

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

**902-752-5691**

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**Reverend Andrew MacDonald**

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**March 3rd, 2024**

**3rd Sunday in Lent**

**THE APPROACH**

**\*\* Please Rise \*\***

**Musical Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*\*Lighting the Christ Candle:**  **Please Rise**

**One:** On this third Sunday of Lent, we see Jesus, overturning the tables of the money changers as he drove them out of the temple. **All: We are surprised by his actions.**

**One:** Yet there is much in our lives and the world that needs to be overturned and driven out.

**All: In the name of Jesus, we work to overcome oppression, poverty, and injustice in our local communities and with partners around the world** (Light the candle)

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

Prayers of the People: (The People Respond)

One: Lord

**ALL: Hear the cries of our hearts.**

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

**\*\*Musical Introit - #617 -** “Nothing can trouble”

Nothing can trouble,
nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God shall
never go wanting.
God alone fills us.

**\*\*Call to Worship**

**\*\*Hymn #625 –** “Seek ye first”

1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God

and his righteousness,

and all these things shall be added unto you.

Allelu, alleluia!

2 Ask, and it shall be given unto you;

seek and ye shall find;

knock, and the door shall be open unto you.

Allelu, alleluia!

3 We do not live by bread alone,

but by every word

that proceeds from the mouth of God.

Allelu, alleluia!

**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 #428–** “We love your house, O God”

1. We love your house, O God,

the place where honour dwells;

the joy of your abode

all earthly joy excels.

1. We love the house of prayer,

where you your servants greet,

for you, O Lord, are there,

and with your chosen meet.

1. We love the word of life,

the word that tells of peace,

of comfort in the strife,

and joys that never cease.

1. We love to sing below

of mercies freely given,

but how we long to know

the triumph song of heaven.

1. Lord Jesus, give us grace

on earth to love you more,

in heaven to see your face,

and with your saints adore.

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17

Epistle Lesson:   1 Corinthians 1:18-25

**Responsive Psalm 19**

ONE: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

**ALL: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

ONE: In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**ALL: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.**

ONE: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring for ever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**ALL: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

ONE: Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.

**ALL: Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

**\*\*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 2:13-22

**Anthem:** “Shout Joyfully”

**Sermon:** “Weak and Strong, Foolish and Wise”

**\*\*Reaffirmation of Faith – Apostles’ 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, 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 #176 --** “Songs of thankfulness and praise” vs.1,3,5

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise

Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,

God revealed by guiding star

to the sages from afar,

branch of royal David’s stem,

in your birth at Bethlehem:

anthems be to you addressed,

God in Christ made manifest.

3 God revealed in making whole

weakening limbs and fainting soul,

God revealed in valiant fight

quelling all the devil’s might,

God revealed in gracious will,

ever bringing good from ill,

anthems be to you addressed,

God in Christ made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see you, Lord,

mirrored in your holy word;

may we imitate you still

and obey your perfect will,

that we like to you may be,

at your great Ephipany:

may your glory be confessed,

God in Chist made manifest.

**\*\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings Flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above Ye Heavenly Host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Offertory Prayer**

**Prayers of the People: The People Respond**

**Offertory**

**\*\*Hymn #596 –** “As man and woman were made”

1. As man and woman we are made

that love be found and life begun:

the likeness of the living God,

unique, yet called to live as one.

Praise, praise the love that gives us life,

through joy or sadness, calm or strife.

1. Now Jesus lived and gave his love

to make our life and loving new;

so celebrate with him today

and drink the joy he offers you,

that makes the simple moment shine

and changes water into wine.

1. And Jesus died to live again,

so praise the love that, come what may,

can bring the dawn and clear the skies,

and waits to wipe all tears away,

and let us hope for what shall be,

believing where we cannot see.

1. Then spread the table, clear the hall

and celebrate till day is done;

let peace go deep between us all

and joy be shared by everyone;

laugh and make merry with your friends,

and praise the love that never ends!

**\*\*Benediction**

**Coral Response: Threefold Amen**

**Recessional**

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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

**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.

**PASTORAL CARE:**

In order to provide support to the people of First Church, when you or a loved one is sick or in hospital, we encourage you to contact the church (902-752-5691), Reverend Andrew (902-331-0322) or Cathy Lewis, Chair of the Pastoral Care Team (902-759-9649), to inform us directly. It is also important that you inform the hospital that you would welcome a visit from your minister and/or your Elder.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Today** – Session will meet after service today.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Micheal Fraser and his family on the loss of his mother Carol Fraser.

We also extend sincere sympathies to Jimmie Henderson and his family on the loss of his brother Jack who passed away Feb. 13th at the Dartmouth General at the age of 69.

This week we celebrate the birthdays of:

-Russell MacIntosh Mon., March 4th.

-Nancy Fukes, Sat., March 9th.



Congratulations to Jack and Judy Marshall who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary, Thurs., March 7th.

**Annual Reports Due** – If you have not already done so, please submit your reports for the Annual Report as soon as possible. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Mar. 17th following services.

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Ushers**: Main Door (Office) – Sherry Greene

 James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

 MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Ellen Jardine

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Scripture Reader –** Jennifer Thibeau

**Early Christian Educators**: Lynne Ann and Lois MacLellan

**IMPORTANT NOTICE RE CHURCH CANCELLATION**: If church is cancelled, a notice will be posted on the church voice mail. Notices are submitted to the radio station but **do not** always get posted, therefore are not reliable.