



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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December 29, 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.

(** 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** #125 People look east vs. 1
People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set
the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is
on the way.

**Call to Worship

**Hymn #148 It came upon a midnight clear

Prayer of Approach

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Passing of the Peace

**Hymn: #161 What child is this?

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 40: 1-5

¹ I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

² **He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

³ He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him.

⁴ **Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.**

⁵ Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

Scripture:	First Lesson: Isaiah 63: 7-9	pg. 573
	Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 2: 10-18	pg. 911
	Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2: 13-23	pg. 738

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

Anthem

Sermon **There and Back**

****Reaffirmation of Faith** Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

** Hymn **#166** Once in Royal David's city

The Offering

** Offertory **#145** 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

Service of Healing and Anointing

This rite can be deeply meaningful and affecting; great care should be taken to ensure that appropriate privacy is kept and that people are comfortable. It will be rewarding and important that ongoing teaching about healing and prayer is done in the congregation so that as many people as possible have a full and sufficiently informed understanding of how the Bible and church understand the practice of healing.

As people are gathered for the laying on of hands, the presider may want to lean close to hear what the individual's specific petition is. Those who take leadership in prayer will find it helpful to spend considerable time reflecting upon the most beneficial way to address certain requests so that the prayers that are offered are pastorally and theologically suitable.

One by one the presider will hear the request for healing and prayer appropriately and privately with the person.

Call

Laying of Hands

As you gather for the laying on of hands, I will lean close to hear what your specific petition is. Then I shall anoint your head with oil and give God's blessing upon you and petition Christ to offer healing and comfort.

