

**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**

 **May 18th, 2025**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**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 –** “People Pray” B. Harding



**\*\*Call to Worship**

**\*\*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!

**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 - #700 –** “Praise our Maker, peoples of one family”

1. Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:

 God is love, God is love!

 Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:

 God is love, God is love!

1. Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:

 God is love, God is love!

 Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:

 God is love, God is love!

1. Care for others, children of the Spirit:

 God is love, God is love!

 Care for others, children of the Spirit:

 God is love, God is love!

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Acts 11:1-18 Page 840

**Epistle Lesson**: Revelation 21:1-6 Page 944

**Responsive Psalm** **148**

**ONE:** Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

**ALL: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!**

**ONE:** Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

**ALL: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

**ONE:** Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

**ALL: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

**ONE:** Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

**ALL: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise 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 13:31-35 Page 823

**Anthem**

**Sermon:** "Love one another...ALWAYS!"

**\*\*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 #763** - “To show by touch and word”

1. To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,

 to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth

 we need, O God, the will to find the good you had of old in mind.

1. Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,

 our hearts to long for truth till pride-of-self is lost.

 For every challenge that we face, we need your guidance and your grace.

1. Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule and norm,

 and let our lives portray your word in human form.

 Now come with us that we may have your wits about us where we live.

**Offertory**

**Prayers of the People**

**\*\*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 - #639** – “We are marching/Siyahamba

We are marching in the light of God;
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God;
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, marching,
we are marching, oooo,
we are marching in the light of (the light of) God.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, oooo,
we are marching in the light of God.

**\*\*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.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Margie Fraser, Cathy Lewis and family on the loss of their beloved son and brother, Robert. Bobby passed away May 11th.

**UPCOMING FIRST CHURCH EVENTS**

**Meetings:** There are no meetings scheduled this week.

**Coffee time:** We will have a time of fellowship after service today hosted by Marilyn and Louise.

**Tonight, Sun., May 18th** **- 6:00 p.m.**  **–** Beginning this evening 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.

**Wed., June 4th, 5:00 p.m.** – The Ladies of First Church are gathering at East Ave. Restaurant for a delicious meal, friendship, idle chat and laughs! If you would like to attend, please contact Marilyn (902-922-2859) so she can reserve seats for all. Everyone welcome!

**Happy Birthday Hendricka!!**

Tomorrow, May 19th, Hendrika VanVeld will celebrate her birthday. We wish her a day full of love and send her our best wishes!

**EVENTS YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN …**

**Today – 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.

**May 23-25** - The Spring “PAYS” retreat is being held next weekend at Camp Geddie. The cost is 30$/person and includes all meals, snacks, and accommodations. The theme is “May we Mission” and will be focusing on how we can be faithful servants in our everyday lives and in the world. The retreat is open to any youth grade 7+. To register, follow this link <https://forms.gle/ABnGKYgGQvfUYaW19>. Registration deadline is Tues., May 20. If you have any questions, please contact Helena, Youth Consultant- Synod of Atlantic Provinces & Executive Director of Camp Geddie - 506-850-3890.

**Sat. May 24th 10 a.m.-3 p.m.** – “Senior’s Pathway to Wellness Fair” -

Westville Town Hall Auditorium, 2042 Queen St. - Admission - free. This is about connecting you with who, what and how to access services for a healthier, more fulfilling life.

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

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Reader:** Jennifer Thibeau

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

 James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

 MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Sherry Green

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