

TOPSAIL UNITED CHURCH
"The Church by the Side of the Road"
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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



JANUARY 5, 2025
EPIPHANY SUNDAY

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

WE GATHER AS PEOPLE OF THE LIGHT

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND SHARING TIME

INTROIT: #413 O Splendour of God's Glory Bright (vs. 1 & 2)

*O splendour of the God's glory birth,
From light eternal bringing light;
O light of life, light's living spring,
True day, all days illumining:*

*Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love,
Pour down your radiance from above,
And to our inward hearts convey
The Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Friends, arise our Light has come.

Christ is the light of the world.

The Light of God overcomes the darkness.

And brings hope to all.

The Light of God announces peace,

And joy and abundance for all that God has done for us.

Our God shines light into the world,

And we will offer our gratitude through worship and prayer.

HYMN: #96 Will You Come and See the Light

*Will you come and see the light from the stable door?
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star, it will show you who you are.
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?*

*Will you step into the light that can free the slave?
It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed there's a longing to be freed.
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?*

*Will you tell about the light in the prison cell?
Though it's shackled out of sight, it is shining well.
When the truth is cut and bruised, and the innocent abused,
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?*

*Will you join the hope, alight in a young girl's eyes,
Of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?
When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast,
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?*

*Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?
In the cradle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,
And the darkness all about is too dim to put it out:
Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?*

OPENING PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE: (Isaiah 60:1-6)

ACT OF PRAISE: #81 As With Gladness Men of Old (vs 1, 2 & 4)

*As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore your splendor see..*

*As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before
Chris, whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with eager pace
ever seek your throne of grace.*

*Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds your glory hide.*

THE PEACE:

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: (unison)

O God of Epiphany, we long to hear your Holy Word in fresh ways. Open our ears to the call of your voice. Open our eyes to the dawning of a new day. Fill us with the anticipation for your future. In Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 72, VU#790

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1-12

REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

COVENANT PRAYER: (unison)

I am no longer my own, but yours, O God. Tell me what you want me to do, and I will do it. Tell me who you want me to work with, and I will join with them gladly. If you want me to work, I will work. If you want me to wait, I will wait. Let me be raised up or put down for you, let me have many things or nothing, I offer all that I have and all that I am to you, glorious and blessed God. Help me to live each day to your glory. And this covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:
OFFERTORY**

SUNG OFFERTORY: #81 As With Gladness Men of Old (vs. 3)

*As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (unison)

As the magi offered gifts and were changed, may our giving also transform us. Bless these gifts O God, so that they may transform the world. In the name of the Christ Child, we pray. Amen.

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

HYMN: #92 In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

*In the darkness shines the splendor
of the Word who took our flesh,
welcoming, in love's surrender,
death's dark shadow at his creche.
Bearing every human story
Word made flesh reveals his glory.*

*Light of nations, veiled in history,
born of woman's flesh and blood,
calling to the depths of mystery
restless hearts that seek the good.
Healing every human story,
Word made flesh reveals his glory.*

*Broken bread, sustaining us in sorrow,
wine poured out to toast our joy,*

*exodus and new tomorrow,
life's full promise to enjoy!
Gladdening every human story,
Word made flesh reveals his glory.*

*All God's people, sing in jubilation
of the birth that sets us free,
telling of the revelation:
Jesus, God's epiphany.
Celebrate the human story!
Word made flesh reveals our glory.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Spirit of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Turn to God, the source of life.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks.

We offer joyful thanks to God.

Blessed are you... all people of all times and places.

Sing - #81 vs. 5

*In the heavenly country bright
None shall need created light;
You its light, its joy, its crown,
You its sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Hallelujah to our King.*

Jesus was a baby...mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit... now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (unison)

We give thanks, God that you have refreshed us at your table. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us into the world united in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.

HYMN: #87 I Am the Light of the World

**BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH
POSTLUDE**



LIFE AND WORK OF OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Mon, Jan 6	Tai Chi	9:00am (CH)
	Sparks	6:00pm (CH)
Tues. Jan 7	Tai Chi	10am (CH)
	Embers	6:30pm (CH)
	Family Resources Pmg	12pm (CH)
Wed. Jan 8	Inspiration	6:30pm (S)
	CBSYC Concert	6:30pm (CH)
Thurs. Jan 9	Family Resource Pgm	9-12pm (CH)
	Girl Guides	6:30 pm(CH)
	TUC Choir	7:30pm (S)
	Winners in Sobriety	8:00pm (CH)
Fri. Jan 10	Tai Chi	9:00am (CH)
Sat. Jan 11	Coastal Sound	10am (S)
Sun. Jan 12	Worship and Coffee	10:30am (S)
	Aurora Rehearsal	6:30pm (S)

Rev. Kathy will be taking a leave of absence from Wednesday, January 8th to January 15th. In case of an emergency, please call Doreen Cave at 709-834-5264.

Free Soup and Sandwich Luncheon

Topsail United is hosting a soup and sandwich lunch on January 25th from 11am to 1pm. Looking forward to seeing you.