

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS
Sunday, May 21st, 2023
Seventh 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

Announcements

Call to Worship:

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

Hymn #313 Oh worship the King

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

O. T. Lesson: Deuteronomy 6:1-7

Responsive Psalm: 57

Hymn #373 Jesus loves me, this I know

Children's Story

N.T. Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

N.T. Gospel Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21

Anthem I Know That My Redeemer Lives

words by Jessie B. Pounds/revised by Mary Kay Beall

music by G.F. Handel/adapted by John Carter

Message: The Power of Love

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Hymn #707 Come, let us sing

Offering & Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

WE GO OUT IN SERVICE

Hymn #382 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart

Closing Prayer and Choral Amen

Announcements

We welcome everyone to this service of praise this Sunday.
Leading the service this morning is Rev. Allan MacLellan.
Reading scriptures are Gary Grant and Linda Greaves.

Reading next week are Brad Gillespie and Chris McCall.

A donation has been made to Camp MacLeod from "an old, old leader from the '70's who had a marvelous time as a leader. I made great friends and loved working with the children. p.s. Murdock MacRae, from North Sydney hired me for three summers." Louise (Mitchell) MacDonald

To Property Fund

In memory of Effie Ferguson from Gordon & Wendy Ferguson

Session will meet on **Tuesday, May 30th** at 7pm by Zoom.

Annual Cove Auxiliary yard sale will be held Saturday, June 3rd at 8am-11am at Bethel Church Hall. Any household articles, books and plants will be gratefully received. Items may be dropped off at the church hall Friday June 2nd between 9am and 1pm or contact Joan Richardson at 902 564-5140.

The Worship and Nurture and Program Committees are considering having a fellowship hour during the summer starting on July 9th and continuing every second week. Volunteers are needed for this to happen. Only cookies will be served (these can be purchased by the church unless the volunteer would like to bake). Instead of tea and coffee a cold drink would be served. This would make things easier during the summer months, and we can possibly go back to tea and coffee in the fall. The volunteer would be responsible to prepare and serve the cold drink, put the cookies on the table and clean up after. If you would like to volunteer to do a Sunday this summer you can call Linda Ross at 902-562-2962.

Worship in Hall: The walls on the Brookland St side of the church and the ceiling damaged by Fiona will be repainted resulting in us meeting for church in the hall on May 21, 28 and

June 4. Also note that the Sacrament of Communion will be observed during the service on June 4 in the hall.

The Rev. Corrie Stewart has been appointed by the Presbytery to look after the search for a minister and to meet with the Search Committee and the Session as needed. The Rev. Ritchie Robinson will continue to look after pulpit supply, regular Session meetings and other administrative matters as they arise.

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.

Mission Moment

World Service & Development's support, local partners are raising awareness about When Esther was 13 years old, she got her period for the first time—just one day before the Malawi national primary school examinations, which would determine whether she would be admitted to secondary school. Esther was instructed by the older women in her village to not leave home and remain indoors for the next seven days in adherence with village customs. Caroline, an outreach volunteer for girls' rights, learned about Esther's situation and enlisted the help of the village's chief to speak with Esther's parents about letting her leave home isolation to write the exam. Esther was permitted to write her exam, allowing her to advance to secondary school. **With Presbyterian the importance of girls' education for a successful future.**

Responsive Reading – Psalm 57

1 Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.

2 I cry out to High, to God, who vindicates God Most me.

3 He sends from heaven and saves me, rebuking those who hotly pursue me—God sends forth his love and his faithfulness.

4 I am in the midst of lions; I am forced to dwell among ravenous beasts— men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords.

5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

6 They spread a net for my feet— I was bowed down in distress. They dug a pit in my path— but they have fallen into it themselves.

7 My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music.

8 Awake, my soul! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

9 I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples.

10 For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.