

Downtown United

10:30 a.m. December 27th, 2015

First Sunday after Christmas

* Please stand as you are able, sit as you prefer *

Prelude He Shall Feed His Flock Handel
Introit Lord Prepare Me (X2) MV 18

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living,
Sanctuary for you.**

*Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,
and also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Carol into Worship

Good Christian Friends Rejoice VU 35
The First Nowell VU 91

A Christmas Confession

Assurance of God's Love

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*) VU 959

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Candle Lighting

We know that God is always with us. We are not alone; we live in God's world.

**This is our Hope, that shines out at the dawn!
This is our peace, the gift of Christ to the world.
This is our joy, running through us like electricity,
causing us to dance and sing.
This is our love, offered by God who reaches for us, even
as we long for that divine embrace.**

(Four Advent Candles Lit)

And after Christmas morning, we discovered our greatest gift.

**Led by God's light within us, we once again found Christ
born anew in our hearts.**

(Christ Candle Lit)

God calls to us now. Christ walks beside us as always. The Holy Spirit guides us on the way.

God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Candle Lighting Verse: A Candle is Burning VU 6

**We honour Messiah with Christ-candle's flame,
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.
O come, all you faithful rejoice in this night,
as God comes among us, the Christians true light.**

Reading: Matthew 2:10-11 Clare MacIntyre

***Hymn** Hope is a Star VU 7

Prayers of the People

***Hymn** Joy is Now in Every Place VU 45

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Go Tell It On The Mountain arr. Curtis

***Dedication Verse** VU 55 (vs 4)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him -- give my heart.**

Dedication Prayer (Unison)

**In thanks we offer our gifts of song, funds, prayer, and our very
selves. Guide us on this road through the Christmas season.
Guide us with your light. Bless us and these gifts, that New
Year may be filled with your kingdom's presence.**

Reading: John 14:6-9, 25-27

Anthem What Child Is This arr. Kern

Reflection Guided by the Light The Rev. Ellen Beirsto

***Hymn** I am the Light of the World VU 87

*Commissioning (Responsive)

People who have been found, loved, and forgiven,
**we go into God's world bringing messages of peace, love
and hope to all we meet.**
Be prepared for lives of service,
we seek to help others in all kinds of needs and situations.

*Benediction

*Choral Amen

Postlude Trumpet Tune VU 967

Giamanco

Coffee Hour January : M&P

For the week of December 28th to January 3rd, **Rev. Richard Bowley** will be on vacation. For emergency pastoral care, please contact the office. The church office will be closed until Dec. 29th.

2016 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2016 envelopes this morning—they can be found in the Narthex. If anyone wishes to begin on the PAR program or receive envelopes please contact Cathy Simpson at 458-1183—thank you. cathysimpson@nb.aibn.com

2015 Donations—please ensure that all donations reach the church office **by 10 a.m. on Dec. 31st** if you wish to have them included in your 2015 tax receipt.

2015 Annual Reports are due in the office by January 11.

Pantry Sunday:

coffee
Saran wrap
toilet paper
relish
rice
soda crackers
canned corn
pancake mix & syrup
canned fruit
shortening
cookies
beans (black)
cleaning items
sardines

January 3

wax paper
laundry detergent
ketchup
flour
oatmeal
granola bars
paper Towels

Light Up a Life! Make a donation to light a bulb on the giant Stan Cassidy Christmas tree. **Honour or Remember** a loved one while helping others. **Share** your tribute message with loved ones via www.stancassidyfoundation.ca *To contribute, visit www.stancassidyfoundation.ca or call 506-452-5753.*

Happy New Year