

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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Sunday, December 9, 2018

2ndnd Sunday in Advent - Peace

Sacrament of Holy Communion



*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

******Introit

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

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called
Emmanuel.

Lighting of the Candle of Peace:

Reader: As we light our advent candle

People: We thank you for the peace you give.

Reader: As we prepare for Christmas time

People: Light of the world, shine on us.

Reader: In our lives of confusion and stress

People: Bring peace to our hearts.

Reader: To all the people who don't know you,

People: Light of the world, shine through us.

Reader: In this world of pain and darkness

People: Help us to share the peace you give.

Reader: In our service here today,

People: Light of the world, light the way.

****Call to Worship**

Leader: Our mouths are filled with laughter; with our tongues we shout for joy.

People: You have done great things for us, O God; we come before you with gladness and rejoicing.

Leader: Let us worship God.

****HYMN #109 All earth is waiting**

Prayer of Praise and Adoration **(unison)** **You who are a refining fire and a purifying agent, we praise you that in Christ you make us whole again. We gather to hear his coming announced, and anxiously await the dawn of your redeeming grace. Fill our mouths with laughter at the prospect of our liberation, and our tongues with shouts of joy at the news of our redemption. You continue to do great things for us, O God. Therefore we come into your presence with singing. Amen**

Change my heart, O God" (*Eddie Espinoza*): Change my heart, O God, make it ever true; change my heart, O God, may I be like you. You are the Potter, I am the clay; mold me and make me, this is what I pray. Change my heart, O God, make it ever true; change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

Prayer of Confession **(unison)** **God of abounding grace, have mercy upon us. Our valleys are deep when we are encompassed with care. Our mountains are high when our burdens are heavy. We grope in the**

maze of our tangled alliances and reap the pain of bad choices and ignorant gambles. You promised that all flesh shall see your salvation. Show us the straight path and the smooth way that lead to your righteousness, through Jesus Christ, who is the way. Amen

Words of Assurance

****Passing of the Peace:** Anticipating the blessings of the one who is coming, let us offer one another signs of Christ's peace.

One person: The peace of Christ with you.

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

***Hymn #752** Blest be the God of Israel *(children come forward during singing of last verse)*

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

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding **(unison)** **Holy God, through your scriptures, you revealed your Word to your people. In the fullness of time, you continued your revelation to the world through Jesus Christ. Now by the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to interpret scripture, so that we might hear your living Word freshly in our time and place. Amen**

Scripture: Responsive Psalm: Psalm 126

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.

²Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

⁴Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev.

⁵Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

The Letters: Philippians 1: 3-11 pg. 893

The Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6 pg.784

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Anthem Peace Child (*Shirley Erena Murray/Daniel Charles Damon*)

Sermon Is There Anything I Can Do?

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer: Now we pray together with your people of all time and places in the words that Jesus taught:

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 #759 In loving partnership

The Offering

**Offertory #145 In the bleak mid-winter (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.

**Prayer of dedication

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

** The Apostles' Creed #539

The institution of the Supper

One: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Breaking of the bread and the raising of the cup

Communion

**Hymn #371 Love divine

**Commissioning and Benediction

**Sending Forth #793 Amen, amen, amen.

The Poinsettia at the front of the sanctuary this morning is placed in loving memory of Marian MacIntosh by Russell MacIntosh and family.

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: Kent Williams
MacLean St. Ushers: Jane & Brock Proudfoot
James St. Ushers: Sara Fullerton & Fran Savage
Office: Mark Thibeau
Scripture Reader: Chet Fleming
Refreshments: Marie Withers & Marion Hayden

Today is the **Second Sunday of Advent**. During Advent we are focusing on aspects of Advent – Hope, Peace, Joy & Love. How can you enter into the story this year in a new way? Invite your neighbours so they can experience the new life that Jesus brings. Pray that First Church will be able to effectively share the hope, peace, love & joy of Christmas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At their Christmas Banquet, the **Circle of Friends** presented a plaque to Marilyn Johnstone in appreciation of her long-time dedication to First Church. Well done Marilyn!

We express our love and sympathy to Marion & Donald Johnstone on the recent death of Marion's sister, Janet E. (MacGillivray) Taylor of Ottawa. We have received memorial donations for her from Marion & Don Johnstone and Carolyn & Bill Mason.

We also express our sympathy to Helen Mailman & Patty Henderson on the recent death of their son/brother, Donald in PEI. He died unexpectedly at the age of 61 in November.

Congratulations to Phoebe Fraser upon hearing that her daughter-in-law, Darlene Jamieson, has been appointed as Supreme Court Judge for the province of Nova Scotia.

Memorial donations have been received in loving memory of Melda & Roy MacGregor from Janet & Brian Hiscott and Susan and Chuck Stallard.

Offering Reminder - Just a reminder that any contributions to First Church that you would like to claim for 2018 Income Tax purposes must be received by Sunday, December 30th at the latest.

LAST CHANCE



Christmas Memory Tree inserts (they are yellow) final week. If you would like to donate a ball or balls, simply fill out the form and put it, along with the money in the collection plate. The Christmas Eve bulletin will contain the names of the donors and the people that have been remembered. There will not be any amounts used. **DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 13.**

2019 Offering Envelopes are available in the Upper Hall. The weekly and monthly ones are there. If you don't presently get envelopes and would like to, please contact the office.

Following the Pictou County Council of Churches prayer roster, we are asked to pray for the congregation of Trenton United Church and their minister, Rev. Wade Reppert.

2019 Presbyterian Church in Canada **wall calendars** have arrived! The pictures are beautiful, with pictures of stained-glass windows from across Canada. They are available at the office during regular office hours for \$4.00 each.

There is a survey in the bulletin this week regarding worship that was held in the Upper Hall. Please take the time to fill it out and put it in the collection plate. **YOUR OPINION COUNTS.** Thank you!

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

Dec. 9 - 3 pm - Fly Little White Dove – songs of peace for advent. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church featuring their choir, our choir and various performers. Freewill offering

Dec 9- at 7pm. Carols by Candlelight at St John's Presbyterian Church MacLennan's Mountain. Social Hour to follow. Please join us!!

Dec. 12 - Greg Reid AMS meeting here at 2 pm.

Dec. 17 -20 - Twenty Minutes at the Foot of the Cradle at Second Baptist Church on Washington St from 12:10 – 12:30 pm. Monday is Inner Voice, Tuesday is The Alcorns, Wednesday is Lloyd MacLean & friends and Thursday is Second Baptist Church Choir.

Dec. 17- New Glasgow New Horizons Band Christmas Concert at Christ Anglican Church in Stellarton.

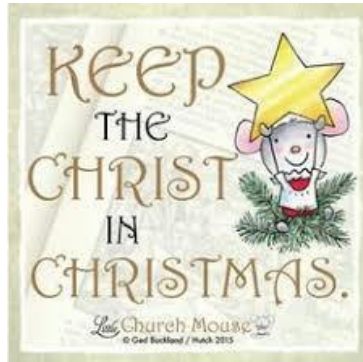


Dec. 16 - Sunday School Christmas performance following the service. There will be a **potluck** downstairs after with **cookie decorating** for the children. **A-J** - please bring sweets (cookies, squares, tarts)

K-Z - please bring casseroles or cold meats.



Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00 pm



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