

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS
Sunday, December 18th, 2022
Fourth 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 #125

People, look east

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament

Isaiah 7:10-16

Responsive Psalm

130

Lighting of the Fourth Candle of Advent: The Candle of Love
(Lighting Litany led by Melba Hefferon and Kay Gallivan)

Hymn #119

Hope is a star (vs. 1-4)

N.T. Epistle Lesson

Romans 1:1-7

N. T. Gospel Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

Special Music

The King is coming soon

by John Paige

Message

Christmas: A love story

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Hymn #135

Christians, awake

Offering & Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Sunday School Program

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Hymn # 149

Away in a manger

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 Bradley Gillespie and Richard Dulvy.

On behalf of the Sunday School Teachers and students we would like to wish the congregation a peaceful, joyous, and healthy Christmas.

**A little child within a home,
Be that home large or small,
Is evidence of God's great love,
The greatest gift of all!**

Reading next week are Gary Grant and Linda Greaves.

A donation has been made to Bethel Church from the Bethel Fitness and Friendship Exercise Class in honor of Nancy MacDonald and Joan Richardson for their work in this program.

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

Through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, Cyclical PCC supports many important outreach ministries in Canada.

One such ministry is the Presbytery of Montreal's Communauté Rivière des Prairies, a new worshipping community in the city's east end. Rivière des Prairies embraces multilingualism in their church services and children's programming, providing an open and welcoming space for newcomers to Canada. Over five different languages and dialects are used by the ministry to connect with newcomers, both in the church family and in the wider community.

Prayer Calendar

Sunday, December 18 (Fourth Sunday of Advent) We pray that the love we know in Christ will nourish and nurture our love until we conform to the pattern of Christ's life.

Monday, December 19 We pray for church planting initiatives in the church.

Tuesday, December 20 We pray for refugees who have been displaced by war and famine.

Wednesday, December 21 We pray that LGBTQI2+ people whose families have rejected them will feel God's comforting presence as they find love and support in their chosen families.

Thursday, December 22 We pray for those who are prayerfully discerning a call to join God's mission around the world, to walk with, serve and learn from international partners.

Friday, December 23 Christ who was born for us, help us to know you, worship you, serve you and be transformed by you.

Saturday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) Christ was born as one of us and, in him, God shows us how much the world is loved. We pray that God's love blesses and fills the world.