

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH
December 24th, 2013
Christmas Eve - 4:00 p.m.

INTROIT: "Little Star"

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive) (Katie Parsons)



One: There was a very bright star

All: Guiding the way to the stable

One: The Angels sang

All: The shepherds followed.

One: On this Christmas Eve we too, come to the manger.

All: Come, Let us worship!

CONGREGATION SINGS: #59 "Joy to the World" (Verse 1)

PRAYER OF APPROACH: Isaac's Carol (Alyssa Stone)

Father God, I love you and your little Jesus.

I would like to kiss him and give him a cuddle.

I would share all my toys and play lots of games with him.

Bob the builder we could play;

We would be the best of friends....now and always. Amen

(Isaac Hutchings, in **Hay and Stardust**, by Ruth Burgess)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

(Reid, Renee, Emma, Nicholas Bishop)

THE CHRISTMAS STORY (Rev. Bruce)

CHRISTMAS PRAYER: (Leslie Moran)

Praise God

Praise God for the joy of children and grandchildren

Praise God for shrieks of happiness heard
when gifts are opened

Praise God for laughter and thank-yous

For words of wonder and surprise

Praise God for the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem

our reason for celebration. (adapted from Hay and Stardust compiled by Ruth Burgess)

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

CHILDREN'S CHOIR PRESENTATION "Journey to Bethlehem"

(Alyssa Stone, Amy Goulding, Emma Turner, Lily Turner, Kiana Laundry, Leslie Moran, Jillian Moran, Leah Churchill, Kate Whitty, Madison Moulton, Avery Pelley, Penelope Paulin, Emma Bishop, Katie Parsons, Darienne Harris)

OFFERTORY:

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more.
It's just like a magic penny, hold it tight and you won't have any
Lend it , spend it and you'll have so many, they'll roll all over the floor.
Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more.

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (Amy Gouding)

Loving God, we bring our gifts to the stable, together with the gift of our love. Accept these humble offerings, and bless us, as we celebrate the birth of your son, Jesus the baby of Bethlehem. Amen

BENEDICTION:

Go now into Christmas,
May the Bethlehem star guide you on your way
this evening and forevermore. (adapted from Bob Root, The Gathering 2010)

CONGREGATION SINGS: #67 "Silent Night"

*Lights dimmed, followed by the choir
and then the congregation*

MERRY CHRISTMAS

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will close December 24th and reopen on January 2nd. Donations for credit to 2013 year can be made until January 6th.

