

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
208 MacLean St., New Glasgow, NS
902-752-5691

First.church@ns.aliantzinc.ca
Reverend Andrew MacDonald
902-331-0322
yick96@hotmail.com

January 8th, 2023
First Sunday after Epiphany
THE APPROACH

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

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

One: I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

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

Call to Worship

Hymn #350 – “To God be the Glory”

- 1 To God be the glory,
who great things has done!
God so loved the world!
-freely sending the Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

CHORUS Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear God’s voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
Oh come to the Father
through Jesus the Son,
and give God the glory,
who great things has done.

- 2 Oh perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood
to every believer the promise of God,
that when the offender, repenting, believes,
through Jesus’ atonement, full pardon receives!
- 3 Great things god has taught us,
great things God has done
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our gladness, when Jesus we see!

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 #400 – “Spirit of the living God”

- 1 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me!
- 2 Spirit of the living God, move among us all;
make us one in heart and mind,
make us one in love;
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

Children's Time

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 42:1-9

Epistle Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

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: Matthew 3:13-17

Anthem

Sermon: “Washed Clean”

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: #183 - “Christ, when for us you were baptized”

- 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God’s spirit on you came,
as peaceful as a dove, and yet
as urgent as a flame.

- 2 God called you the beloved Son,
called you the servant true:
sent you the kingdom to proclaim,
God’s holy will to do.

- 3 Straightway and steadfast until death
you then obeyed the call,
freely as Son of Man to serve
and give your life for all.

- 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
your cross on us be signed,
that likewise in God’s service we
may perfect freedom find.

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Hymn: #115 - “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” vs. 1,2,5

- 1 Hail to the Lord’s Anointed,
great David’s greater Son;

hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captives free,
to take away transgression
and rule in equity.

2 He bring salvation speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
he saves the poor and needy,
and helps the weak be strong;
they sing who once were sighing,
their darkness turned to light,
for they, who once were dying,
are precious in his sight.

5 O'er every foe victorious,
Christ on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever -
that name to us is Love.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today – 12:15 – Session will meet after the service today.

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

The Annual Meeting is fast approaching (date to be announced). Reports can be submitted to the office any time now.

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



We extend birthday greetings to Ralph Foote. Ralph will celebrate his birthday Thursday, Jan. 12th.

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.

VOLUNTEER SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS

Scripture reader: Clarice Campbell

Ushers: David Johnstone and Chet Fleming

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

