

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us today.

We envision a church worshipping with joy, loving each other with compassion and reaching out to the world with grace and justice.

Worshipping with Joy

In person at 10 a.m. Sunday morning. Also livestreamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X3MMIEVp9uE>

Downstairs

There is Children's Church for children between the ages of 3-8.

There is also a nursery and a separate room for nursing mothers.

Upcoming Events

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: 5 p.m.

Bible Studies

- **College and Career study**—Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. at the home of Nathan and Laura Priddle. Studying Colossians. Resumes in January.
- **Adult Bible study**—led by Reid Campbell Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom on the gospel of John. Resumes in January.
- **Men's Bible study** meet on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on the Ten Commandments. Resumes in January.
- **ISMC study groups** are meeting—contact Will or Chi Perrie.
- **Women's Bible Study** on Genesis led by Laura Priddle meets Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. Come early for coffee, tea and snacks. Resumes in January

Pray for:

- the missionaries we support
- Christ Church Halifax (Michael and Brittney Chhangur)
- Harbour Light Church
- Kevin Burrell – cancer treatment
- persecuted Christians throughout the world
- for Israel
- the attack on Ukraine to end
- EvangelismFamily of the week: Smartex Tambala and Barbara Blays and kids

Officers of the Church

Elders

Bill Radford—Pastor

Peter Bustin

Reid Campbell

Will Perrie

Glenn Wadden

Pastor Emeritus

Don Codling

Deacons

David Campbell

Honza Pokorny

Edward Woolley

Electronic giving: You can give electronically by sending an Interac e-transfer to bedfordpca@gmail.com

At church: There is a plate for offerings on the back table.



Bedford Presbyterian Church

Pastor Bill Radford

December 24, 2023

www.bedfordpca.org

49 Nelsons Landing Blvd.

Bedford, NS

Reflections

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us
Matthew 1:23)

“The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing
to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The
more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction
is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation.”
J.I. Packer

"Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved
the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only
requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall
have everlasting life."

Corrie Ten Boom

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

Call to Worship *from Isaiah 52*

Minister: How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

**People: The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.**

Minister: Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

**People: The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.**

Hymn of Praise: Joy to the World

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 7:10-14*

Call to Repentance: *Matthew 1:21*

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save
his people from their sins.”

Hymn of Reflection: Psalm 2

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, You showed the world your splendor in the coming of
your Son, the mystery of God becoming man. Yet, our sins have made
us cold. Instead of peaceful, our hearts are anxious; instead of joyful,
irritable; instead of filled with surprise, bland; instead of anticipatory,
fearful. In our sophistication, we have become impoverished. Have
mercy on us, O God. Renew us by your grace and mercy. Deliver us
from everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us and
prevents us from taking our deepest delight in you. We ask this in the
name of Jesus, God with us. Amen.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness from Ephesians 1:7-8

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our
trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon
us

Song of Renewal:

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Gospel Reading: *Luke 2:1-7*

Pastoral Prayer

Doxology

Gospel Reading: *Luke 2:8-20*

Sermon: Good News of Great Joy

Pastor Bill Radford

Closing Hymn: Go Tell it on the Mountain

Benediction

Dismissal

Sermon: Good News of Great Joy