

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=XSHCmfsKZCY>

Downstairs

There is Children's Church for children between the ages of 3-10. There is also a nursery and a separate room for nursing mothers.

Check out our updated website: bedfordpca.org

Prayer before worship: 9:45

Bible Studies

- **Adult Bible study**—on break until January
- **Men's Bible study**—7:15 p.m. Wednesdays at the home of Nathan Priddle. Next meeting January 8.
- **ISMC study groups** are meeting—contact Will or Chi Perrie.
- **Women's Bible Study**—on break until January.

Pray for:

- the missionaries we support
- Helen Lau undergoing radiation for cancer
- Christ Church Halifax (Michael and Britney Chhangur)
- Harbour Light Church
- Kevin Burrell's family mourning his passing
- persecuted Christians throughout the world
- for Israel
- the attack on Ukraine to end
- Evangelism
- Family of the week: Nathan and Laura Priddle and their children

Officers of the Church

Elders

Bill Radford—Pastor

Peter Bustin

Reid Campbell

Will Perrie

Glenn Wadden

Pastor Emeritus

Don Codling

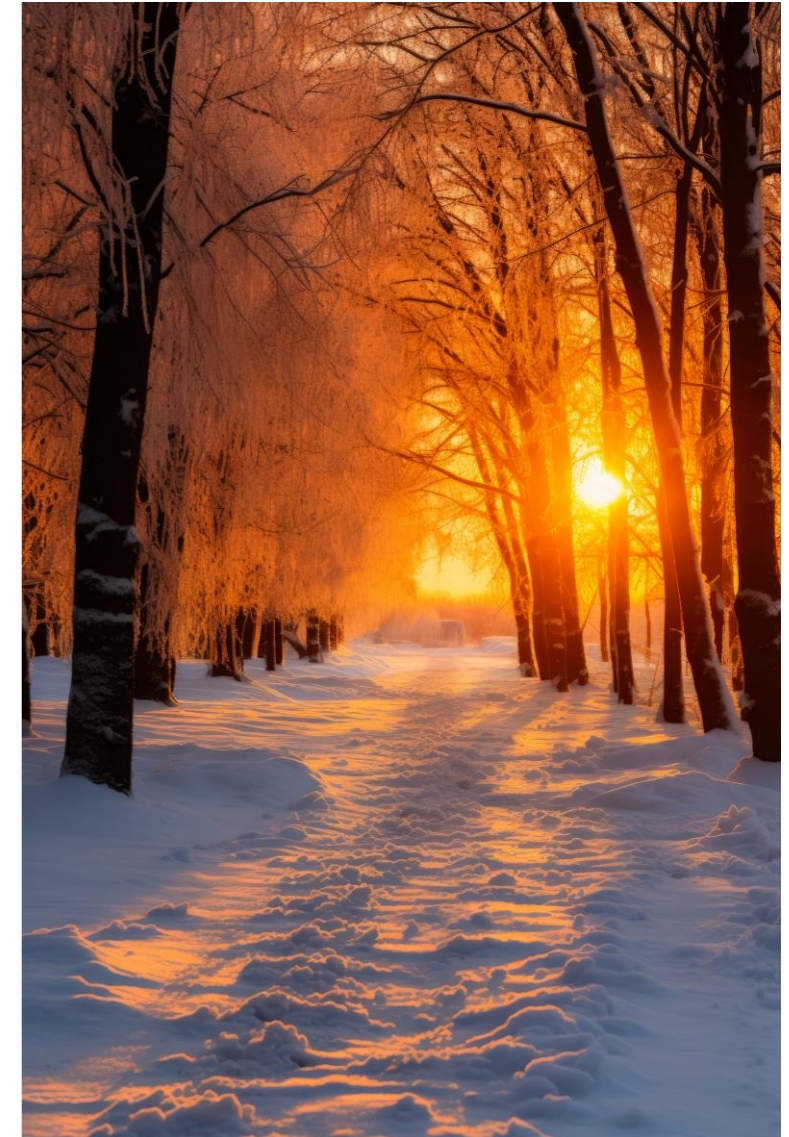
Deacons

David Campbell

Honza Pokorny

Edward Woolley

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



Bedford Presbyterian Church

Pastor Bill Radford

December 29, 2024

www.bedfordpca.org

49 Nelsons Landing Blvd.

Bedford, NS

Reflections:

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.
Deut. 31:6

A generation ago, ... terrorists allowed the hostages [American embassy staff in Iran] to celebrate Christmas together with TV cameras rolling. That's when hostage Kathryn Koob ... softly sang "Away in a Manger."

The last verse, sung in the terrorists' presence, was the most poignant: "Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray." The words conveyed the hope and courage that is available to Christians in all generations and circumstances. It is the strength that comes from knowing that our God is always with us.

Jesus came to this earth to be with us He will never leave us or forsake us. We can face the greatest of trials or terrors with assurance that nothing separates us from his love. Circumstance will change, his love will not. Trials will vary, his presence will not. Problems will pass, his purposes will endure. He is near. So, take courage.
By Faith Magazine

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? have you not heard,
that the everlasting God, the LORD,
the Creator of the ends of the earth,
neither faints nor is weary?

There is no searching of his understanding.

He gives power to the weak,
and to those who have no might he increases strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary and the young men shall utterly fall,

But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength;

they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.

Invocation

***Song of Praise:** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! (Trinity 296)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55

Call to Repentance: Luke 15:7 "I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance."

Song of Reflection

Psalm 90

Confession of Sin

Almighty God our Father, we confess with our lips that you have all power, you have all wisdom, you know what is best at every turn, you are the source of every good we enjoy, but Lord, we have to admit that we do not live out that confession. You send us to tell our friends what we know of Christ, and we draw back for fear they will laugh at us. You tell us to help our neighbours when they are hurting and we hesitate because it will be costly, and we don't really trust you to provide for us. You tell us to pursue your "well done", but we seek paths which will gain us honour from those around us. Though we believe in our heads that you have all wisdom, our hearts move us to act as though we were wiser. Forgive us for putting our wisdom before your wisdom, the good we can see before the good you can see. Let your Holy Spirit so fill our hearts that we more and more follow Christ, though it is the road to the cross, rejoicing to do so because his sacrifice, his apparent total loss, won us your rich blessing.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness: Lamentations 3:22–24 "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'"

*Songs of Renewal

Cornerstone

Shout to the Lord

Scripture Reading: Job 38:1-18; 40:1-14

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*Doxology

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:28-39

Sermon: Doctrine to be Lived

Rev. Don Codling

Prayer:

*Closing Hymn:

And Can It Be (Trinity 455)

Benediction

Dismissal

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

Doctrine to be Lived

**Isaiah 55; Job 38:1-41:34; Romans 8:28-39; 11:31-36;
Psalm 13; 1 Kings 8:27; Psalm 90:1-4; Habakkuk 1-3**

1. Your God is too small
 - a. At least your concept of God is too small
 - b. Need a higher view of God
 - c. How does higher view of God affect our lives?
2. God is big enough to hold you when things turn upside down
 - a. Easy to confess Christ when everything is going well
 - b. But what do you do when things fall apart?
 - c. Those are times to consider Job
 - d. Our God is bigger than any disaster he lets come our way
3. You can be bold to stand against evil because God is King
 - a. Evil in our time seems to get stronger & stronger
 - b. But Bible & history show us that evil always fails
 - c. Because God is the King we can even resist the evil that is commonplace in our society
4. You can trust God when he leads you in difficult paths
 - a. God is wise enough and strong enough that we cannot grasp his plans
 - b. Nobody but God could know how Joseph's path would lead to Christ
 - c. When you remember his greatness, you can trust him in the hard parts