

**Bethel Presbyterian Church**  
**Corner of George & Brookland St., Sydney, NS**  
**Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
**Minister: Rev. David F. Coull, B. Sc, MDiv**



**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**

Organ Prelude

Announcements

Call to Worship

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

Hymn #367                      Jesus, the very thought of thee

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

O.T. Lesson:                      Genesis 9:8-17

Responsive Psalm:      Psalm 25:1-10

Hymn # 634                      Will you come and follow me

Litany for First Sunday in Lent

Children's Story

N.T. Epistle Lesson:      1 Peter 3:18-22

N.T. Gospel Lesson:      Mark 1:9-15

Anthem:                      We Bow Down                      *by Twila Paris*  
*setting by Lloyd Larson*

Sermon:                      What's going on in the wilderness

**Our Response to God**

Hymn # 671                      I heard the voice of Jesus say  
(Please remain standing for the offering)

Offering & Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

**We Go Out In Service**

Hymn # 712                      Arise, your light is come

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

**Announcements**

We welcome everyone to this service of praise this Sunday.  
Reading today are Donald Brown and Eileen MacNeil.

Everyone is invited to a time of fellowship in the hall following the service.

**Greeters today** are Larry Victory at the Main Door and Donald Brown at the Choir Room Door.

**Next Week:** Readings will be done by Carol Ferguson and Joyce MacDougall.

### **To Current Fund**

In memory of Margie MacLeod from Roy & Nancy MacDonald

### **To Choir Fund**

- In memory of Margie MacLeod from Gus & Alixe MacAskill
- In memory of Margie MacLeod from Garfield & Marilyn Strickland

### **To Benevolent Fund**

- In memory of Margie MacLeod from Brad & Angie Gillespie
- In memory of Margie MacLeod from Kathy Hardy

**Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am** Bible study will be held in the upper hall. It will be on the Gospel of John and leading the study will be Rev. David Coull. For those who are intending to come to the bible study, please bring a pen and five coloured pencils!

Rev Dr Ross Lockhart, Dean of St Andrews Hall in Vancouver, will be here at Bethel on the weekend of **February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**. At 2pm on Saturday the 24th he will be giving a presentation on mission and missional leadership either in

the Shaw Room or hall, depending on numbers. All welcome and please do consider attending. Rev Lockhart will be delivering the message on Sunday 25th.

If anyone in the congregation is interested in participating in and completing a certificate in missional leadership (through St. Andrews hall in Vancouver), please see Rev. David at morning tea time

Groups submitting reports for the Annual Reports/Meeting should have them sent to the church office by **March 3<sup>rd</sup>** [bethelpresbyteriansydney@gmail.com](mailto:bethelpresbyteriansydney@gmail.com)

On Easter Sunday the Sunday School will once again be placing brightly colored Easter Eggs in a basket in memory of loved ones at the front of the Church. The names of those being remembered will also be 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# or address for an income tax receipt. Please mark on Envelope Sunday School Easter Memorial. Place it on the collection plate or give it to one of the Sunday School Teachers. The children will be doing a short Easter Program on Easter Sunday.

If there is anyone that would like to have a hospital visitation or visitation at home please call Rev. Coull 902-919-1372 or Gary Grant 902-567-1411.

**The Worship and Nurture and Program Committee** is looking for volunteers to look after the fellowship hour after church. If you are interested, please phone Linda Ross 902 562 2962.

**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 902-562-3740 and check the voicemail. If the service is cancelled, there will be a notice of the cancellation on the voicemail by 9am. You may also check the church website at [bethelpresbyterianchurch.ca](http://bethelpresbyterianchurch.ca) in the Messages section and an announcement will also be made on Facebook.

### **Mission Moments**

Two-year-old Moriamama Safianu has a congenital deformity linked to hydrocephalus. Born into a poor family in northern Ghana, Moriamama faced the heavy burden of social stigma, prompting her parents to keep her indoors to shield her from the community's hurtful judgments. Things changed when she was identified for support during a community survey conducted by a community rehabilitation program. The dedicated staff referred her to the Garu Presbyterian Health Centre for specialized care. The staff at Garu also worked with Moriamama's community to address the stigma she had been facing. Moriamama's mother expressed her profound gratitude: "I am immensely thankful to the CBR program and PWS&D for coming to our aid. Thanks to your intervention, Moriamama is no longer subjected to stigma from the community members."