

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**208 MacLean St., New Glasgow, NS**

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**Reverend Andrew MacDonald**

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**March 5th, 2023**

**2nd Sunday In Lent**

**THE APPROACH**

**Musical Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

One: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

**ALL: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path!**

(Light the candle)

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

**Musical Introit -** “Jesus, remember me”

**Call to Worship**

**Hymn #332 –** “How great thou art” vs. 1,3,4

1 O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder

consider all the worlds thy hands have made,

I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder;

thy power throughout the universe displayed,

CHORUS:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,

How great thou art! How great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,

How great thou art! How great thou art!

3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,

sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,

that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,

he bled and died to take away my sin.

4 When Christ shall

come with shout of acclamation

and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!

Then I shall bow in humble adoration

and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

**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 #655 –** “Give me oil in my lamp”

1. Give me oil in my lamp; keep me burning;

give me oil in my lamp, I pray.

Give me oil in my lamp; keep me burning:

keep me burning till the break of day.

Refrain:

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the Servant King; sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna, let us sing!

1. Give me joy in my heart; keep me praising;

give me joy in my heart, I pray.

Give me joy in my heart; keep me praising:

keep me praising till the break of day.

1. Give me peace in my heart; keep me loving;

give me peace in my heart, I pray.

Give me peace in my heart; keep me loving;

keep me loving till the break of day.

1. Give me love in my heart, keep me serving;

give me love in my heart, I pray.

Give me love in my heart; keep me serving;

keep me serving till the break of day.

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4

Epistle Lesson:   Romans 4:1-5,13-17

Lenten Insert

**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 3:1-17

**Anthem: “**And the Father will dance**”**

**Sermon:** *“*For God so Loved the World*”*

**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 sitsat 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 #677 –** “My faith looks up to thee” vs. 2-4

2 May thy rich grace impart

strength to my fainting heart;

my zeal inspire;

as thou hast died for me,

oh, may my love to thee

pure, warm and changeless be,

a living fire.

3 While life’s dark maze I tread,

and griefs around me spread,

be thou my guide;

bid darkness turn to day,

wipe sorrow’s tears away,

nor let me ever stray

from thee aside.

4 When ends life’s transient dream,

when death’s cold sullen stream

shall o’er me roll, blest Saviour, then, in love,

fear and distrust remove;

oh bear me safe above,

a ransomed soul.

**Offertory Prayer**

**Prayers of the People**

**Hymn #674 –** “In the bulb there is a flower”

**674 In the bulb there is a flower**

1 In the bulb there is a flower,

in the seed, an apple tree,

in cocoons, a hidden promise:

butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter

there’s a spring that waits to be,

unrevealed until its season,

something God alone can see.

2 There’s a song in every silence,

seeking word and melody;

there’s a dawn in every darkness

bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come our future;

what it holds, a mystery,

unrevealed until its season,

something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning,

in our time, infinity;

in our doubt there is believing,

in our life, eternity,

in our death, a resurrection,

at the last, a victory,

unrevealed until its season,

something God alone can see.

**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**

**Mon., Mar. 6th – 6:30 p.m. –** Board of Managers will meet.

**Sun., Mar. 12th – 12:15 p.m. –** Session will meet after service.

**Mar. 19th** - The Annual Meeting has been re-scheduled for Mar. 19th following the morning service. Light lunch will be provided.

**Sat., Mar. 11th - 10 a.m.** - Ladies: Mark the date on your calendars, and plan to attend “Ladies’ Day Away Retreat” at St. Andrews in Pictou. Using the program Five Questions and a Promise, we’ll blow away the blahs that have lingered after Covid and re-fill our spiritual gas tanks. The day runs from 10:00 a.m. (preceded by coffee time at 9:30), to 3:30. Pack a sandwich for lunch, we’ll supply the beverages and sweets. Cost is $20 and includes a personal workbook. Seating is limited so pre-registration is strongly recommended. Call Chris at 902 485 6818 or email Pat at pfwilson@eastlink.ca

**Mar. 21st – 10:45-1:00 p.m.** – Pictou United Church is hosting a Lunch and Learn at the church hall, 47 James St., Pictou, Tues.,

Mar. 21, 10:45 am - 1 pm (storm date – Mar. 28th). The topic - “The Ever-Changing Role of the Pharmacist in Your Health Care” with guest speaker, local pharmacist, Laura Rowan. Gathering at 10:45 am. Presentation at 11 am. A light soup lunch will be provided. Pre-registration required. Please call Pictou United at 902-485-8081 or email mackayrc20@gmail.com or before March 13th.



Belated birthday wishes are sent to Russell MacIntosh. Russell celebrated his birthday yesterday, March 4th.

We also extend congratulations to Jack and Judy Marshall who will celebrate their 59th wedding anniversary March 7th. Congratulations!

Emma Campbell would like to thank everyone who planned and attended coffee time last Sunday to celebrate her birthday. Thank you everyone!!

**Monthly coffee time** – As we resume some of our regular activities, we will once again host coffee hour the third Sunday of the month. The next date will be **Sun.,** **Mar. 19th**. For anyone who would like to host, please contact Cathy Lewis at 902-759-9649. If you need help setting up the coffee maker or have any questions, contact Cathy.

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS**

**Scripture reader**: Kevin Reid

**Ushers**: Sherry Green and Phillip Blackwood

**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. MacDonaldoffice 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