



# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH

OF THE EAST DISTRICT, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR CONFERENCE

Organist/Choir Director: Leslie Forward

Supply Organists: Sharon Dean, Ruth Davidge, Louise Drower

Caretaker: Wayne Parsons Secretary: Lisa Butt

Clergy: Rev. Beverly (Youth & Christian Education) & Rev. Stephen (Worship & Pastoral Care)

January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 - 11:00am

## WE GATHER

### Organ Prelude

### Welcome and Life and Work of our Church

### Opening Prayer:

O God our Creator, in you alone are the riches of life. We come from the East and we come from the West knowing we follow, on our different roads, the same star to the same place where Jesus is found.

May we share what we know of its light, learn from each other the way to the stable, worship you and serve the world with Gospel. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** (Prayer from Sri Lanka)

### Hymn: Angels We Have Heard On High (38)

### Children's Moment

## WE HEAR THE WORD

### Scripture Readings:

Ephesians 1:1-14 - Wendy Penney  
John 1: 1-18 - Karen Comerford  
Sermon and Prayer - Rev. Beverly

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### Special Singing

**Call to the Offering:** Going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts. (Matthew 2:11) Let our giving be offered in likewise humility and devotion.

**Hymn:** 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

perfect in power, in love, and purity.

1

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

### Offertory Prayer:

**L:** Though we do not bear gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,  
**P; yet we offer ourselves and what we have.**

**L:** The story continues, Good News abounds. We worship and  
serve the living Christ.

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad! Amen!**

### Sacrament Communion

- Hymn: Eat this bread, drink this cup;  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup;  
trust in me and you will not thirst. (X2)

### - The Invitation

**L: Hear the gracious words of our Saviour Jesus Christ: I am the bread of life. Those who come to me shall not hunger, and those who believe in me shall never thirst. No one who comes to me will I cast out. John 6:35, 37**

### - The Great Thanksgiving Prayer:

**L: The Lord be with you. P: And also with you.**  
**L: Lift up your hearts. P: We lift them to the Lord.**

**L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**L: Loving and Holy One, you who are all-powerful and everliving;**

**it is indeed right, it is our joy and our salvation always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. You created all things and made us in your image. When we had fallen into sin, you gave your only Son to be our Saviour. He shared our human nature, and died on the cross. You raised him from the dead, and exalted him to your right hand in glory, where he lives for ever to pray for us. Through him you sent your holy and life-giving Spirit and made us your people, a royal priesthood, to stand before you to proclaim your glory and to celebrate your mighty acts. And so we praise you with the faithful of every time and place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:**

**P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

L: We praise you, Lord God, King of the universe, through our  
Lord Jesus Christ, who, on the night in which he was

2

betrayed, took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his  
disciples, saying: Take this and eat it. This is my body given for  
you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and  
gave it to them, saying: Drink from it, all of you. This is my  
blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of your sins. Do this, whenever you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Lord, as he has commanded us, we do this in  
remembrance of him; and we ask you to accept our sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving. Send upon us the Holy Spirit, that we  
who receive your gifts may share in the body and blood of  
Christ. Make us one body with him. Accept us as we offer  
ourselves to be a living sacrifice, and bring us with the whole  
creation to your heavenly kingdom. We ask this through your  
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be given to you,  
almighty Lord, from all who dwell in earth and in heaven  
throughout all ages. Amen.

- THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

L: Christ is the bread of Resurrection, new life for all.

L: Christ is the cup of salvation, wounded for our healing.

- Sharing of the Gifts

- Post Communion Prayer

Merciful One, you graciously feed us who have received these  
holy mysteries with the bread of life and the cup of eternal  
salvation. May we who have reached out our hands to receive  
this sacrament be strengthened in your service; we who have  
sung your praises tell of your glory and truth in our lives; we  
who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in  
your kingdom. For you have made us your own people by the  
death and resurrection of your Son our Lord and by the life-  
giving power of the Spirit. Amen.

Hymn: Blest Be The Tie (602)

Commissioning and Benediction

L: You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before  
others that they may see your good works and give

glory to our God who is in heaven. Christ the Son of God be  
manifest to you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the  
blessing of God almighty, the Creator, The Christ and the

Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you, now always. - CHORAL

AMEN

Organ Postlude

3



## WELCOME

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

## REMINDERS

**Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>** - 7:00pm: Worship with closing of ministerial  
Covenant with Rev. Beverly and Rev. Stephen  
  
A Cup of Tea to follow - anyone who can bring  
any treats.....

**Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>** - 11:00am: Worship led by Rev. Jacintha  
Penney.

Sunday School opens.

- 2:00pm: Worship at the Interfaith Home

**Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>** - 11:00am: Worship with Rev. Harry Whitehorne.  
Rev. Whitehorne will begin on January 15<sup>th</sup>, From  
January 8-15, Rev. Russell Small will be covering  
for emergencies.

**Mailing Address for Stephen and Beverly and The Matthews Family:**

3 Malvern Ave., Croydon, New South Wales, Australia, 2132

*Saying 'farewell' is never an easy thing, especially when people have worked together for many years and helped and trusted one another. As we have shared in your baptisms, confirmations, marriages, funerals and times of joy and struggle, you have left an indelible mark upon us. Yet, saying a farewell is a part of our lives and we leave with you all in our hearts.*

*As we say a farewell to you, we pray that you continue to keep us in your prayers. We also pray that you have found our time together in ministry a good thing. As we reflect upon the past 7½ years, we also look forward with great interest not only upon the adventure in ministry that awaits us, but also the adventures in ministry that are before you. Our joy will be much fuller when we hear good news about your new ministry endeavours that your share between you and your new clergy. Even as we prepare to conclude our time in ministry with you and being your clergy, we know that with faith, God has much in store for you and your new clergy.*

*We will hold you in our prayers always - in times when we hear of some of our friends passing, we will be saddened and pray for them, you and your clergy. Though we will not be your ministers after January 15th, we will still care and hold you all in our prayers with much love & thankfulness.*

*-peace and love, Rev. Beverly and Rev. Stephen*