters**

**Husband, Louis Walters**

**By**

**Maud**

**Our Parish Mission Statement**

**We believe in nurturing a community of faith dedicated to inclusion, support and sharing the story of God's love with all people regardless of the stage of their spiritual journey**

****Sunday, June 13, 2021, Pentecost 3

**The Parable of the Growing Seed**

“26 Jesus also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, 27 and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. 28 The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29 But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.” (Mark 4: 26-29, 33-34)

This parable sustains the Gospel of Mark’s view that the dawn of the kingdom of God in its obscure beginnings is hidden from human eyes in the ministry of Jesus. But since none-the-less it is there, the future harvest of the kingdom God will produce can be awaited with confidence.

Readers of Mark’s Gospel are challenged to see that all who open themselves in faith to the future God will surely give may be freed from frustration and anxiety even in the most confined present situation.

In the analogy of the mustard seed with its dramatic portrayal of the sudden transformation of the seed into a great bush, which is entirely God’s doing, there is no hint that the kingdom is a moral or cultural goal toward which we can reach out by our own labour. **The kingdom is** not something we earn, but **something God gives.**

The disciples, only by their closeness to Jesus, are in a position to receive his explanation of everything that pertains to the message of the kingdom of God. This text is about continual dependence on Jesus for the Word.

From Mark’s standpoint it comes as an invitation to the reader to recognize that deeper understanding of the Word that is open to all people is conditional upon their being drawn into the company of Jesus and their listening attentively to his living voice to the Church.

*Father, pour out your Spirit upon us,*

*and grant us*

*a new vision of your glory,*

*a new experience of your power,*

*a new faithfulness to your word*

*and a new consecration to your service;*

*that your love may grow among us, and your Kingdom come,*

*through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Mission Possible)*

***A Prayer for our Parish Family***

*Most merciful Father, we beseech thee to send down thy heavenly blessing upon thy Church in this Parish, that all its members may dwell together in unity and steadfast love. Keep far from us all self-will and discord. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness, and enable them faithfully to dispense thy holy Word and Sacraments, to bring again the outcasts, and to seek the lost. Grant that we may so receive their ministry, and use thy means of grace, that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory and the advancement of thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP revised)*

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Parish of Holy Spirit**

Priest-in-Charge - The Ven. Iliffe Sheppard

**Parish of The Holy Trinity**

Rector - The Rev. Roberta Woodman

**Parish of Indian Bay**

Rector - The Rev. Daphne Parsons

**People who are sick who have asked us to pray for them**

Salem, Michael C., Randy S., Eleanor M., Fred T., Violet B., Glen B.

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**Sunday Service Registration**

You **MUST** register each week for Sunday Services. You may do so by emailing [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) or by calling the parish office @ 834-2336, **before noon on Thursdays**. If there is no answer, please leave a message. The maximum number of people that can attend a service is 100, which includes the clergy, choir and volunteers. We suggest that you register as early as possible. **Masks must be worn by all people at all times and may only be removed to receive the Eucharist.**