

January 15th, 2023
Second Sunday after Epiphany
THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle: (Please rise if you are able)

One: Set our hearts on fire with love for you, O Christ our God
So that in its flame we may love you with all our heart,
With all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength,
And our neighbors as ourselves, so that by keeping your
commandments we may glorify you, the giver of all good gifts.

ALL: O Come Lord, and light our path, show us Your way!

(Light the candle)

One: Let us now prepare our hearts to worship almighty God.

Musical Introit - #24 "I waited, I waited on you Lord"

Call to Worship

Hymn #290 – “Immortal, invisible, God only wise” vs. 1,3,4

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou givest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,

and wither and perish,
but naught changest thee.

- 4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh help us to see
tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in 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.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing the Peace

Hymn #177 – “Christ, whose glory fills the skies”

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till thy inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warms my heart.

3. Visit, then, this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Children's Time

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 49:1-7

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As
it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen, amen.

Gospel Reading: John 1:29-42

Anthem

Sermon: "And then there were two!"

Reaffirmation of Faith – Apostles’ Creed – Please rise

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, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. On the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits at 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

Hymn: #635 - “Brother, sister, let me serve you” vs. 1,3,4,5

- 1 Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

- 4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I’ll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we’ve seen this journey through.

- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Hymn: #740 - "Make me a channel of your peace"

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
- 2 Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, every joy.
- 3 O Spirit, grant that I may ever seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.
- 4 Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all - that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Benediction

Coral Response: Threefold Amen

Recessional

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All are welcome at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you experience the love of God and of this congregation as we worship, celebrate, and serve one another.

Kindness Tree - We received a note of thanks from the Dept. of Community Services for the generosity and kindness of members of First Church who donated to the Kindness Tree. In a particularly difficult year, it is appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, Jan. 15th, Sun., Jan. 22nd and Sun., Jan. 29th – Mark Thibeau will continue the final sessions of Bible Study beginning today. These will take place in the Session Room.

Today – Sharon Mason and Cathy Lewis will host coffee hour after service today. Please join us! If you would be interested in hosting this time of fellowship, please contact either Sharon (902-752-0724) or Cathy (902-759-9649).

Today - There will be a service this afternoon at High Crest Home at 2:30 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 29th – We will celebrate Holy Communion.

Sun., Feb. 26th - **The Annual Meeting** is set for Sun., Feb. 26th following the morning service. Deadline for reports is February 1st.

The 2023 envelopes are ready for pickup on Sunday or from the office.

Pictou County Food Bank – With inflation, increasing costs of fuel to get to work or heat homes, the Food Banks in our region are experiencing a huge increase in numbers of those seeking assistance, in some cases, by as much as 25%. Donations are low. If you are able to contribute, items such as peanut butter, pasta, pasta sauces, canned fish and meats, cereals, personal hygiene and paper products are very useful items. Cash donations allow the food bank to take advantage of sales. All donations welcome.

NOTE: Our supply of paper products and sidewalk salt are getting low. If you can contribute to any of these items, it would be appreciated.

NOTE: As we return to normal routine in the new year, with meetings, practices, or other events, please be reminded to check the calendar to ensure there are no double bookings of church facilities before you book an event.

SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS

Scripture reader: Lynne Ann MacLellan

Ushers: Sheila Fagan

Early Christian Educators: Lynne Ann and Lois MacLellan

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Minister: Rev. Andrew MacDonald (c) 902-331-0322

Organist: Clare Grieves

Office hours: Tues. to Fri. – 10 -1pm

Rev. MacDonald office hours -Tues. to Thurs. 10-2 or by
appointment

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