**The Second Word: Affirmation**

**Anthem:** *Good Christians All Rejoice* Page

**Offertory Invitation:** (together)

In the season of giving, let us give our hearts and the work of our hands in honor of the Christ Child.

**Organ Offertory**: *Journey to Bethlehem* C. Franck

Offertory Hym: *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks, v.6* 75

**Offertory Prayer:** (together)

Peace is Your gift O God: the peace of generosity, the peace of compassion, the peace of recognition, the peace of communion with each other. Bless these gifts, O God, which will convey the peace of Christ. Amen.

**The Third Word: Contradiction**

**Hymn:** *All Poor Ones and Humble* 68

**The Fourth Word: Inspiration**

**Closing Hymn:** *Joy to the World* 59

**Commissioning and Benediction:**

One: God of the watching ones, the waiting ones, the slow and suffering
 ones, the angels in heaven, the child in the womb,
**All: Give us Your benediction, Your good word for our souls, that we
 might rest and rise in the kindness of Your company. Amen.**

**Organ Postlude:** *Noel*  Daquin

**Ushering this week is provided by:**

**Ushers in Charge:** Jack Head

**Greeters:**  Betty & Melvin Burt

**Ushers:**  Betty & Ross Pilgrim, Don Blackmore,

 Ruth Baker, Florence Head, Bruce Hunt

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**Office hours Monday December 30th: 10am-noon/1-3pm**

**December 31st and January 1st: closed**

**January 2nd and on: regular hours**

St. James United Church

 A Community of Friends in Faith

 330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John’s, NL A1B 1T9

 December 29, 2013

 

 **Happy New Year Everyone!!**

Administration/Office: 722-1881

Church Fax: 722-2998

Church Email: info@stjamesuc.org

Church Web Site: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)
Emergency Pager: 727-4067
NL Conference: [www.newlabconf.com](http://www.newlabconf.com)

U.C. of Canada: www.united-church.ca



Today’s bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of

**Melita Saunders, who died January 1, 2012,**

by Phil and family.

 St. James United Church

 December 29, 2013/ 1st after Christmas/Baptism

Minister: Rev. Terrie Burry

Minister of Visitation/MUN Chaplain: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM

Organist/Senior Choir Director: Christine Tiller

Assistant Organist: Gillian Burry

Choir: Senior

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 **Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.**

**Organ Prelude:** *What is That Lovely Fragrance?*  Old French Carol

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**Welcome and Life & Work of St. James**

**Call to Worship:** (responsive)

One: Light in our darkness! Joy in our song!
**All: Hope in our hearts! Faith on our journey!**One: Come, O Christ, to each heart waiting here!
**All: You have come indeed! In a new birth, a new incarnation, for this
 time and for all. Amen.**
 **Opening Prayer:** (together)
O God of the Christ Child, You are more than a newborn baby, You are more than the Spirit alive, You are more than Creator of all – you are God! On this morning, the first Sunday morning after Your birth, help us to know Your presence, Your love, as the greatest gift of all. Amen.

**Hymn:** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* 35

**Children’s Time**

**Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

*Presentation*

*Parent’s Declaration*

*Parent’s Baptismal Vows*

**Congregational Commitment:** (together, standing as you are able)

We have heard the will of the parents. We receive these children in Christ’s name as we ourselves have been received. We all belong to the one household of Christ. We will support these parents by providing an environment where love is shown and faith is nurtured. Amen.

**Affirmation of Faith:** A New Creed 918

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Pouring of the Water:**

 **Action of Baptism**

***Penelope Sierra-Anne Nancy Skinner,*** daughter of Kerstin Sarah Over and Steven Judson Skinner

***Heidi Christine Belbin,*** daughter of Joanne Leah Jane and Robert Mark Belbin

**Blessing**: (unison)
May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine upon you and

be gracious to you. May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

**THE WORDS OF ADVENT**

**Hymn:** *Hope Is a Star*  7

**THE WITNESS OF SCRIPTURE**

**Hebrew Scripture:**Isaiah 9: 26-7

 *The people have seen a great light*.

Solo: *Mary, did you know?* Susan Sheppard

**Responsive Reading:** Luke 1: 68-79 900

 *Song of Zechariah*

**Anthem:** *See Amid The Winter’s Snow* Goss

**Gospel:** Luke 1: 26-38

 *Mary and the Angel Gabriel*

**The First Word: Identification**

**Hymn:** *What Child Is This?* 74