

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

**902-752-5691**

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**Reverend Andrew MacDonald**

**902-331-0322**

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 **May 4th, 2025**

**Third 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 – #257** - “The strife is o’er, the battle done” vs.1

Antiphon:

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

1. The strife is o’er, the battle done;

the victory of life is won;

the song of triumph has begun. Hallelujah!

**\*\*Call to Worship**

**\*\*Hymn #256 –** “Now the green blade rises”

1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,

wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;

love lives again, that with the dead has been:

love is come again like wheat new-springing green.

2. In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain

sure that he would never, never wake again,

laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:

love is come again like wheat new-springing green.

3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,

he that for these three days in the grave had lain;

raised from the dead my living Lord is seen,

love is come again like wheat new-springing green.

4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,

then your touch can call us back to life again,

fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come again like wheat new-springing green.

**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 –** “This little light of mine”

1. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let is shine (x3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

1. Everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine (x3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

1. Under a bushel, Oh no! I’m gonna let it shine (x3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

1. Jesus gave it to me, I’m gonna let it shine (x3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Acts 9:1-6  Page 383

**Epistle Lesson**: Revelation 5:11-14 Page 936

**Responsive Psalm** **30**

**ONE:** I will extol thee, O Lord; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

**ALL: Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.**

**ONE:** Lord, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, and I was troubled.
I cried to thee, O Lord; and unto the Lord I made supplication.

**ALL: What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?**

**ONE:** Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me: Lord, be thou my helper. Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness

**ALL: To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.**

**\*\*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 21:1-19 page 829

**Anthem –** “Awesome God” – Rick Mullins

**Sermon:** " All will be revealed!"

**\*\*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 #16** - “I worship you, O God” vs.1,3,4

1. I worship you, O Lord, for you have raised me up;

I cried to you for help, and you restored my life,

You brought me back from death and saved me from the grave.

1. Sing praises to the Lord, all those who know God’s name,

whose holy wrath is brief, whose favour knows no end.

Though tears may flow at night, the morning brings new joy.

1. I said, “I am so strong, I never shall be moved.”

but you, Lord, shook my life – my heart was in distress.

I cried to you for help and pleaded for your grace.

1. My mourning you have turned to dancing and to joy;

my sadness you dispelled as gladness filled my soul

and so I’ll sing your praise, my God, through all my days.

**Offertory**

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

**ONE:** In your great mercy,

**ALL: Hear our prayers.**

**\*\*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 - #757** – “Come sing, O church, in joy!”

 1 Come sing, O church, in joy!

Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us

through the ages long!

In bold accord,

come celebrate the journey now

and praise the Lord!

2 Long years have come and gone,

and still God reigns supreme,

empowering us to catch the vision,

dream the dream!

In bold accord,

come celebrate the journey now

and praise the Lord!

3 Let courage be our friend,

let wisdom be our guide,

as we in mission magnify the Crucified!

In bold accord

come celebrate the journey now

and praise the Lord!

4 Come sing, O church, in joy!

Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has triumphed

O’er the ages long!

In bold accord,

come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

**\*\*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.

A memorial donation has been received in loving memory of Vi Hatt from Phoebe Fraser.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Meetings:**

* **Today – 2:30 p.m.-** We will worship with the residents of High Crest Place (old Norfolk Hotel) this afternoon. Everyone welcome.
* **This evening – 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.
* **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
* **Sat., May 10th – 10-noon** – First Church, Pictou, is hosting their “Spring Geranium Coffee Party”. There’ll be a pantry table, crafts, ‘new to you’, book table and a delicious brunch. Admission - $10.00

**Happy Birthday Edna!!**

Today we extend our best wishes to Edna Fraser who will celebrate her birthday, Fri., May 9th.

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Reader:** Kevin Reid

**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