



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

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:	Nicole Ivey-Cross
- Caretaker:	Roger Richards

December 13th, 2015

3rd of Advent

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! The scriptures for today invite all to find hope in relationship with God, and move with God into another way of living. In our journey with God, questions lead into expectation and repentance leads into words and deeds of mercy and justice. In the Holy Spirit, we are transformed from the inside out. God is near – today and in all days to come. God rejoices over us – today and in all the days to come.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: "Holy Spirit, Come to Us" (MV75)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive - Based on Zephaniah 3:14–20)

One: Sing aloud! Rejoice and exult with all your heart for we have much to celebrate!

All: Sing! Shout! And rejoice with all your heart!

One: God is in our midst, we have nothing to fear; we are renewed by Love's song exulting over us with loud singing as though it were a festival day.

All: Sing! Shout! And rejoice with all your heart!

One: Healing Presence is among us gathering in our neglected souls and enabling that which is feeble. The shame of yesterday is transformed into praise and in wholeness we sing out across the earth.

All: Sing! Shout! And rejoice with all your heart!

One: We have been brought home, gathered into the heart of the God; here our deepest longings are fulfilled before our eyes – praise be to God!

All: Sing! Shout! And rejoice with all your heart!

One: Come, let us worship.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
And none shall be afraid.

WORDS OF WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK:

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

Holy God, as we get closer and closer to Christmas, it gets easier to get caught up in the excitement and the bustle around us. Today, we joyfully gather together to worship you. We pray that your Holy Spirit would fill this place, that we might hear your voice speaking to us. Amen.

HYMN: #644 "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" (vs 1-3)

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

HYMN: #644 “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” (vs 5-7)

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Isaiah 12: (#880 – VU – Responsive)

Luke 3: (selected verses)

ANTHEM: “There Was a Child in Galilee” (MV134)

SERMON: “Rejoicing In God”

HYMN: #5 “All Earth Is Waiting”

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)

Gracious God, you have loved us and blessed us beyond our comprehension. This offering is a humble portion which we desire to give back to you. We pray that you will use these gifts to bless others, that they may know your love as we do. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER:

HYMN: #30 "Hail to God's Own Anointed"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Don't Be Afraid" (MV90)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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

In Loving Memory of
Philip Youden
by Jim, Mildred and family

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In Loving Memory and Thanksgiving for the life of
Tena Palmer
by Lynn, Verda, Ruth, and Families

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GOD BLESS THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

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

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Sofia Carol Wall
daughter of Jeffrey Wall and Amanda Russell

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Gabriella Katherine Wall
daughter of Jeffrey Wall and Amanda Russell

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