



BETHANY UNITED CHURCH
OF THE EAST DISTRICT, NEWFOUNDLAND AND
LABRADOR CONFERENCE

Organist/Choir Director: Leslie Forward
Supply Organists: Sharon Dean, Ruth Davidge, Louise Drover
Caretaker: Wayne Parsons Secretary: Lisa Butt
Clergy: Rev. Beverly (Youth & Christian Education)
Rev. Stephen (Worship & Pastoral Care)

December 27, 2009 - 11:00am

Organ Prelude

Welcome and Life and Work of our Church

Call to Worship:

One: Like the young boy Jesus who sat in the Temple, open to learning about the Word

MANY: may our minds be open this day.

One: Like the young man Samuel who is given to the service of God,

MANY: may our lives be like Samuel's - devoted to God's service.

One: Like the women, men and children of many places and times, may we be open to hearing God as we worship.

Opening Prayer (In Unison):

Glorious God, as we come anew to the miracle of birth at Bethlehem, receive our adoration and praise.

Enable us to wonder, as did Mary, at those things which had come to pass, and with the company of humble shepherds, enable us to now worship and adore Your presence. AMEN

Hymn: What Child Is This #74

Prayer of Confession: God of stable, stars, and surprises, of light and hope and new life:

open our eyes and hearts to your presence in our world; forgive our obsession with property and possessions; forgive our compromises and narrowness of vision.

Open us to your grace, that we might hear again the song of the angels, and respond with a song in our hearts, and in our lives. Amen. (63 in Voices United)

Assurance of Pardon

L: Rejoice, be glad and hear the good news: "Behold, I bring you tidings and great joy. For unto you is born this day a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord ..."

P: **The sign of God's forgiving love is this: "Christ is born. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!"**

Hymn: Joy to the World (59)

Scripture Readings:

Colossians 3:12-21 and Luke, 2:41- 52

Sermon and Prayer: Knowing Where You Are Going

Call to the Offering: Can we dream? Sure we can! We dream about our children being happy, about having times of joy with family and also knowing that we have made a difference. Jesus invites us to make his brothers and sisters happy and being joyful with our faith family. Jesus called the disciples to make a difference - and that call is now also for us. As we give, let us do so with the commitment that what we share and how we live will make a difference. In Jesus' name, we make it our hope and our pledge as we offer our gifts..

Hymn: Go Tell It On the Mountain (43)

Offertory Prayer

Hymn: It Came upon the Midnight Clear #44

Commissioning and Benediction

L: Go forth into the world, knowing that "God is with us" to lighten the darkness of our lives, which in turn calls us to lighten the darkness in the lives of other. May the hope, peace, joy, and love of the Christ Child shed light on your road both now and forevermore.

ALL: AMEN

Organ Postlude



WELCOME

We welcome everyone to our worship this morning with a special welcome to all visitors.



A memorial has been received to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mother, **Drucella Janes** on the occasion of her 101st birthday. She is remembered and entrusted into God's Care by her son, David

REMINDERS

New Years Eve Worship (Dec. 31) - 11pm

Sunday, January 3rd - 11:00am: Worship

- 7:00pm: Worship with closing of ministerial Covenant with Rev. Beverly and Rev. Stephen

UPCOMING OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday (Dec. 28-30) - 10am - 4pm

Thursday (Dec. 31) - 10am - 5pm (date for closing of the Church books for 2009)

Friday (Jan.1) - Monday (Jan.4) - Office will be closed

Mailing Address for Rev. Stephen and Rev. Beverly:

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