



## ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

216 School Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y4

Website: [www.standrewspccc.ca](http://www.standrewspccc.ca)

Minister: Rev. Dr. P.A. "Sandy" McDonald 902-497-8112 (study); 902-466-6247 (h)

Minister Emeritus: Rev. R.A.B. MacLean

**Pentecost 9, July 23, 2023**

**Service colour: Green**

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (also on You Tube)

Prelude (a time for prayer and reflection)

Placing of the Bible (all who are able standing)

Lighting of the Christ Candle; Doxology (830); Bible Sentence

Hymn: 323 (Tune: 497) "Praise the Lord"

Prayer of Adoration; Prayer for Pardon and Grace:

**O God, our Creator, on this the day of resurrection, we praise You for all the gifts that You grant to us, we glorify You for the richness of the blessing that we enjoy in Jesus Christ, and we honour You for your Holy Spirit, poured out so bountifully upon Your church.**

**O God, who knows when we sit down and when we rise up, and who is acquainted with all our choices, speech and actions, to You we make our humble confession. We want quick judgement on the sins of others but not on our own sins. We long for rapid recognition of our achievements but are jealous of the praise that others receive. The time of our suffering seems endless but we shrug off the length of time that others are in pain. Forgive any pride that we have that assumes that we know better than You do what should be done and when; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Song: 561 "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy upon us."

Assurance of Pardon

**M.** The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C. And also with you.**

**Hallelujah** (Hymn 294); The Passing of the Peace

Lessons: Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24; Genesis 28: 10-19a (p.23); Romans 8: 12-25 (p.138); Matthew 13: 24-30 (p.12)

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**Glorify be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Hymn: 188 "Far across the burning desert"

Sermon followed by The Offertory

The Creed (539) & Offertory Prayer (all who are able standing)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for others; The Lord's Prayer(831)

Hymn: 654 "O God of Bethel"

Benediction & Choral Amen

Song: "Go Now in Peace" (all seated) (hymn book – inside back cover)

Postlude

**Welcoming Worshippers:** Darlene Cossaboom

**Elevator Guide:** Chris McDonald

**Organist:** Dr. Ken Cameron

**Reader:** Cheryl Weeks

**Pianist:** Cheryl Weeks

**Audio:** Ross Barkhouse, Luke Campbell

**Wed:** 7:00 – 9:15 a.m. FOOD Ministry

**Sun:** 9:00 a.m. Worship; 10:30 a.m. Worship & Nursery

**A Land Acknowledgement:** We acknowledge that we are in the Mik'kma'ki-the unceded territory and the ancestral homeland of the Mi'kmaq Nation.

### Mission Moment

The PCC's partnership with Theological Education by Extension in Malawi began 45 years ago when the Rev. Charles Scott helped establish a lay training program at the request of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Blantyre Synod and other churches. The distance learning program is open to anyone who wants to study the Bible and theology. It has opened doors for women and working church leaders who want to deepen their biblical and theological knowledge and be better equipped to serve. During these challenging times, the Rev. Chimwemwe Mitengo, Executive Director, is thankful for the PCC's continued partnership and support through Presbyterians Sharing.

### NEARER MY GOD

Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Even though it be a cross that raiseth me, still all my song would be,

CHORUS: Nearer, my God, to Thee;(twice), Nearer to Thee.

Thou, like the wanderer, the sun gone down,

Darkness be over me, my rest a stone; yet in my dreams I'd be. CHORUS

There let the way appear steps unto heaven;

All that Thou send'st me, in mercy given; angels to beckon me. CHORUS

Then with my waking thoughts bright with Thy praise,

Out of my stormy griefs Bethel I'll raise; so be my woes to be. CHORUS

Or if on joyful wing cleaving the sky, sun, moon and stars forgot,

Upwards I fly, still all my song shall be. CHORUS

### Hymn 323

1. Praise the Lord, ye heavens, adore him;  
praise him, angels, in the height;  
sun and moon, rejoice before him;  
praise him, all ye stars and light.  
Praise the Lord, for he hath spoken;  
worlds his mighty voice obeyed;  
laws which never shall be broken  
for their guidance hath he made.

2. Praise the Lord, for he is glorious;  
never shall his promise fail;  
God hath made his saints victorious;  
sin and death shall not prevail.  
Praise the God of our salvation;  
hosts on high, his power proclaim;  
heaven and earth and all creation  
laud and magnify his name.

### Hymn 188

1. Far across the burning desert Jacob fled a brother's wrath.  
Starless night obscured his vision; trackless sands his only path.  
Light, unseen within our darkness, shining where no eye can see:  
God of Jacob, silent searcher, seek us, when from you we flee.

2. Lonely, cheerless, none to comfort, Jacob's bed was barren ground.  
Worn by guilty flight and fearful, troubled sleep at length he found.  
Rest of every anxious wanderer, healer of the heart's distress;  
God of Jacob, friend of sinners, meet us in our wilderness.

3. Signs of God were nowhere present in that distant, alien place.  
Of the hand that once had led him, Jacob's eye could find no trace.  
Unseen hand whose hidden presence leads us by an unknown way;  
God of Jacob, help us trust you when in darkest night we pray.

4. Jacob, sleeping, saw a ladder reaching high from earth to sky.  
Faith, whose wings till then were folded, stirred with Jacob's waking cry;  
"Surely God, unseen, is with me in this barren, cheerless place."  
God of Jacob, grant us vision in the night to glimpse your face.

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### Hymn 654

1. O God of Bethel, by whose hand  
thy people still are fed,  
who through this weary pilgrimage  
hast all thy servants led,

2. our vows, our prayers, we now present  
be fore thy gracious throne;  
as thou hast been our faithful God,  
so always be our own.

3. Through each perplexing path of life  
our wandering footsteps guide;  
give us each day our daily bread,  
and raiment fit provide.

4. Oh spread the covering wings around,  
till all our wanderings cease,  
and at our God's own loved abode  
our souls arrive in peace.

5. Such blessings from thy gracious hand  
our humble prayers implore,  
and thou shalt be our chosen God  
and portion evermore.