



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

January 5th, 2014

Epiphany / Sacrament of Holy Communion

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME & HAPPY NEW YEAR! As brightly as the story’s star, the Epiphany opens up the stellar power of God’s coming to humanity, and our awkward, dramatic, unlikely fumbling toward the Divine. We see the rewards of leaving the comfort zone of one’s own faith and of interfaith cooperation, the penalties for missing the signs of other seekers, and the ways all of us are Herod, all of us are the magi, and all of us long for power.

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE

INTROIT: “Will You Come and See the Light?” (#96)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive – Seasons of the Spirit)

One: We gather around a child, God-given, world-defying, soul- saving.

All: We gather around a child, who says to us, “Don’t be anxious about your life.”

One: We gather around a child, a miracle in the midst of human deeds and misdeeds, chaos, and questions.

All: We gather around the Christ child, whose very presence brings us to singing.

One: Come then, let us worship.

CONGREGATION SINGS: (Sing twice, Christ Candle is lit)

"I am the light of the world!

You people come and follow me!"

If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery,
of what you were meant to do and be.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

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

Everlasting God, you brilliantly created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, help us share the divine life of Jesus who shared our humanity. Help us to understand more fully what it means that you are with us, Emmanuel. We love you, and we praise you. Amen.

HYMN: #91 "The First Noel" (vs. 3-6)

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 60: 1-6 (Arise, shine; for your light has come.)

Matthew 2: 1-12 (The visit of the Magi.)

SERMON: "Precious Gifts"

ANTHEM: "This Do in Remembrance of Me" (Judy Hunnicutt)

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY / DOXOLOGY:

**Praise God with songs that never cease,
Praise God who fills the Earth with peace.
Praise God for love and joy within,
the Holy child is born again. (Amen)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Gather up our love, our praise, our hopes, our fears, even our best epiphanies. God, we give it all to you. And we feel you reflecting that love back to us, more manifold than we can imagine. In the name of the Christ child we pray. Amen.

HYMN: #74 "What Child Is This"

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

CONFESSION:

God of perfect light, lead us as we journey through life. Forgive us when, like Herod, selfish ambition makes us willing to hurt others. Forgive us when, unlike the magi, we refuse to follow the light you give us. Shine in our lives through the light of your Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS

BLESSING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(The Bread is broken & The Cup is lifted)

(Communion is shared)

HYMN: #81 "As With Gladness Men Of Old"

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

CHORAL BLESSING: "Bread for the Journey" (MV #202)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE



TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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



In loving memory of daughter, mother and sister

Wanda Martin

forever loved, never forgotten

by Mom & Dad, son Ian, and brother Darryl & family

In loving memory of sister-in-law

Elsie Beatrice Garland

who passed away on Dec. 26, by Gloria & Wm. Francis

In loving memory of

Albert and Beryl Thistle

*a donation has been made to the Cemetery Fund
from daughter Marguerite Hillyard & family*

