

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH
December 24th, 2016
Christmas Eve - 4:00 p.m.

INTROIT: "Room in the Stable"

CALL TO WORSHIP: Nicholas Wells



One: Like the shepherds

All: We come to the stable.

One: Like the angels

All: We sing our praises to God.

One: Like the Wise men

All: We offer what we have and who we are.

One: As children of God

All: We come to celebrate the holy birth.

CONGREGATION SINGS: The First Nowell # 91 VU 1

PRAYER OF APPROACH: Emma Bastow

**Joseph watching over Mary,
shepherds watching over sheep,
angels watching over shepherds,
stars watching over kings,
And overseeing all is God
watching over everything, sheltering all!**

(Adapted from *Hay and Stardust* by Ruth Burgess)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

THE CHRISTMAS STORY (Rev. Bruce and Wooley)

CHRISTMAS PRAYER: Kaitlyn Grandy

Gracious God,

Watch over us during this busy season while we are gathering with family, renewing friendships, singing Christmas carols, and listening to sleigh bells jingling. With the smells of sugar cookies and evergreen trees filling the air, do not let our hearts and minds stray from the real meaning of Christmas - the birth of Jesus on that starry night in Bethlehem. (Alissa De Trude, Blessing New Voices)

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

CHOIR PRESENTATION

"The Friendly Beasts"

Choir: When a Child is Born

OFFERTORY:

Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more.
It's just like a magic penny, hold it tight and you won't have any
Lend it , spend it and you'll have so many, they'll roll all over the floor.
Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away
Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more.

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Brianna Reid

Dear God,
Help me remember the promise,
the story we hold dear.
The baby born in Bethlehem,
to lie in a manger there.
The magi came bearing gifts,
And angels began to sing.
I celebrate your day of birth
And it's myself I bring. (Gabriele Sarah Chase, Blessing New Voices)

BENEDICTION:

Go now into Christmas,
May the Bethlehem star guide you on your way
this evening and forevermore.

CONGREGATION SINGS: #67 "Silent Night"

Lights dimmed, Children's Choir sing verse 1, congregation...verses 2 and 3.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



**PLEASE NOTE: The Church Office will be closed from December 23rd to January 2nd. We will reopen January 3rd
The Deadline for 2016 contributions is January 6th, 2017.**