

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH

"The Church by the Side of the Road"

Email: office@topsailunited.ca

Office Phone: 709-834-4567

Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am-12:00pm

Minister: Rev. Kathy J. Brett (cell 771-9779)

Music Director: Hayley Hynes

Youth Program & Tech Coordinator: Brett Vey

Office Administrator: Gail Downey

Harpist: Ed Kavanagh

Readers: Doreen Cave, Brad Cole, Kim Cole



DECEMBER 17, 2024

Check out our website at www.topsailunited.ca
and like us on Facebook

Musical Prelude

Welcome

Acknowledging our Journey with Grief

Call to Worship

In the time of our sorrowing, God is there-

There in the embrace of loved ones

There in words spoken with compassion

There in the quiet places of the heart,

There in recalled, treasured memories

Come, gracious God, come in quiet hope

Come in gentle assurance,

Come in tender mercy,

Come with healing to make us whole.

Hymn: #278 In the Quiet Curve of Evening

*In the quiet curve of evening,
in the sinking of the days,
in the silky void of darkness, you are there.
In the lapses of my breathing,
in the space between my ways,
in the crater carved by sadness, you are there.
You are there, you are there, you are there.*

*In the rests between the phrases,
in the cracks between the stars,
in the gaps between the meaning, you are there.
In the melting down of endings,
in the cooling of the sun,
in the solstice of the winter, you are there.
You are there, you are there, you are there.*

*In the mystery of my hungers,
in the silence of my rooms,
in the cloud of my unknowing, you are there.
In the empty cave of grieving,
in the desert of my dreams,
in the tunnel of my sorrow, you are there.
You are there, you are there, you are there*

Prayer

Music for Reflection

Journeying with the Light

The Light of Hope

Sung Response: #7 Hope is a Star (vs. 1)

*Hope is a star that shines in the night,
Leading us on till the morning is bright.*

**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.**

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40 (selected verses)

Music for Reflection

The Light of Peace

Sung Response: #7 Hope is Star (vs 2)

*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.**

Scripture:

John 14:27

Romans 5:1

Philippians 4:6-7

Music for Reflection

The Light of Joy

Sung Response: #7 Hope is a Star (vs. 3)

*Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
Telling the world that the Saviour is born.*

**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.**

Scripture: Romans 15:13

Music for Reflection

The Light of Love

Sung Response: #7 Hope is a Star (vs. 4)

Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart.

**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.**

Scripture: 1 John 4:16

1 Corinthians 13: 4-8

Music for Reflection

The Light of Healing

Carol: #62 Once in Royal David's City

*Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattleshed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.*

*He came down to earth from heaven
who, with God, is over all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
There among the poor and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.*

*For he is our lifelong pattern;
daily, when on earth he grew,
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,
tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus, he feels for all our sadness,
And he shares in all our gladness.*

*And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless
Is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.*

The Light of Memories
Prayer

The Light of Faith
Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

Sharing the Light: The Lighting of our Candles

Carol: #67 *Silent Night*

*Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.*

*Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

Blessing
Musical Postlude