

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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

Sunday, January 20, 2019

*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.*

Worship begins with the music of the prelude.

Please silence all electronic devices

(* 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** #727 (vs. 1, 6)

Let there be light, let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather, let them be face to face;
let there be light; open our hearts to wonder, perish
the way of terror, hallow the world God made.

**Call to Worship

Leader: No matter how far we wander from you, O God,

People: your steadfast love finds us.

Leader: No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God,

People: your steadfast righteousness sustains us.

Leader: No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,

People: your steadfast presence gives us hope.

Leader: No matter how unloved and uncared for we feel, O God,

People: you hear our cries and answer our prayers.

ALL; Thanks be to God!

****HYMN #290** Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Prayer of Adoration **(unison)** Lord, open our hearts to the surprising ways in which you offer to us your love and your presence. Help us to truly believe in the wondrous ways that you work in our lives. Give us hearts and spirits for service to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

Kyrie (*Strathdee*): Lord have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord have mercy upon us.

Prayer of Confession **(unison)** In humility and out of a desire to be new people, we confess to you, our sins. Lord, how we must try your patience! We often doubt, when we should place our faith in your abiding presence. We think that we have to have all the answers, and judge others who fail to live up to our expectations. We think that we are the one thing that matters most in life. So we place ourselves at the center of our own universe. Forgive us when we show how shallow our faith is. Help us to really understand the miraculous ways in which you have already worked in our lives and will continue to work as we journey in faith. Bring to us the Light of Joy, and let it flood through our whole beings, that we may be transformed into people of joyful service and faith. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

Words of Assurance

****Passing of the Peace:** Let us pass the peace of Christ to all who have entered this house of love!

(On account of the flu season, a gentle elbow, or a nod, will be sufficient)

One person: The peace of Christ with you.

Other person: And also with you!

***Hymn #181** All praise to you, O Lord *(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 (unison) **The psalmist tells us that in God we find the fountain of life. Let us listen for life-giving words.**

Scripture: Responsive Psalm: Psalm 36: 5-10

⁵Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

⁶**Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both people and animals.**

⁷How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

⁸**They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights.**

⁹For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

¹⁰**Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart.**

Old Testament: Isaiah 62: 1-5 pg. 572

The Letters: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11 pg.875

The Gospel: John 2: 1-11 pg. 810

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Anthem His Eye is on the Sparrow *(arr. Donald Moore)*

Sermon **STEADFAST LOVE**
(steadfastunrelentingunfailingpatientbelievinghopingenduringlove)

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 #596** As man and woman we are made

The Offering

****Offertory #798** What gift can we bring (vs. 4)
What gift we now bring, this present, this token,
these words can convey it, the joy of this day!
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
this song we now offer in honour and praise!

****Prayer of dedication**

****Hymn #670** Amazing grace

****Commissioning and Benediction**

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

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: Brent MacQuarrie
MacLean St. Ushers: Robyn & Larry MacLeod
James St. Ushers: Claire & Ralph Foote
Office: Philip Blackwood
Scripture Reader: Sara Fullerton
Refreshments: Jane Williams, Louise Gillis & Sheila Dempster

From now until – Mar. 31- Worship services will be held in the Upper Hall. THANK YOU to the congregation; your input was very helpful and the survey results helped the Worship & Music Team, and subsequently Session make the decision to move worship for the winter months.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tax receipts are available at the back of the sanctuary for a few minutes before and after the service today. They can also be picked up at the office during regular weekly hours. If you want a breakdown for the year to reconcile with your own records, please contact the office. To save paper, only the receipt itself was printed, but it's not a problem if you need to see the entire year's givings.

ATTENTION ALL GROUPS: Please get your year end reports in to the office as soon as you can. You can submit them by email if it's easier. Tentative date for annual meeting is **February 24** and the reports need to be printed by February 10.

UPDATE: At a meeting of Pictou Presbytery in Stellarton on Tuesday morning, the call to Rev Andrew MacDonald was considered and approved. The approval process now moves to Cape Breton for their review and consideration.

THANK YOU to Circle of Friends, who have transferred \$4,500.00 to the church general account.

We express our love and sympathy to Laura Macumber and Doug (& Margie) Guthro on the death of their brother, Clem Guthro. May God gently comfort all who grieve and sustain them with a spirit of peace in faith.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In the case of stormy weather, it is the minister and Session who decide whether or not to cancel church. It will be put on the radio as a cancellation and we will put it on the church voice mail, as early in the morning as we can. Please check these sources if you're not sure.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 27 - Nursing Home Service at 2:30 at High Crest Home, Provost St.

Jan. 27 – 2 pm - Stadacona Band of the RCN at the de Coste Centre in Pictou. Tickets \$22/\$18.50.

Jan. 29 - Finance, Stewardship & Maintenance Team meet at 6 pm.

Jan. 31 – 7 pm - Paint nite at St. George’s Anglican Church. \$45. To register:
<https://www.paintnite.com/events/coming-soon-at-fundraiser-st-georges-anglican-church-10131543>

SPRING 2019

May 6- 17 - PCC is hosting a Middle East Study Tour. Info on the bulletin boards – along with application.

May 6- 17 – PCC is hosting a Palestine/Israel Moment of Truth witness tour. Application form on bulletin board.

June 15-26 – PCC is hosting a Healing & Reconciliation Tour. Application form on the bulletin board.

MORE INFORMATION ON THESE TOURS CAN BE FOUND AT:
presbyterian.ca/experiencemission

May 24-26 – PAYS (Youth) Weekend at Camp Geddie. Open to youth grades 7 and up. More information to follow.

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