



TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH
December 24th, 2016
Christmas Eve - 8:00 p.m.



***WELCOME & BLESSINGS ON THIS NIGHT OF LIGHT
AND JOY!***

ORGAN PRELUDE:

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #60 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: In the night, your song reaches us over the hills: the hills of Galilee, the hills of fear and mistrust.

All: Your song is harmony, it is hope, it is love.

One: Your song is sung in thousands of languages. It is the song of faith, the song of courage, the song of joy.

All: Tonight we sing for joy, we sing for our lives and the lives of others.

One: Listen as we blend our voices into one chorus, and give us the spirit of Jesus Christ to blend our voices with all those whom you love.

All: May this offering of beauty remind us of the birth of goodness all around us and claim us for your work of peace and justice.

One: Let us worship the Newborn King.

(Written by Robin Wardlaw, Glen Rhodes U.C., Toronto, Ont. Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2016 - 2017, p.34. Used with permission.)

CONGREGATION SINGS:

**We honour Messiah with Christ candle's flame,
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.
O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,
As God comes among us, the Christian's true light.**

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CAROL: #36 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

PRAYER OF APPROACH: #39 VU (in unison)

CAROL: #44 "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2: 1 - 20 (The Christmas Story)

ANTHEM: "Who Would Send A Baby"

CHRISTMAS PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER:

OFFERING & DEDICATION:

**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)

Many gifts are shared this evening, some hidden under shining trees, others tucked in socks or stockings. Receive all the gifts that are shared this night, from our treasury, and from our table. Bless gifts and givers. Bless the act of giving. In Jesus name we pray. Amen!

(Written by Kate Crawford, Huron Shores U.C., Grand Bend, Ont. Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2016 - 2017, p.36. Used with permission.)

ANTHEM: "The Newborn"

SERMON: "Let Us Now Go To Bethlehem"

ANTHEM: "Gloria, Gloria, Gloria Deo"

CAROL: #67 "Silent night" (lights are dimmed)

BLESSING & SENDING FORTH:

CHRISTMAS VESPERS:

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE:



**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.**