

## 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>Nicole Ivey-Cross</b>
- <b>Caretaker:</b>	<b>Roger Richards</b>

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**Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

First After Christmas

### SERVICE NOTE

**WELCOME & HAPPY NEW YEAR!** It is not surprising that the scripture passages for this first Sunday after Christmas would focus on unbridled joy; after all, we are celebrating Jesus, Emmanuel, who shares our humanity and reaches out to us in love. Yet the word "joy" can be deceiving, because we may expect it to equal happiness, and that is not always the case. Mary and Joseph's anxiety over their lost child is presumably abated as they marvel at the youngster's wisdom. Most of all, Psalm 148 calls upon all creation to offer joyous praise to God.

### WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

#### THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

#### CALL TO WORSHIP: (In Unison – Seasons of the Spirit)

One: Light the candles:

**All: the hope of our hearts has been born!**

One: Sing the carols:

**All: the star to guide our spirits has risen!**

One: Embrace your neighbour:

**All: the cradle of compassion receives us all!**

One: Let us Worship God!

#### CONGREGATION SINGS: (Christ candle is lit)

Joy to the world the Lord is come: let earth receive her king!

Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature and sing and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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

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

We praise you this day, O God, remembering all that you have done. Especially in this Christmas season, we give you thanks for sending Jesus to be our friend, our teacher, our guide, and our Saviour. As a new year begins, we ask you to be with us each day, helping us follow the example of Jesus to make our world a little more loving. Amen.

**HYMN:** #36 "Angels, from the Realm of Glory"

**WE LISTEN FOR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

Psalm 148 (#871 – VU – Responsive)

Luke 2: 41-52

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**

**SERMON:**

**HYMN:** #62 “Once in Royal David’s City”

**OFFERTORY/ DOXOLOGY**

From all that dwells below the skies  
Let songs of hope and faith arise;  
Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung  
Through every land, by every tongue.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (in unison)

Take these gifts we offer, O God, and use them to enhance your presence in our world. May they bring voice and hope and new life to those who have none. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER:**

**CAROL - SING**

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION:**

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE:**

**TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

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

*In loving memory of a dear*

*Father & Mother*

**Mr. & Mrs. Allan Mercer**

*from Wilson Mercer*

*In loving memory of wonderful*

*Parents, Grandparents & Great Grandparents*

**Charlie & Peggy Randell**

**Richard & Maizie Carter**

*always remembered and forever loved*

*by Jerry, Elizabeth & Family*

*In Loving memory of a precious*

*Daughter, Sister, & Aunt*

**Heather Marie Randell**

*always remembered and forever loved*

*by Mom, Dad, Kelly, Karen, & Family*

*In loving memory of a wonderful*

*Nephew and Cousin*

**Rick Tilley**

*always remembered and forever loved*

*by Uncle Jerry, Aunt Gig, Kelly, Karen & Family*

