

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

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
- Clergy:	Rev. Bruce Kearley
- Congregational Designated Minister:	Steven Rogers
- Organist:	Beth Cranston
- Choir Director:	Andrew Cranston
- Choir:	Mixed Choir
- Office Manager:	Lynn Mercer
- Caretaker:	Roger Richards

December 22nd, 2013
4th of Advent

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! In this final Sunday of Advent, themes of longing and belonging, the importance of dreams, and our need of a saviour. Today's scripture readings call us to rejoice all the time and to "come home with shouts of joy." To rejoice is to affirm our confidence that God is present in our lives.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE

INTROIT: "Of The Father's Love Begotten" (VU #61)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive - Seasons of the spirit - adapted Ps. 80)

One: Hear the good news! God is with us!

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine, that we might be saved.

One: Far beyond us, yet nearer than body and bone; God is with us.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine, that we might be saved.

One: A wonder, a mystery, the news of greatest joy; God is with us.

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine, that we might be saved.

One: Let us worship God!

CONGREGATION SINGS: (Sing twice, MV #176)

Your love unfolded, time and space,
And life, and that life became,
And so, with thankful heart and voice,
Through good and ill, I bless your name.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (in unison – Seasons of the Spirit)

Amazing, embodied God, whose spirit rested upon Joseph, we praise and adore you. Word in flesh, Emmanuel, always you are with us. We praise and adore you. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

ALL SING: (#6 VU "A Candle is Burning" vs. 4)

***A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above,
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.***

HYMN: #442 "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" (vs. 1 and 2)

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

One: Let us celebrate the gift of grace given to us in the Sacrament of Baptism.

All: **There is one body and one spirit; we have one hope in Christ.**

One: There is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God, Creator of us all.

All: **Out of the waters of Baptism, we rise with new life, forgiven, renewed, and one with Christ, members of Christ's body.**

INTRODUCTION & VOWS

One: Let us pledge to these persons our support and care.

All: **As a Baptized and Baptizing church, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within the community of faith. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.**

STATEMENT OF FAITH: The Creed - #918 Voices United

THE BAPTISM

HYMN: #442 "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" (vs. 3)

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 6: 1-8 (The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me.)

Psalms 126 #850 VU ("Sow in tears; reap with joy.")

John 1: 6-8, 19-28 (John testified to the light.)

ANTHEM: "Where Is The Room?" (Ron Klusmeier)

SERMON: "Hope Restored"

HYMN: #20 "On Jordan's Bank"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY:

Joyful, joyful we adore you God of glory life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away,
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (In unison – Seasons of the Spirit)

Fearless and faithful God, in your yearning for a renewed world we recognize and celebrate our own calling and participation. In the receiving of these gifts, receive and honour that self-same desire to be a renewing and affirming presence; people alive to your gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: #48 "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "I Am Walking A Path of Love" (MV #221)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE



TO THE GLORY OF GOD

Today's bulletin has been dedicated to the glory of God and donated;



In loving memory of husband, father and grandfather

Cyril WM. Squires

*a donation has been made to the Roofing Fund
by wife Jean, daughter Diane, Rod & Lori,
and granddaughters Vanessa, Brittany & Emily*

GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Today we are pleased to welcome into membership of our Church family,
through The Sacrament of Baptism;



Ethan Leslie Forward

son of Bonnie Stockwood & Darrin Forward, Flatrock, NL

Zachary Andy Dwayne Drover

son of Andrea (Osmond) & Dwayne Drover, CBS, NL

Eliana De Pretis

daughter of Joelle Dionne & Christopher De Pretis, CBS, NL

