

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

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

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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."

- 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

November 29th, 2015

1st of Advent

SERVICE NOTE

WELCOME! This week marks the beginning of the Advent season. Advent is traditionally a time of waiting, longing, promise, and preparation. This week's readings reassure us with God's promises, and we wait actively by engaging in God's justice in the world.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:

INTROIT: "O Come, O come, Emmanuel" (VU 1 vs.1)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: Waiting can be hard. We are often impatient. And yet, in the midst of our impatience, sometimes God calls us to wait.

All: **We try to be patient, but there is much that makes us anxious.**

One: Much in our world is designed to create a sense of urgency, a sense of panic. But here, in this place, we pause to hear God's word.

All: **Here, in this place, we patiently wait for God.**

One: Come. Let us worship God!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
Leading us on till the morning is bright.
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)

Loving God, in our busy and thing-filled world, you call us to be patient. You invite us to trust, not in the things of this world, but in your everlasting word. Strengthen us, we pray, to hear your word, to believe your word, and to respond to your word in our daily living. Amen.

HYMN: #644 "I Was There to Hear Your Borne 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 Borne Cry" (vs 5-7)

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (A righteous branch from David's line.)

Psalm 25: (#752 – VU To you, O God, I lift my soul.)

Luke 21: 25-36 (Signs in the heavens and on earth; parable of the fig tree)

AHTHEM: "Waiting for a King"

SERMON: "Live In Hope"

HYMN: #9 "People Look east"

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)

We offer these gifts to you, O God, in the hope that they might help make your promises come true. We offer you our whole selves as well, dedicated to doing our part to help bring your will into reality in our world. As we give these gifts, we recommit ourselves to exploring ways that we can live the love and justice of Christ's coming every day throughout the year, and not just in this season. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

HYMN: #2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: "Hope Shines as a Solitary Star" (MV220)

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

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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Grady Gover Harnum
son of Stephen Harnum and Ashley Gover

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