

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS
Sunday, July 18th, 2021
8th Sunday after Pentecost



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

Call to Worship

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

Organ: The Lord's my shepherd

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

2 Samuel 7: 1-14a NIV

After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." ³Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying: ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸"Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰And I will provide a place for my

people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders^[a] over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. 'The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: ¹²When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands.

Psalm 89: 20-37 NIV

I have found David my servant; with my sacred oil I have anointed him.

²¹ My hand will sustain him; surely my arm will strengthen him.

²² The enemy will not get the better of him; the wicked will not oppress him.

²³ I will crush his foes before him and strike down his adversaries.

²⁴ My faithful love will be with him, and through my name his horn will be exalted.

²⁵ I will set his hand over the sea, his right hand over the rivers.

²⁶ He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'

²⁷ And I will appoint him to be my firstborn, the most exalted of the kings of the earth.

²⁸ I will maintain my love to him forever, and my covenant with him will never fail.

²⁹ **I will establish his line forever, his throne as long as the heavens endure.**

³⁰ “If his sons forsake my law and do not follow my statutes,

³¹ **if they violate my decrees and fail to keep my commands,**

³² I will punish their sin with the rod, their iniquity with flogging;

³³ **but I will not take my love from him, nor will I ever betray my faithfulness.**

³⁴ I will not violate my covenant or alter what my lips have uttered.

³⁵ **Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness— and I will not lie to David—**

³⁶ that his line will continue forever and his throne endure before me like the sun;

³⁷ **it will be established forever like the moon, the faithful witness in the sky.”**

Ephesians 2: 11-22 NIV

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)— ¹²remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵by setting aside in his flesh the law with its

commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56 NIV

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹ Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." ³² So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. ³³ But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. ⁵³ When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. ⁵⁴ As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. ⁵⁵ They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he went—into

villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

Organ: **How sweet the sound of Jesus sounds**

Sermon **“Lord, touch me”**

Soloist: **’Til the storm passes by Walter Letcher**
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OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Benediction

Postlude

Announcements

We welcome everyone to this service this morning. We are thankful this week that we have entered stage three and now are able to have up to 150 people in church.

The readers today are George Jessen and Dennis MacIntyre

To the Benevolent Fund

- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Kevin & Joan Richardson
- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Catherine & David Sneddon
- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Joan & Gary Grant

- In memory of Jean MacQueen by Alan & Brenda Skinner
- In memory of Jean MacQueen & Margaret Morrison by Catherine McCharles

To the Current Fund

- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Linda & Ivan Henderson
- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Roy & Nancy MacDonald
- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Iylah MacLeod
- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Geraldine MacLeod
- In memory of Jean MacQueen from Mervyn MacLeod

Mission Moment – Camping from Home

For many children, Camp Douglas in British Columbia is their safe space away from home. These young campers have little to no connection with a congregation or other Christian community outside of camp. They come each summer with a hunger for God and a desire to reunite with the loving Christian community they experienced in past summers. Last year, Camp Douglas staff adapted the camp's programming using an online platform that enabled their important ministry to continue throughout the summer. Staff ran weekly Bible studies and campfires, as well as other traditional camp activities that could be done at home. Camp Douglas was able to provide this wonderful experience in part through regional resourcing grants, supported by Presbyterians Sharing.

Prayer Partnership

Sunday, July 18 We pray that young people will find rewarding opportunities to learn and grow this summer.

Monday, July 19 We pray for the ministry, staff and campers at Camp Christopher in Saskatchewan, and ask for God's blessing on their "Camp-in-a-Box" initiative, so that they may reach their goal of providing 400 children with games, crafts and activities.

Tuesday, July 20 We pray for new graduates of Zomba Theological College in Malawi as they begin their journey in congregational ministry, equipped with books from the PCC's New Ministers' Library Fund.

Wednesday, July 21 We give thanks for the work of the Rainbow Communion Listening Committee and for those who shared their stories. We pray that the wisdom shared in their report will guide the church to better love and support our LGBTQI+ siblings.

Thursday, July 22 We pray for the Presbytery of Pictou's Ministry and Pastoral Oversight Committee. May they feel a strong sense of God's presence to strengthen, focus and lead their discernment.

Friday, July 23 We give thanks and pray for deployed military chaplains who bring life, hope and joy to those who are far from home.

Saturday, July 24 We give thanks and pray for deployed military chaplains who bring life, hope and joy to those who are far from home.