

# TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

*"The Church by the Side of the Road"*

P.O. Box 13010, Station Topsail, Conception Bay South, NL, A1W 2K1

[www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net](http://www.topsailunitedchurch.nf.net)

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## **"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."

- <b>Ministers:</b>	<b>The Congregation</b>
- <b>Clergy:</b>	<b>Rev. Bruce Kearley</b>
- <b>Congregational Designated Minister:</b>	<b>Steven Rogers</b>
- <b>Organist:</b>	<b>Beth Cranston</b>
- <b>Choir Director:</b>	<b>Andrew Cranston</b>
- <b>Choir:</b>	<b>Male Choir</b>
- <b>Office Manager:</b>	<b>Lynn Mercer</b>
- <b>Caretaker:</b>	<b>Roger Richards</b>

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***December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014***

***3<sup>d</sup> of Advent/Baptism***

## **SERVICE NOTE**

***WELCOME!*** For the privileged many, waiting is not our long suit. We're used to getting what we want, when we want it. The Advent season, with its fruitful readings, invites us into a sacred time of preparation. Bringing a spirit of openness, we can discover anew how this time can enrich us, both individually and as a faith community.

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

### **THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:**

**INTROIT:** "Joy Shines as the Solitary Star" (#220MV)

### **LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE:**

1<sup>st</sup> Reader: People of God, come, for the light of joy beckons us together.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Come, let us follow this light into Advent, into the wonder and heart of God's love.

1<sup>st</sup> Reader: People of God, come, for the light of joy beckons us together, asking, who are you, what is your great joy?

## (Candles of Hope, Peace & Joy are lit)

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Come, let us follow this light in our worship.

### CONGREGATION SINGS:

*A candle is burning, a candle of joy,  
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.*

### WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

#### OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

God of Joy, come, and fill our hearts and minds today. Come, and help us to rejoice. Come, and give us the courage to proclaim and celebrate all that sparks the divine flame within us. Come, and lead us on this path toward new life. Come, for we are ready to hear your words and feel your presence. Come, for we are your people, longing to be renewed. Amen.

**HYMN:** #1 "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

### 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 (VU #918)

# THE BAPTISM



## **WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD**

### **SCRIPTURE READING:**

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

Psalm 126 (#850 – VU – “Sow in tears; reap with joy)

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

**AHTHEM:** “Light A Candle”

**SERMON:** "Rejoice Always"

**HYMN:** #2 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

### **MINUTE FOR MISSION:**

#### **OFFERTORY:** VU #540)

Grant Us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living, we may offer faithfully.

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (in unison)

We dedicate our whole selves anew today. We will dance! We will sing!  
We will do our jobs and work for peace. We dedicate our whole selves  
anew today because in doing so we know we will discover our joy, and  
God's glory. Amen.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER:** (Sung)

**HYMN:** #59 “Joy To the World”

### **COMMISSIONING & BLESSING:**

**CHORAL BLESSING:** “I Am Walking a Path of Joy” (#221MV)

### **MUSICAL POSTLUDE:**

**GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED**

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

***Mya Jamie Hynes***

*daughter of Susan & James Hynes of Paradise, NL*

***Gavin Stuart Phillips***

*Son of Melanie & Brad Phillips*

***Cate Elizabeth Squires***

*daughter of Sherry & Mark Squires of Paradise, NL*



**TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

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

In loving memory of Parents

**Rev. Phillip Jarvis & Clara**

**&**

**Cyril Mercer & Alice**

brothers

**Cyril (Jr.) & Len**

by Lorraine & George Jarvis & Family

