

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

**902-752-5691**

**First.church@ns.aliantzinc.ca**

**Reverend Andrew MacDonald**

**902-331-0322**

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 **May 11th, 2025**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Christian Family Sunday**

**Mother’s Day**

**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 – #257** - “The strife is o’er, the battle done” vs.2

Antiphon:

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

1. Death’s mightiest powers have done their worst,

but Christ their legions has dispersed:

let shouts of praise and joy outburst. Hallelujah!

**\*\*Call to Worship**

**\*\*Hymn #434 –** “For the beauty of the earth” vs.1,3,5

1 For the beauty of the earth,

for the beauty of the skies,

for the love which from our birth

over and around us lies,

Lord of all, to thee we raise

this our sacrifice of praise.

3 For the joy of ear and eye,

for the heart and mind’s delight,

for the mystic harmony

linking sense to sound and sight,

Lord of all, to thee we raise

this our sacrifice of praise.

5 For each perfect gift of thine,

to the earth so freely given,

graces human and divine,

flowers of earth and buds of heaven,

Lord of all, to thee we raise

this our sacrifice of praise.

**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 - #11 –** “The Lord’s my shepherd” vs.1,3,5

1 The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want,

He makes me down to lie

in pastures green; He leadeth me

the quiet waters by.

3 Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,

yet will I fear none ill,

for thou art with me, and thy rod

and staff me comfort still.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life

shall surely follow me

and in God’s house forevermore

my dwelling place shall be.

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Acts 9:36-43 - p.839

**Epistle Lesson**: Revelation 7:9-17 - p.936

**Responsive Psalm** **23**

**ONE:** The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

**ALL: He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.**

**ONE:** Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me.

**ALL: Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

**ONE:** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**ALL: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**\*\*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 10:22-30 – p.819

**Anthem –** “Why does He love me so”

**Sermon:** "The Shepherd's voice is HERD!"

**\*\*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 #635** - “Brother, sister, let me serve you”

1 Brother, sister, let me serve you;

let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace

to let you be my servant too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey,

and companions on the road;

we are here to help each other

walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you

in the night-time of your fear;

I will hold my hand out to you,

speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping;

when you laugh I’ll laugh with you;

I will share your joy and sorrow,

till we’ve seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,

we shall find such harmony,

born of all we’ve known together

of Christ’s love and agony.

6 Brother, sister, let me serve you;

let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my servant too.

**Offertory**

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

ONE: Lord, in your mercy.

**ALL: Hear our prayer.**

**\*\*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 - #691** – “My shepherd is the King of love!”

1 My shepherd is the King of love

whose goodness fails me never;

for all things good from God above

restore my soul forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow,

my ransomed soul is guided,

and where the verdant pastures grow

with heavenly food provided.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,

but yet in love you sought me,

and on your shoulder gently laid,

and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill,

with you, dear Lord, beside me;

your rod and staff my comfort still,

your cross before to guide me.

5 You spread a table in my sight,

anointing grace bestowing,

and, oh, what rapture of delight:

your cup is overflowing.

6 And so through all the length of days

your goodness fails me never;

Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise

within your house forever!

**\*\*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**

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**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:**

**Tues., May 13th – 6:30p.m. –** Session will meet.

**Sun., May 18th** **- 6:00 p.m.**  **–** Beginning Sun., May 18th and every Sunday following, “Downtown Ministries”, 208 MacLean St., presents “A Contemporary Service of Prayer, Meditation, Fellowship and Music!”. For more information contact Rev. Andrew. Everyone welcome.

**Sun., May 18th – 3:00 p.m.** - Zion Presbyterian Church, East River St. Mary’s, is hosting their “150th Anniversary Service of Story and Song”. Please join us for a service of song and stories followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments.

**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, and begins Friday, May 2nd, 6:00 p.m. Each 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 more information, call or text: Rev. Grant Johnston, (905 867-1914), or email: grant.johnston@live.com.

**\*\* Please Note – All announcements for the bulletin must be received by Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.**

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Reader:** Sharon Mason

**Ushers**: Main Door (Office) – Ian Semple

 James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

 MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Ellen Jardine

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