

# 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>Youth Program Coordinator:</b>	<b>Brett Very</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>Jacqueline Kennedy</b>
- <b>Caretaker:</b>	<b>Roger Richards</b>
- <b>Clergy:</b>	<b>Rev. Bruce Kearley</b>

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*December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

*2<sup>nd</sup> of Advent*

## **SERVICE NOTE**

**WELCOME!** One of those "scarlet threads" woven in the tapestry of scripture is "hesed" that love of God which is constant in times of uncertainty, is eternal even when we are limited by time and space.

## **WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **THE MUSICAL PRELUDE:**

**INTROIT:** "Amen" (arr. Singspiration v. 1 & v. 7)

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:** (responsive)

One: You come to us, alive and present in that Word clothed in human flesh,

**All: so we might hear those songs about forgiveness, echoing with joy.**

One: You come to us, Shepherd of God's people, feeding us with your peace,

**All: so we might go out and offer the bread of hope to all the lost.**

One: You come to us, Spirit of comfort, welcoming us into the reign,

**All: where righteousness is our best friend, where justice lives right next door.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

## CONGREGATION SINGS:

**A candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

### PRAYER OF APPROACH: (In Unison)

From the wilderness of our world, we come to worship. From the aloneness of our solitary lives, we gather now as one people. From the challenges and winding roads of our ever-changing, ever-more-complex world, we come to the peace and calm of this sanctuary. We come with intention and we bring our deep longings. And we seek, O God, your guiding spirit as we gather. The candles of hope and peace have led us here, and we gather around them. Strengthen our lights. Embolden our spirits. Kindle your light in our lives today, we pray. Amen.

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

**HYMN: #5**      “All Earth Is Waiting”

### TALK TIME:

### **WE LISTEN TO & RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

### SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Psalm 85: (#802 VU – responsive)

Mark 1: 1-8

**ANTHEM:**      “Wonderful Peace” (HFG 494)

**SERMON:**      “God’s Ways of Love Last Forever”

**HYMN: #29**      “Hark the Glad Sound”

### MINUTE FOR MISSION:

**OFFERTORY:**

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,  
Giving a promise of safety and worth  
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.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (In Unison)

May the gifts we offer smooth the way for those who struggle, rebuild the lives of those who have fallen, and bring grace and comfort to all your people, loving God, we pray. Amen.

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

**HYMN:** #20 "On Jordan's Bank"

**COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION:** "When the Child Wakes" (v.2 arr. S. Porter)

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE:**

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

In loving memory of father  
***Philip Youden***  
from son Jim, Mildred & family

In loving memory and thanksgiving for the life of  
***Tena Palmer***  
from Lynn, Verda, Ruth & families

In loving memory of  
***August (Gus) Eveleigh***, who passed away Dec. 9, 1970 and  
***Georgina Eveleigh*** who passed away Dec. 11, 2016  
from Gloria, Rosalind and their families

*Merry*  
7 *Christmas*