

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS
Sunday, April 3rd, 2022
Fifth Sunday in Lent



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)

Hymn #414 God reveal your presence

God, reveal your presence: gladly we adore you, and with awe appear before you. Holy is your temple: all within keep silence, humbly bow with deepest reverence. You alone now we own, as our God and Saviour: praise your name forever!

In God's holy presence: hear the harps resounding; see the crowds the throne surrounding; "Holy, holy, holy!" hear the hymn ascending, angels, saints, their voices blending. Turn your ear to us here; hear, O Christ, the praises that your church now raises.

Fountain of all blessing, purify my spirit; all my trust is in your merit. Like the holy angels on your glory gazing, we adore, hosannas raising. Let your will ever still rule your church terrestrial, as the hosts celestial.

Lent Liturgy # 5

One: During Lent, we remember that God is revealed in surprising ways and at unexpected times.

All: All things are under the sovereign care of God's goodness.

One: None of us ever imagines that God goes to such lengths to show us the height, depth and breadth of God's love.

All: Christ was even willing to give up his life for us.

One: Let us pray.

All: Surprising God, you constantly come to us in ways that surprise us and redeem all things.

Help us to recognize your guiding and comforting presence as we seek to follow you in our journey to understand the meaning of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament

Isaiah 43:16-21 NIV

¹⁶This is what the LORD says—he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, ¹⁷who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: ¹⁸“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. ¹⁹See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs

up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. ²⁰The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, ²¹ the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

Responsive Lesson Psalm 126 NIV

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.

²Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

⁴Restore our fortunes, LORD, like streams in the Negev.

⁵Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

N.T. Epistle Lesson Philippians 3:4b-14 NIV

⁴though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put

confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. ⁷But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

N. T. Gospel Lesson John 12:1-8 NIV

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵"Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

Hymn # 682 Just as I am, without one plea

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee I find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am. They love unknown
has broken barrier down
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come, I

Sermon Love exhibited

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Special Music Ben Furey

Offering & Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Hymn # 670**Amazing grace**

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me:
His word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

What thanks I owe you, and what love
a boundless, endless store
shall echo through the realms above
when time shall be no more.

When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than
when we'd first begun.

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Benediction

Postlude

Announcements

We welcome everyone to this service of praise this morning. Reading this morning are Larry Victory and Gwen Shepherd.

To Camp MacLeod

In memory of Dr. Cheryl Conrod, wife of Scott MacLean, from John Clarke

Friday, April 8th 11-1 and 4-6 - Strawberry

Shortcake Takeout

St. Paul 's Presbyterian Church, Brookside St., GB
Reserve tickets (\$8) **by tomorrow April 4**. Call 902
849 2479 or 902 737 2529.

Sunday School Easter Memorial

On Easter Sunday the Sunday School will be placing brightly colored Easter eggs in a basket in memory of loved ones at the front of the Church. Money raised will be going to the Church. The names of those being remembered will also be read in Church and printed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. To purchase a memorial egg please put the names of those being remembered, and by whom, along with \$5.00 per name and your envelope number or

address for a receipt. Please mark on envelope "Sunday School Easter Memorial". **Please have these in by the end of this week.**

Mission Moment

Amerika Tharu is a 52-year-old carpenter from Nepal. In early 2020, he developed a fever, and his face began swelling. Amerika sought help at two different hospitals, where he was misdiagnosed and underwent expensive treatment that didn't address the problem. His poor health affected every area of his life, including his career. Eventually, his son brought him to see a doctor who suspected that Amerika might have leprosy and sent him to the Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported Shining Hospital. The hospital's medical staff confirmed the diagnosis, and **Amerika received the treatment he needed, allowing him to return home and resume his livelihood.**

Prayer Partnership

Sunday, April 3 (Fifth Sunday in Lent) We pray for the medical staff at the Shining Hospital in Nepal as they treat illnesses with support from the church through Presbyterian World Service & Development.

Monday, April 4 We pray for the ministry of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fredericton, New

Brunswick, as the congregation seeks new ways of reaching out to their neighbours.

Tuesday, April 5 We pray for congregations that have or are seeking Interim/Transitional Ministry and give thanks for those working as interim ministers.

Wednesday, April 6 We give thanks for those who work and volunteer with food banks.

Thursday, April 7 We give thanks and pray for community health workers who help to ensure the people they work with stay healthy and have access to medical attention when needed.

Friday, April 8 We pray for the people who gather and serve at the house churches in the Cariboo region of British Columbia, and we give thanks for their mission and ministry.

Saturday, April 9 We pray for the members and work of the Life and Mission Agency Committee.