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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

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**Reverend Andrew MacDonald**

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**September 29th, 2024**

**19th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Presbyterian Sharing &**

**Communion Sunday**

**THE APPROACH**

**\*\*Please rise\*\***

**Musical Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

**\*\*Entry of the Bible:**  Please rise

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

**\*\*Call to Worship**

**Introit – 310 –** “Bring many names” vs. 5

5 Young, growing God, eager, on the move,

saying no to falsehood and unkindness,

crying out for justice,

giving all you have:

hail and hosanna,

young, growing God!

**\*\*Hymn #510 –** “Deep in the shadows of the past”

1 Deep in the shadows of the past,

far out from settled lands,

some nomads traveled with their God

across the desert sands.

The dawning hope of humankind

by them was sensed and shown;

a promise calling them ahead

a future yet unknown.

2 While others bowed to changeless gods,

they met a mystery,

invisible, without a name:

“I AM WHAT I WILL BE”;

and by their tents, around their fires,

in story, song and law,

they praised, remembered, handed on

a past that promised more.

3 From Exodus to Pentecost

the promise changed and grew,

while some, remembering the past,

recorded what they knew,

or with their letters and laments,

their prophesy and praise,

recovered, rekindled and expressed

new hope for changing days.

4 For all the writings that survived,

for leaders long ago,

who sifted, copied and preserved

the Bible that we know,

give thanks, and find its story yet

our promise, strength and call,

the model of emerging faith,

alive with hope for all.

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Passing the Peace**

**\*\*Hymn #339 -** “He’s got the whole world in his hands” Traditional Version

1 Who made the earth and the heaven?

- Mighty hands!

Who made the man and the woman?

- Awesome hands!

Who made the tree and the garden?

- Loving hands!

Who’s got the world in mighty hands?

2 Who made the stars and the children?

- Mighty hands!

Who made the stream and the salmon?

- Awesome hands!

Who made the lamb and the lion?

- Loving hands!

Who’s got the world in mighty hands?

3 Who made the swan and the swallow?

- Mighty hands!

Who made the wind and the willow?

- Awesome hands!

Who makes today and tomorrow?

- Loving hands!

Who’s got the world in mighty hands?

4 Who sent the storm and the thunder?

- Mighty hands!

Who sent the flood and the fire?

- Awesome hands!

Who sent the dove and the rainbow?

- Loving hands!

Who’s got the world in mighty hands.

5 Who loves the man and the woman?

- Mighty hands!

Who sent the Lamb and the Lion?

- Awesome hands!

Who makes a new earth and heaven?

- Loving hands!

Who’s got the world in mighty hands?

6 You’ve got the whole world

- Mighty God!

You’ve got the whole world

- Awesome God!

You’ve got the whole world

- Loving God!

You’ve got the whole world in your hands!

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

**Epistle Lesson**: James 5:13-20

**Responsive Psalm** 19:7-14

**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.

**ALL: Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**

**ONE:** 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 Lesson:**  Mark 9:38-50

**Anthem**

**Sermon:** “Are any among you…?”

**\*\*Hymn: #381 –** “Holy Spirit, hear us”

1 Holy Spirit, hear us;  
help us while we sing;  
breathe into the music  
of the praise we bring.

2 Holy Spirit, prompt us  
when we try to pray;  
nearer come, and teach us  
what we ought to say.

3 Holy Spirit, teach us  
through the words we read;  
bring to life the Bible  
with the light we need.

4 Holy Spirit, give us  
each a lively mind;  
make us more like Jesus,  
gracious, pure and kind.

5 Holy Spirit, help us  
daily, by your might,  
what is wrong to conquer,  
and to choose the right.

**Offertory**

**\*\*Doxology #79**

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**

**\*\*Hymn: #627 –** “Not for tongues of heaven’s angels”

1 Not for tongues of heaven’s angels,

not for wisdom to discern,

not for faith that masters mountains,

for this better gift we yearn:

may love ours, O Lord.

2 Love is humble; love is gentle;

love is tender, true and kind;

love is gracious, ever patient,

generous of heart and mind:

may love be ours, O Lord.

3 Never jealous, never selfish,

love will not rejoice in wrong;

never boastful, nor resentful,

love believes and suffers long:

may love be ours, O Lord.

4 In the day this world is fading

faith and hope will play their part,

but when Christ is seen in glory

love shall reign in every heart:

may love be ours, O Lord.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Lord’s Supper**

**The Invitation**

**Communion Hymn** **#538-** “You satisfy the hungry heart” vs. 1-3

*Refrain:*

*You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;*

*come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.*

1. As when the shepherd calls the sheep,

they know and heed that voice,

so when you call your family,

we follow and rejoice. *Refrain*

1. With joyful lips we sing to you

our praise and gratitude,

that you should count us worthy friends

to share this heavenly food. *Refrain*

3. Is not the cup we bless and share

the blood of Christ outpoured?

Do not one cup, one loaf, declare

our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain*

**Affirmation of Faith - 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, 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.

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:** BoP #564

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up you hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayer ending with

*. . . we join with the whole creation*

*to lift our hearts in joyful praise.*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes**

**in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer ending with

*. . . proclaim the mystery of the faith*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Prayer ending with … and the people say

**Amen.**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymn #538-** “You satisfy the hungry heart” vs. 4,5

4. The mystery of your presence here,

no mortal tongue can tell;

whom all the world cannot contain

comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain*

5. In gracious love you give yourself;

then selfless let us be,

to serve each other in your name

in truth and charity. *Refrain*

**\*\*Benediction** - Go Now in Peace (Don Besig)

Go now in peace Never be afraid

God will go with you each hour of every day

Go now in faith Steadfast, strong, and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, And show you believe

Reach out to others So all the world can see.

God will be there Watching from above

Go now in peace, In faith, and in love

Amen, amen, 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.

**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 –** Please join us after service today, for our **“**Thanking Party” in honour of Ella Russell and the Circle of Friends for their years of dedication to First Church.

**Mon. Oct. 7th – 6:30 p.m. –** The Board of Managers will meet.

**Tues. Oct. 8th – 6:30 p.m. –** Session will meet.

**If you missed it –** Rev. Grant Johnston is leading a study groupTuesdays from 7:00-8:30p.m. called “An Introduction to the Bible: A Study on Paul’s Letters to the Corinthians”. Offered at First Presbyterian Church, Stellarton,  (a second group to meet on Wednesday evenings at another location), these sessions are for those who would like a better understanding of these important letters.  If there is enough interest, an afternoon class on Tuesdays or Wednesdays might be possible. For more information or to register, contact Rev. Grant Johnston, Course Leader: [grant.johnston@live.com](mailto:grant.johnston@live.com), or call or text: (905) 867-1914. Participants will receive a complimentary copy of the New Testament, Good News version.

**RESERVE THE DATE** - Sun., Dec. 1st - 3pm. - Middle River Church, Rocklin will be holding an Old Fashion Christmas Concert, lots of old time Christmas carols and songs.  More info to follow ....

**Wed. and Fri. mornings – 10:30-11:30 a.m. -** Chair Yoga is being offered at First Church, in the Upper Hall. For more information contact Monica Beltram at [info@monicafit.ca](mailto:info@monicafit.ca)

This week we extend our best wishes to Betty MacDonald; Betty will celebrate her birthday Wed., Oct. 2nd. Happy Birthday Betty!

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Reader:** Mark Thibeau

**Ushers**: Main Door (Office) - David Johnstone

James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Ellen Jardine

**EARLY CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS**: Lynne Ann and Lois MacLellan