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# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH

OF THE EAST DISTRICT, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR CONFERENCE

*Clergy: Rev. Harry Whitehorne*

*Organist/Choir Director: Leslie Forward - Supply Organists: Sharon Dean, Ruth Davidge, Louise Drover*

*Caretaker: Wayne Parsons Secretary: Lisa Butt*

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**January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - Epiphany 2**

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GATHERING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

**Theme:**

Our God is determined not to be God without us. The God of Israel and the church comes to us. Sometimes when we think of God we think in terms of detachment, distance, and divine aloofness. This is not the God whom the church celebrates during Epiphany. God comes to us, enters into our lives, takes up residence where we live, and shows forth as light and glory among us.

INTROIT: Beginners & Youth Choir

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Approach with reverence. Approach with joy. Approach with laughter. Approach with love. Shed false modesty, solemnity, overwrought and overblown language, and all falseness.

**All: We gather to worship our Creator, whose delight in us is breathed into every line of our faces, the best thoughts we have for each other, and for the will we bear that God's reign may burst fully into the universe.**

One: Come, people of God. Now is the time for worship.

**WELCOME AND LIFE & WORK OF OUR CHURCH**

**OPENING PRAYER: (Unison)**

God of light, God of illumination, in your light we see light. Shine your light in our hearts so we may come before you in a new Spirit, with new Hope, and the Inspiration of your Breath in everything we say and do. Surely your presence is in this place and we know it. Walk with us through our worship today. Let our prayer and praise illuminate you for the world. These things we pray with words given shape and meaning by our experience with you. Amen.

HYMN: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" VU  
334

KIDS TALK TIME WITH REV. HARRY

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (UNISON)**

"They have no wine," Mary says to her son. Perhaps Jesus was not ready for his ministry to take shape in our midst, but he responded to need - things that people wanted. God of glory and joy, whose will is found in celebrations like weddings, anniversaries, pot-lucks, and pastimes, who desires that the joy of our fellowship may have no end, why have we sought to put road blocks in the way of that which is good? Forgive us for forgetting that your joy is meant to be experienced, and send us happily to serve you even in the darkest places, so that your light may shine the world over. Amen.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

Jesus reveals his glory with signs in order that we and the whole world might believe! Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5 - Betty Priddle  
John2:1-11 - Bernice Taylor

Anthem: Trust in Jesus - Senior Choir

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Outreach & Social Action : Sarah Lawrence (Chair) makes a special appeal for the Haiti Relief Fund:

Prayer: Gracious God, extend your loving kindness, mercy and compassion upon all, we pray. Thank you for aid workers, first responders, churches, communities and families who are extending a loving, helping hand to one another. Grant us Your grace that we may respond in love, with kind and determined action, and with fervent prayer: mourning with those who have loss, labouring with those who seek to rebuild, and aiding those who seek to prepare for the next storm. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

OFFERING OUR MONEY AND OUR LIVES TO GOD

-Hymn: "Christ Whose Glory Fills the  
Skies" VU 336

-Offertory Prayer: (Unison)

God of Giving, God of Blessing, may this offering be received in the Spirit with which it was given. May your steadfast love guide those who will decide how this money is used. May your will be done in this place and throughout the world that our shared ministry may be blessed. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

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HYMN: "FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH" VU  
#226

COMMISSIONING: (UNISON)

For the sake of the gospel we must not keep silent, and for the sake of God's world we must not rest until the vindication of Christ shines out like the dawn and salvation is like a burning torch.

BENEDICTION:

Go with goodness. Go with gladness. Go with God.  
And may you be held in the palm of God's hand this day and forever more. Amen.

WELCOME

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

MEMORIALS

A donation has been received to the Cemetery Fund to the glory of God and in loving memory of Philip ever and always from the Babs.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday to..... Alma Parsons who is celebrating her birthday today!!! Best wishes from all of your family and friends here at Bethany!

THIS WEEK @ BETHANY

MONDAY: 6:30pm-Songbirds, 7pm-Outreach Meeting,  
7:30-Senior Choir

TUESDAY: 6pm-Guitar

WEDNESDAY: 6:30pm-Men's Fellowship Annual Meeting

THURSDAY: 7pm - COUNCIL MEETING

FRIDAY: 6pm- Beginner/Youth Choir, 7pm-Chums

NEXT SUNDAY: 11am - Worship

Please Note: Church Office will be closed on Wednesday (Jan.20)

AND ALL COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

NOTE TO ZONE CAPTAINS: please pick up your packages, they are ready to be delivered ASAP!!! Thank You!