

**Bethel Presbyterian Church**  
**Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS**  
**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**4<sup>th</sup> 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**

Call to Worship

Gathering Prayer

Hymn #122

Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel

(vs. 1, 2, 6, 7)

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

The Promise:           Isaiah 11:1 *A shoot will come up from  
the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit.*

Hymn #166

Once in Royal David's City

The Prophecy

Isaiah 9:2-7

Micah 5:2-5a

Lighting of the Fourth Candle of Advent: The Candle of Love

Special Music

Christ is Coming

*by Joel Raney*

*The Angel Gabriel*

*Luke 1:26-35*

*Mary's Song*

*Luke 1:46-55*

Hymn# 161

What child is this

The Birth of Christ

Luke 2:1-7

The Shepherds and the Angels visit Luke 2:8-20

Hymn #138

While shepherds watched

Meditation:

"Hurry up and Wait"

Offering Hymn #145 (last verse)

What can I give Him, poor as I am,

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part,

Yet, what I can I give Him, give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Childrens presentation

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

## **Announcements**

We welcome everyone to this service of praise this Sunday. Leading the service is Rev. David Coull. Reading today are David Sneddon and Lydia Barikdar. Everyone is invited to a time of fellowship in the hall following the service.

**Greeting today are** Kathy Hardy at the Main Door and Ben Furey at the Choir Room Door.

**Next Week:** Readings will be done by Gary Grant and Kallol Sarkeckallol.

**Sympathy** of the congregation is extended to Richard Dulvy and family on the passing of his father Dr Edwin Dulvy. The funeral will be at Sydney Memorial Chapel on Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. The obituary is available on the Sydney Memorial Chapel website.

### **To Benevolent Fund**

- In loving memory of George & Kaye Halliday, June Boutilier and Karen Kickham from Debbie Denny
- In memory of Christine Nicholson from Muriel & Gordie Reynolds
- In memory of Edwin Dulvy from Joan & Gary Grant
- In memory of Edwin Dulvy from Charles & Linda Greaves

### **To Current Fund**

- In memory of Edwin Dulvy from Catherine & David Sneddon
- In memory of Gwen Smith from Betty Whelan
- In memory of The Mingarelli Family Katherine & Silvie, children Charles, Marion, Diana, Elsie, Sylvia, Henry, Maxine and Danny from Mabel (Mingarelli)Rice

**The Worship and Nurture and Program Committee** is looking for volunteers to look after the fellowship hour after church. The set up would be the same as during the summer except the volunteers would be responsible for making tea. If you are interested, please phone Linda Ross 902 562 2962.

### **Mission Moments**

Through Presbyterians Sharing we shine Christ's light in Canada and around the world. We are there when a prisoner in Malawi discovers Christ's love through Bible study, and when an Indigenous woman in Taiwan reads the Bible in her own language for the first time. We are there when a congregation adapts to meet community needs in new ways and when a theological student in Canada, Malawi, Nigeria, Ghana or Beirut graduates, ready to serve God. We are there when a child receives a healthy snack and after-school support from an inner-city ministry, and when a refugee claimant needs a friend. We are also there for one another as we pray, serve and share the gifts God has given us. When we put our gifts in God's hands, God does remarkable things!