

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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## Sunday, September 23, 2018

*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.*

(\*\* indicates standing, as you are able)

### THE APPROACH

Organ Prelude

Entry of Choir and Minister

Welcome and Announcements

\*\*Introit

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

Where two or three are gathered in my name

I am there, I am there.

*(1x unison, 2x as a round, women starting)*

\*\*Call to Worship

One: Come from the work of the world.

**People: God's love is in this place.**

One: Come from places of strife.

**People: God's peace is in this place.**

One: Come as you are to God.

**People: God will show us the way.**

\*\*HYMN # 296 The clay-stained hands of love

Prayer of Adoration (**unison**): **Like trees thirsting for water, our hearts long for you, O God. In your presence we find life. Nourish us in this time of worship, that we may yield fruits of righteousness and justice in the world. May we be gentle and forgiving, working for peace, rejoicing in each other's gifts. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession (unison): **God of great joy, you offer us the gift of happiness, yet we continue to pursue what we think will make us happy. You give us a world of companionship, yet we ignore our neighbours and fail to love even our families as we ought. You bless us with the beauty of creation, yet we threaten the planet entrusted to our care. You offer us abundant life, yet we chase after too many material goods. You promise us comfort in sadness and healing in sickness, yet we pretend that our lives are just fine. You have told us not to be afraid, that you walk with us, even through the darkest valleys, yet we live according to the shadows of our fears. Merciful God, forgive us for following false pleasure. Like a tree, planted by a running stream, plant us in your soil and nourish us in what is true, that we might be rooted in the goodness of all you offer. Amen**

Words of Assurance

\*\*Passing of the Peace: Jesus came to bring peace among us. In making peace with one another, we draw near to God. Let us now share the peace of Christ with one another, stranger, guest and friend alike.

One person: The peace of Christ be with you.

Other person: **And also with you!**

\*Hymn #272 Christ is King! *(children come forward during singing of last verse)*

Children's time (children go to class following story)

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Responsive Psalm: Psalm 1

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,  
<sup>2</sup> *but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.*

<sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its

fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.

<sup>4</sup>*Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.*

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>*For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.*

The Letters: James 3: 13-4:3, 7-8a                      pg. 920

The Gospel: Mark 9: 30-37                                      pg. 772

Leader:                      The word of God for the people of God

**People:                      Thanks be to God**

Anthem      The earth is like a burning bush                      *Dan Damon*

Sermon      THE BELIEVER TREE

## THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Pastoral prayer and the Lord's Prayer      Hear us now as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us: *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

\*\*Hymn                      **#724**      Come now, you blessed, eat at my table

The Offering

\*\*Offertory                      **#425**      We praise you, O God (vs. 1)

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

\*\*Prayer of dedication

\*\*Hymn #585 Christ, you call us all to service

\*\*Commissioning and Benediction

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

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Supply Minister: Rev. Dr. Morley Shaw (h) 902-755-5505  
Interim Moderator: Rev. Lorne MacLeod (h) 902-695-2817  
Organist: Lloyd MacLean  
Office hours: Tues. & Wed. – 10-1; Thurs. & Fri. – 9-12  
Website: <http://pccweb.ca/first-newglasgow/>

Carrying the Bible: Mark Thibeau  
MacLean St. Ushers: Ian Semple & Scott Grant  
James St. Ushers: Don Johnston & George Bellefontaine  
Office: Chet Fleming  
Scripture Reader: Brent MacQuarrie  
Refreshments: Shirley Cruickshank, Judy Marshall & Elaine MacDonald

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**TODAY** – Please stay after the service and join us for a BBQ sponsored by the Board of Managers. There is no cost for this.

Nursing Home Service at Valley View Villa at 2:30 pm. All welcome to come and add their voice to the choir.

**Today: at 3:00 p.m.** Dr. Shaw will be the guest preacher at the closing/decommissioning service of the Goldboro United Baptist Church in Goldboro, NS. The service is being held at the Interpretative Center in Goldboro.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**An open note to congregation from Session: we acknowledge your concern about the difficulty we are having with the sound system; we assure you we are continuing to try and find solutions to improve the quality of sound and thank you for your feedback and patience!**

**We extend a warm welcome** to any visitors who are joining us today and invite you to the upper hall (to your left) after the service for refreshments and fellowship.

**Memorial donations** have been received for Ethel Porter and George Durning from the Catherine Mair AMS group.

**A memorial donation** has been received for Ethel Porter from Vivian MacDonald.

**Condolences:** As a caring community of faith we express our Christian sympathy to John and Brenda Zinck on the death of John's brother, Ron Zinck, who passed away suddenly on September 15th.

**Wednesdays at 7pm** is regular choir practice. Choir is welcoming any new singers, especially soprano and bass singers - all are welcome to join with us in "making a joyful noise!"

Following the Pictou County Council of Churches prayer roster, we are asked to pray for the congregations of Springville, St. Paul's & Calvin Presbyterian Churches.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday 28 Sept** and **Saturday 29 Sept** from 10 am to 4 pm. - Quilt, Art & Craft Tea & Sale will be held at Middle River Church. Admission is \$5. Come & view the beautiful handmade articles & enjoy a cup of tea.

**Sept 28** - 12:00 – **Circle of Friends** please meet to decorate the sanctuary for the Fall/Thanksgiving season.

**Sept. 28** at 7:00 pm meeting for Worship and Music Team.

**Sept. 29** – North End Rec Centre - Pancake breakfast (with blueberry pancakes), sausages, tea/coffee/juice from 8:00 –11:00. \$5 – adult; \$3 – child or \$15 per family.

**Sept. 30** - St. Johns Presbyterian Church MacLennan's Mountain will be having their Old Home Service at 3pm. Guest preacher will be Rev. Dr. Sandy McDonald. Special music will be provided by the Stellarton Male Chorus. Social hour to follow. Everyone welcome!!

**Oct. 2** – **Deadline** for anyone attending Synod at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Sydney from Oct 15- 17<sup>th</sup>. Poster on bulletin board.

**October 10** – Deadline for registration at Pictou United Church for session on “Lasting Legacies”, a program to leave a lasting legacy through Dalhousie University Human Body Donation Program and the Maritime Brain Tissue Bank. More info on bulletin board. Call 485-8081.

**October 13** from 4-6 pm, Hot Pork Supper at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Merigomish. Adults \$12 Children under 12 \$6. Pantry Table.



**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*