

Topsail United Church
“The Church by the side of the road”
December 24, 2017
Christmas Eve - 6:00 p.m.

Welcome & Merry Christmas!
Greeters: Sharon & Brooke Fowler

The Musical Prelude:

Call To Worship: Alyssa Stone *(responsive)*

One: Let us journey with Mary and Joseph to that little town of Bethlehem, to once again experience the birth of the Christ child.

All: Let us, like the angels, proclaim this miraculous birth.

One: Let us, like the shepherds, offer our praise and adoration.

All: Let us bow down and worship Him!

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

Prayer of Approach: Sarah Soper *(In unison)*

God of mystery, tonight we celebrate that you were born among us long ago in a stable in Bethlehem. We pray that you will be born in us tonight. Holy God, you promised to send a Saviour to your people. Grant us the grace to trust your promise of peace and to turn from activities that obstruct its fulfillment. Grant us wisdom, so that during this season, we may not only give presents but also be present to one another. We pray that when we socialize with friends that we will also welcome strangers in our midst. Open our hearts to receive your hope, peace, joy and love. Amen

Carol: #91 - “The First Nowell” (v. 1,2,4)

“A Christmas Card Message”
(The Christmas Story through reflection, reading and music)

Mary: Luke 1: 26-33- (Shannon Collins)

Reflection:

Joseph: Matthew 1: 18-21 (Erin Burt)

Reflection:

Carol: #60 - “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (v.1,2)

The Birth: Luke 2: 1-7 (Rachael Moores)

Reflection:

Youth Presentation: #74 - “What Child is this” (v. 1,3)

Shepherds at the Stable: Luke 2: 8, 15-18, 20 (Shauna Collins)

Reflection:

Carol: #75 - “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” (v. 1,2,6)

The Angels: Luke 2: 9-14 (Josh Meade)

Reflection:

The Magi visit: Matthew 2: 1-2, 9-11 (Nick Slade)

Reflection:

Youth Presentation: “Do You Hear What I Hear”

(Lyrics Noel Regney & music Gloria Baker)

Offering: “Once In Royal David’s City” performed by Inspiration

Offertory:

*What shall I give him? Poor as I am.
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a Wise One, I would do my part.
Yet, what shall I give him? Give him, my heart.*

Offertory Prayer:

Many gifts are shared this evening. Some hidden under trees, others tucked in socks and stockings. Receive all the gifts that are shared this night from our treasury. Bless gifts and givers. Bless the act of giving in your most Holy name. Amen

The Lord’s Prayer:

Carol: #67 “Silent Night” (Lights are dimmed)

Commissioning and Benediction:

Carol: #43 - “Go Tell It On The Mountain”

Musical Postlude: