

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS
Sunday, December 11th, 2022
Third Sunday in Advent



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

Announcements

Call to Worship

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

Hymn # 129 Prepare the way, O Zion

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Genesis 6:9-22

Responsive Psalm 15

Lighting of the Third Candle of Advent: The Candle of Joy

(Lighting Litany led by Arun Daniel Ravindran,

Annie Rebecca Arun Daniel and Kevin Jori Arun Daniel)

Hymn # 119 Hope is a star (vs. 1, 2, 3)

N.T. Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

N. T. Gospel Lesson Matthew 24:36-44

Special Music Sounds of Advent

Veni Emmanuel and Picardy/arr. by Lee Dengler

Message Are you ready for Christmas?

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Hymn #153 Joy to the world

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Offering & Doxology

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Hymn #141 Good Christians, all rejoice

Closing Prayer and Choral Amen

Announcements

We welcome everyone to this service of praise this Sunday. Leading the service this morning is Gary Grant. Reading are Ben Furey and Gwen Shepard.

Reading next week are Bradley Gillespie and Richard Dulvy.

Thursday, Dec. 15th This month's meeting of the John Geddie AMS will be held at the home of Susan Jessen at 2:00 pm.

Winter is approaching and winter storms may make it necessary to cancel Sunday Services for safety reasons. If the Sunday morning weather is inclement, and you wonder if the Service is cancelled please call the Church Office phone number, 902 562-3740 and check the voicemail. If the service is cancelled, there will be a notice of the cancellation on the voicemail by 9:00 AM. You may also check the Church website at bethelpresbyterianchurch.ca in the Messages section.

MINISTERIAL ASSISTANCE:

Should you require the assistance of a minister, please contact the Church Office and leave a message or contact Charles Greaves, Clerk of Session, and arrangements will be made for you.

COVID 19 Protocol:

Just a reminder that because of the continued concern regarding COVID, the Session has agreed that masks be worn when entering and leaving the place of Worship. Worshipers may remove masks once seated if they wish but are encouraged to continue to wear masks while seated because of the reduced spacing offered in the hall seating arrangement.

Mission Moment

In Nepal, 70-year-old Dhani Gharti found a boil on the sole of her foot. When she sought treatment, Dhani received a diagnosis of leprosy. Despite taking medication for a year, Dhani's wound kept coming back. One day, Dhani's friend told her about the Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported Shining Hospital, a Christian hospital run by the International Nepal Fellowship, where she thought Dhani could get more successful treatment. **"Every time I visit the Shining Hospital with my wounded foot, the nurses always welcome me and give the best medical care.** They always show love and care while dressing my wounds," shared Dhani.

Prayer Calendar

Sunday, December 11 (Third Sunday of Advent) Give us joy, O God, as we prepare to welcome Christ among us again.

Monday, December 12 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.

Tuesday, December 13 We pray for chaplains serving in hospitals, retirement homes and other health-care facilities across Canada.

Wednesday, December 14 We pray for Indigenous women in Guatemala as they learn their rights and are empowered to exercise them with support from the church through Presbyterian World Service & Development.

Thursday, December 15 We pray for the members and work of the Atlantic Mission Society.

Friday, December 16 We pray for those struggling with spiritual and mental health during the holidays. May they reach out for help and find faithful and supportive spiritual care providers.

Saturday, December 17 O God, you are the giver of life. We pray for the church throughout the world. May God renew its worship, nurture its growth, empower its witness and restore its unity as we continue Christ's ministry.

Responsive Reading -A psalm of David.

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?
- 2 **The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;**
- 3 whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;
- 4 **who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;**
- 5 who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.