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**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**

**April 27th, 2025**

**Mission Awareness 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

**Introit – #252** - “He is Lord”

He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

**\*\*Call to Worship**

**\*\*Hymn #260 –** “Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord”

REFRAIN Alleluia, alleluia

Give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia, alleluia

give praise to his name.

1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth;

he is the King of creation:

2 Spread the good news o’er all the earth;

Jesus has died and has risen:

3 We have been crucified with Christ;

now we shall live forever:

4 Come, let us praise the living God,

joyfully sing to our Saviour:

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

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**

**\*\*Childrens’ Hymn –** “Hey now! Singing Halleluia”

Jesus loved people, he made them friends

Hey now! The tomb was empty

He called to the children, women and men

Hey now! The tomb was empty

Refrain

Hey now! Singing Halleluia

Hey now! The morning has come

Hey now! Singing Halleluia

The tomb was empty at the risen sun

Jesus healed people and he helped them be well

Hey now! The tomb was empty

He taught about God with the stories he’d tell

Hey now! The tomb was empty

Refrain

Jesus loves people and he lives again

Hey now! The tomb was empty

He calls us disciples and he calls us his friends

Hey now! The tomb was empty

Refrain

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Acts 5:27-32

**Epistle Lesson**: Revelation 1:4-8

**Responsive Psalm** **150**

**ONE:** Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

**ALL: Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.**

**ONE:** Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

**ALL: Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.**

**ONE:** Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

**ALL: Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.**

**\*\*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:**  John 20:19-31

**Anthem –** “Jesus you have come to the Lakeshore”

**Sermon:** ""Faithful Witness!"

**\*\*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 #267** - “Rejoice, the Lord is King”

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King,

your sovereign Lord adore;

give thanks, O mortals, sing

and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice;

rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

2 For Christ the Saviour reigns,

the God of truth and love;

when Jesus purged our stains,

he took his seat above.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice;

rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

3 His reign can never fail;

he rules o’er earth and heaven:

the keys of death and hell

are to our Saviour given.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice;

rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

4 He sits at God’s right hand

till all his foes submit

and bow to his command

and fall beneath his feet.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice,

rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

5 Rejoice in glorious hope,

for Christ the Judge shall come

and take the faithful up

to their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel’s voice;

rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

**Offertory**

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

ONE: We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**ALL: Your steadfast love endures forever.**

**\*\*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**

**\*\*Hymn - #255** – “Now let the vault of heaven resound”

1 Now let the vault of heaven resound

in praise of love that doth abound,

Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah;

sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear;

repeat their song of glory here,

Christ hath triumphed, Christ hath triumphed!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings;

wherefore our heart with rapture sings,

Christ hath triumphed, Jesus liveth!

Now doth he come and give us life;

now doth his presence still all strife

through his triumph; Jesus reigneth!

3 Oh fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;

set heart and will on things above,

that we conquer through thy triumph;

grant grace sufficient for life’s day,

that by our life we ever say,

Christ hath triumphed, and he liveth!

4 Adoring praises now we bring,

and with the heavenly blessed sing,

Christ hath triumphed, hallelujah!

Be to the Father and our Lord,

to Spirit blest, most holy God,

thine the glory never ending!

**\*\*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**

**Meetings:**

* **Today- 3:00p.m.** – The Worship & Music team are hosting their 3rd bi-annual Hymn Sing this afternoon at 3:00p.m. A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow. Please join us if you can.
* **Thurs., May 1st, 6:30p.m. –** The Worship & Music Team will meet.
* **Sun., May 4th – 7:00p.m**. – St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Westville, is hosting an “Evening of Music. Music by the Cheery Chimes, New Glasgow First Presbyterian Church Choir, Brass United Quintet and other special music.
* **A reading of the “Gospel of Mark”** will be held over five Friday nights at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church (The Kirk), 37 Mountain Rd, New Glasgow, **beginning Friday, May 2nd, 6:00 p.m. E**ach night selected passages will be read, plus “fun to sing songs” and favorite hymns. The five-night series is for all ages and starts with pizza being served in the Fellowship Hall. “Readings” will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. An offering to support the ministry of St. Andrew’s P.C. will be received. For the pizza, please RSVP by calling or texting: Rev. Grant Johnston, (905 867-1914), or email: grant.johnston@live.com.
* **May 8-10 inclusive, 7:00 p.m.** – Shaun McLean and friends are hosting their annual “Mother’s Day/Spring Show” at Shaun’s Place, 135 Provost St., New Glasgow. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Cost - $40/person. For tickets, call Shaun at 902-921-0400 or email: shaunnovascotia@hotmail.com

**Camp Geddie – “Geddie Prayer Partners”**

* We have received a request from Helena Human, Executive Director of Camp Geddie, requesting our assistance in writing cards to the staff of Camp Geddie again this summer. The names and positions of the staff will be provided by Helena. The request is to have 2 cards for staff training (one each weekend), then 8 cards for each camp and a final letter at the end of the summer. They do not need to be written all at once but can be written throughout the summer to make it easier. As most of us know, there’s nothing nicer than receiving a card or letter when you’re away from home. If this is something you would consider, please contact Rev. Andrew or Jane so we can pass it on to Helena.

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Reader:** Mark Thibeau

**Ushers**: Main Door (Office) – Chet Fleming

 James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

 MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Ellen Jardine

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