

# TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Christmas Eve - 8:00 p.m.

## SERVICE NOTE

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold,  
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, from heaven's all gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

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

### ORGAN PRELUDE:

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

### CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: Why do we gather here on this night?

**All: To celebrate the birth of a child.**

One: Who is this child that is born this night?

**All: The One, the Christ, the God-with-us.**

One: Who are we, that we commemorate this birth?

**All: His sisters and brothers and siblings, his disciples and friends.**

One: Then, as family and friends, let us come together, to tell stories and sing songs, to share in this time of thanksgiving, to celebrate and worship our God!

(Written by *Richard Bott*, Pacific Spirit P.C., Vancouver, B.C. & current Moderator of the United Church of Canada. *Gathering*, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2018-2019, Page. 37. Used with permission.)

## ***LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE***

### 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.**

CAROL: #48 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**PRAYER OF APPROACH:#39** – Voices United (in unison)

**ANTHEM:** “Who Would Send a Baby” (Mary Kay Beall)

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Matthew 1: 18-23

**CAROL:** #64 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

**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:** “One Child” (Jill Gallina)

**REFLECTION:** “Hiram the Inn Keeper”

**ANTHEM:** “He Brings Love” (Linda Spevacek)

**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:**