



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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

Sunday, February 2, 2020

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 #64** Be still and know
(verses 1 & 3)

**Call to Worship

Hymn **#467 Praise my soul, the God who crowns you

Prayer of Approach

Kyrie (*Strathdee*): **#336** - Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy;
Lord have mercy upon us.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Passing of the Peace

Hymn **#709 What does the Lord require of you

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

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Responsive Psalm 15 pg. 410

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?

² **The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;**

³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;

⁴ **who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;**

⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

First Lesson: Micah 6: 1-8 pg. 712

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31 pg. 868

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5: 1-12 pg. 739

Leader: The word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Anthem My Lord, What a Morning (*spiritual, arr. Jay Althouse*).

Sermon **My God has become my Strength**

Reaffirmation of Faith **#539 The 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 **#624 Blest are they

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Offering

Offertory **#501 Live in charity
Live in charity and steadfast love;
live in charity: God will dwell with you.

**Prayer of dedication

** Hymn **#730** Oh for a world where everyone

**Commissioning and Benediction

Sending Forth **#264 Sing amen

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|-----------------|---|
| Minister: | Rev. Andrew MacDonald (c) 902-331-0322 |
| Guest Organist: | Joy Shaw |
| 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/ |

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|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Carrying the Bible: | John Zinck |
| MacLean St. Ushers: | Glenn & Chris Hynes |
| James St. Ushers: | Jane & Brock Proudfoot |
| Office Door Usher: | Chet Fleming |
| Scripture Reader: | Sara Fullerton |
| Refreshments: | Robin MacLeod & Evie MacLellan |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEBRUARY:

Happy 80+ birthday to: Marion MacNeil – Feb. 14, Emma Campbell – Feb. 25 and Alvin Sinclair – Feb. 29.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Jessica Fagan – Feb. 13 and Natalie MacDonald – Feb. 4.

Happy 50+ wedding anniversary to Arnold & Georgina MacFarlane.

A reminder: Winter Cancellation Policy at First:

Anytime there is a weather watch or warning of bad weather, First's policy is to call the church office and any cancellation notice will be on the phone voice mail message, posted on ECFM 94.1 and the church FaceBook page.

Income tax receipts are ready for 2019. They are available at the office during office hours. We try to save costs by not mailing them. It's just the total for the year, but if you require a break-down, please contact the office.

Job Opportunity: The Office Administrator will be retiring at the end of July. This position will begin the first of September, with full training and on-going support. If you or anyone you know would be interested, they may contact the office by email, phone or personally to find out more about this part-time position.

A note from the Organist: First, thank you to all of you who remembered me with cards, calls and good thoughts during my time in the hospital and recuperation period. It is great to be back among you to share in the music ministry that our choir brings every week.

This Sunday is the beginning of Black History Month, also known as African Heritage Month, and our anthem this morning is an arrangement of a spiritual, "My Lord, What a Morning". You will have noticed that our Sending Forth piece has some African words in the Xhosa language – Siyakudumisa! Don't be afraid – the choir has gotten pretty good at their Xhosa, so please free to join us as we sing it at the close of then service. Thanks again! Lloyd

From New Glasgow Music Festival: In recognition of the fact that we have had many storms this month meaning that students probably have missed music lessons, the New Glasgow Music Festival has **extended their deadline until February 7th. Entries will be accepted without any late penalty until that date. Take advantage of this opportunity and get your entry in now.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 3 - Catherine Mair AMS meeting at 2pm.

Feb. 11 - Finance, Maintenance & Stewardship Committee will meet at 6:30 pm.

Feb. 21 - Saint Georges Church - Beans and Brown Bread Take Out– cost is \$8.00. Orders can be picked up at the church from 11:30am until 5pm. Please use the back door. Please pre-order by Friday, February 14th at 902–752-4866.

Feb. 23 - **Annual Meeting** following the service. The congregation is asked to bring sandwiches or cookies for the light lunch.

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*

Why go to church?

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I've heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time. The preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time, my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"