

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS
April 18th, 2021
3rd Sunday of Easter



Mission Statement

To share the gospel of Jesus Christ with our community in our worship and our living.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to be a local community of believers where:

Jesus Christ is the head.

The Bible has the ultimate authority as the true, infallible and complete word of God.

Salvation through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and belief in His finished work on the cross is preached.

The Gospel of Christ is spread in our community, our nation, and around the world in both word and action.

Believers encourage each other and hold others in higher regard than themselves so that each may use the gifts God has given him/her to the glory of God.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude Piano & Clarinet Ethan Walter & Peter MacDonald

Call to Worship

Prayer of Adoration & Confession (The Lord's Prayer)

Moment of Reflection

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson

Acts 3:12-19

12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? 13 The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. 14 You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. 15 You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. 16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. 17 "Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. 18 But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 How long will you people turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?

3 Know that the Lord has set apart his faithful servant for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

4 Tremble and do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.

5 Offer the sacrifices of the righteous and trust in the Lord.

6 Many, Lord, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?" Let the light of your face shine on us.

7 Fill my heart with joy when their grain and new wine abound.

8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

N. T. Epistle Lesson

1 John 3:1-7

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. 4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. 5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. 6 No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. 7 Dear children, do not

let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

N.T. Gospel Lesson Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." 40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence. 44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.

Minuet and Trio Paul Harvey

Sermon

It's "I am"

Moment of Reflection

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Benediction & Postlude

Announcements

- We welcome everyone to the Service of worship.
- We welcome Ethan Walter this morning who will be playing during the service
- The readers today are Carol Ferguson and Gwen Shepard

Next Sunday

The Service next Sunday will be conducted by members of the John Geddie AMS Group

Session Meeting

The Session will meet on Tuesday, April 27th at 7:30pm in the sanctuary.

Mission Moments - Equipping Farmers to Thrive

Andrew and Flora successfully grow rice, cassava, maize and groundnuts on their two acres of farmland in Malawi as a result of adopting conservation agriculture practices to help their farm flourish and better cope with droughts. Last year, Andrew and Flora attended Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported training to learn how to rotate crops and protect the soil. In addition to conservation agriculture workshops, they also attended gender training where they learned the importance of working together. With these tools, Andrew and Flora now enjoy the rewards of conservation agriculture.

Prayer Partnership

Sunday, April 18 We give thanks for the farmers of our country who work so hard to grow and provide us with the bountiful fresh produce we are able to enjoy at this time of the year.

Monday, April 19 We give thanks for camp committees, staff and leaders who have nurtured our faith and enlivened the church and pray that camping ministries continue to flourish in the PCC.

Tuesday, April 20 We give thanks for music and the choir congregations.

Wednesday, April 21 We pray for the members of the Committee on Education and Reception as they meet this week with the candidates and ministers who have applied to be received into The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Thursday, April 22 (Earth Day) We give thanks for the earth and all creation and pray for the courage to make hard changes that will protect and preserve the earth's ecological systems so that all creation may thrive.

Friday, April 23 We pray for the staff at Action Réfugiés Montréal as they provide hope and assistance to asylum-seekers and refugee people in Canada.

Saturday, April 24 We pray for PCC mission partners who are facing so many new challenges and striving to find safe and economical ways to respond to so many enduring needs.