

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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

Sunday, March 31, 2019

4th 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

**Introit

****Please rise as the Bible enters** #575 Lead me Lord
Lead me, Lord, lead me in your righteousness
make your way plain before my face,
for it is you, and you, God only,
who makes me dwell in safety.

**Call to Worship

**HYMN #307 God of the sparrow

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Kyrie (*Strathdee*): **#561** - Lord have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance

******Passing of the Peace

One person: The peace of Christ with you.

Other person: And also with you!

*Hymn **#669** And Jesus said, our God is like a shepherd (*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 32

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

² **Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

³ When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

⁸ **I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.**

⁹ Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

¹⁰ **Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.**

¹¹ Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

First Lesson:	Joshua 5: 9-12	pg. 161
Epistle Lesson:	2 Corinthians 5: 16-21	pg. 881
Gospel Lesson:	Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32	pg. 798

Leader: The word of God for the people of God
People: Thanks be to God

Special Music

Sermon *Ambassadors for Christ*

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer:

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 **#242 What wondrous love is this?

The Offering

Offertory **#590 We have this ministry (vs2)

O Christ, the tree of life, our end and our beginning,
we grow to fullest flower when rooted in your love.
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay called to service by your grace,
different cultures, different gifts, the young and old a place.
We have this ministry; God, receive our giving.

**Prayer of dedication

Hymn **#371 Love divine

**Commissioning and Benediction

Sending Forth **#553

May the Lord bless you; may the Lord keep you
may the Lord lift up his face to shine on you.

May the Lord bless you; may the Lord keep you;
may the Lord lift up his face to shine on you.

Minister: Rev. Andrew MacDonald (c) 902-331-0322
Organist: Lloyd MacLean
Office hours: Tues. & Wed. – 10-1; Thurs. & Fri. – 9-12
Rev. MacDonald office hours -Tues. to Fri. 10-2 or by appointment
Website: <http://pccweb.ca/first-newglasgow/>

Carrying the Bible: Larry MacLeod
MacLean St. Ushers: Colette Condon & Gary Baudoux
James St. Ushers: Sara Fullerton & Brent MacQuarrie
Scripture Reader: Norm McComb
Refreshments: Russell MacIntosh & family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity United (next door) is having some work done on their roof. Debris is falling on the alleyway between the two buildings, so we ask that you please be careful of nails and tar that could be tracked into our building.

This is the last Sunday that worship is being held in the upper hall. We will return to the sanctuary for April 7.

Connection newspaper has arrived and is free. There are some at each entryway if you would like one.

From the Organist's Desk: We will soon be moving back in to the sanctuary for worship and please consider why we moved. The Worship & Music Committee made the suggestion after noting that congregational singing is easier and more effective when people are seated closer together. As worshipping followers of Jesus, members of all congregations are encouraged to raise their voices in praise and song. It is a Biblical imperative (eg: Psalm 96: Sing to the Lord a new song...", Psalm 100: "Make a joyful noise...", and more) which is made easier to follow when a congregation sings together. The choir is a group of singers who are willing to spend extra time learning and preparing music that enhances our worship experience, but the primary responsibility of any church choir is to lead and support congregational singing. In other words, the choir is helping to develop a "congregational choir", not just an audience. When that happens, the effects are powerful and lasting. Thanks!

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

April 9 - Finance, Stewardship and Maintenance Team meeting at 6:00 pm.

April 13 - 2:00 pm. **Atlantic Mission Society Spring Rally** will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow. The theme is "Spirit Calling and Free". Guest speaker will be the Rev. Andrew MacDonald, minister of First Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow. Everyone is welcome. Please use the George Street entrance to the lower hall.

May 4 - Marriage Preparation Workshop at First Presbyterian Church in Stellarton. Cost is \$25.00 per couple. To register call 752-5935 or 752-6548. Poster on bulletin board.

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