

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

902-752-5691 first.church@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Sunday, March 18, 2018

5th Sunday in Lent

Welcome in the name of the living God, in the name of the beloved Son Jesus Christ, and in the name of the Spirit who gives us life. If you are a visitor you are invited to sign our guest book.

(** indicates standing, as you are able)

THE APPROACH

Organ Prelude

Entry of Choir and Minister

Welcome and Announcements

****Please rise as the Bible enters the sanctuary**

****Introit**

Come Bless the Lord

Come bless the Lord, (Come bless the Lord)

All ye servants of the Lord, (All ye servants of the Lord)

Who stand by night (who stand by night)

in the house of the Lord! (in the house of the Lord)

Lift up your hands (lift up your hands)

in the holy place (in the holy place)

and bless the Lord! (and bless the Lord)

and bless the Lord (and bless the Lord)

****Call to Worship**

One: Sing praise to God!

People: In the shadows of Lent sing praise to God.

One: In time of doubt or worry, sing praise to God.

People: When life is full and all is well, sing praise to God.

One: Here, now, sing praise to God!

People: There is no better thing to do. There is no better place to be.

**HYMN #626 Lord of all power

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession (unison) **O God we are your people because you chose us to be your people. We confess that like our ancestors we often confuse your call with our wishes. We confess that we often ignore your voice and turn away from the life-changing path you have created for us. Motivated by worldly success, we cling to our plans and hold to our will instead of being molded by your grace. Forgive us, loving God and lead us in your way, so we may be drawn to you and a deeper life with Christ. Amen.**

Children's time

**Hymn #569 O Jesus, I have promised

Prayer (children go to class)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Responsive Reading Psalm 51: 1-12

One: Have mercy on me, O God, in your great kindness.

People: in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences.

One: Wash away all my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.

People: For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is always before me.

One: Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight.

People: so that you are justified in your sentence, and blameless In your judgement.

One: Guilty I have been from my birth, a sinner from the time of my conception.

People: But you desire truth in our inward being, therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

One: Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean,

People: wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

One: Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness,

People: let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

One: Turn away your face from my sins,

People: and blot out all my iniquities.

One: Put a new heart in me, O God,

People: and give me again a constant spirit.

One: Do not cast me away from your presence,

People: do not take your holy spirit from me.

One: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and strengthen me
with a willing spirit.

**People: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will
return to you.**

One: O God, open my lips,

People: and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

One: You desire no sacrifice, or I would give it;

People: you take no delight in burnt offerings.

One: The sacrifice you accept, O God, is a broken spirit;

People: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Anthem The Word of God *T. Troeger/M. Helman.*

Old Testament Jeremiah 31: 31-34 pg. 607

Epistle Hebrews 5: 5-10 pg. 912

Gospel John 12: 20-33 pg. 822

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Hymn: **#394** Holy Spirit, truth divine

Sermon *Covenants Old and New*

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Offering

Offertory **#555 (v5 & refrain)

Now in response to the life you are giving, help us,

Creator, to offer our living, seeking a just and a healing society, worship and work must be one.

Refrain Worship the Lord, (worship the Lord), worship the Father, the Spirit, the Son, raising our hands, (raising our hands), in devotion to God who is one!

****Prayer of dedication**

Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

****Hymn #651 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer**

****Commissioning and Benediction**

****Sending Forth #766 Amen, amen, amen, amen**

Interim Minister: Rev. Dr. Ken MacLeod (H) 902-382-2264
Guest Organist: Joy Shaw
Office hours: Tues. & Wed. – 10-1; Thurs. & Fri. – 9-12
Website: <http://pccweb.ca/first-newglasgow/>

Carrying the Bible: Mark Thibeau
MacLean St. Ushers: Norm & Jean McComb
James St. Ushers: Cathy & Jack Lewis
Office entry Usher: Chet Fleming
Scripture Reader: Sara Fullerton
Refreshments: Marie Withers & Marion Hayden

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the Pictou County Council of Churches prayer roster, we are asked to pray for the congregation of Bethel, Knox, Burns Memorial in Scotsburn, Earltown & West Branch.

I will be doing **Income taxes** again this year for low income people starting Feb 28. Larry Ingham 902 752-1639

Thank you very much to all of you who have agreed to host coffee hour after church. If you were not asked but wish to help out, please contact Cathy Lewis (752-6660). If you aren't in the habit of attending coffee hour, please consider coming – it is a good opportunity to get to know one another.

Hi Everybody! Greetings from Kangaroo Island, Australia! Gwen & I are having an amazing time. The concerts with Common Cup went very well in Western Australia, and I have managed to drive on the appropriate side of the road and avoid accidents! Seeing tons of new things and enjoying wonderful hospitality, plus beautiful weather.

Andrew Douglas asked me to remind my music-loving friends of a concert at the Decoste Centre on Sunday, March 18 at 7:30pm. The Ladom Ensemble is a quartet of young Canadians, featuring 3 of my favourite instruments (piano, cello, accordion) plus percussion and they come highly recommended! You can check details at the Decoste Centre website. Hope this finds you all well. See you in a month or so.

Cheers! Lloyd & Gwen

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Readings for March 25 (Lent 5): Isaiah 50: 4-9, Philippians 2: 5-11, Psalm 31: 9-16 and Mark 10; 46-11:11.

March 19 – The Search Committee meet in the Session Room.

Mar 19 – Mar 22: Blood Donor Clinics – Mar. 19 Pictou – 5-8pm; Mar 20 Thorburn 12-3 & 5-8pm; Mar 21/22 Summer St. Industries – 1-3 & 5-8pm. See poster on bulletin board for more information.

March 20 (Tuesday) - A meeting of the newly established Finance-Stewardship – Maintenance Team will be held at 7:00 pm.

March 20 - 10:00 am – Presbytery of Pictou meet in First Church, Stellarton.

April 13 - World Day of Prayer Service will be held at 2 pm at First United Baptist Church, East River Road. No choir is required this year.

EASTER SERVICES

MARCH 25 – PALM/PASSION SUNDAY WITH
HOLY COMMUNION



MARCH 30 - 11:00 AM – GOOD FRIDAY
SERVICE AT THE KIRK



APRIL 1 - EASTER SERVICE AT 11:00 AM WITH SPECIAL MUSIC.



Mission Statement: *But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple. Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously – take God seriously. Micah 6: 8-The Message*