

SERMON
The Dawn of the Kingdom
Matthew 4:12-25

The kingdom of Heaven brings about new life.

1) The Announcement of the Kingdom (v.12-17)

GOSPEL READING
Matthew 4:12–25

12 Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. 13 And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee
of the Gentiles—

16 the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

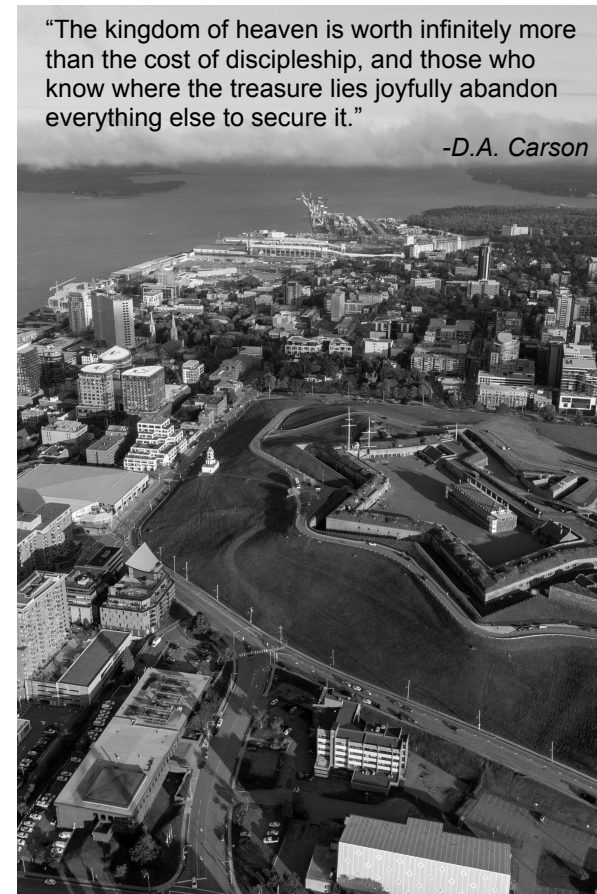
17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

2) The Apprenticeship of the Kingdom (v.18-22)

18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

3) The Administration of the Kingdom (v.23-25)

23 And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. 24 So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them. 25 And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.



**BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

May 10, 2026
www.bedfordpca.org
49 Nelsons Landing Blvd., Bedford, NS

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.

CHILDREN

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

UPCOMING

English Conversation Group: May 13, 12:45 p.m.

Church Bonfire: May 16th, 6:30 p.m. Hosted at Ed & Eliza's residence.

Overview of the book of Matthew: May 24, 9:00 a.m.

Calvin and Hops: May 29th, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Christ Church Halifax Office. Discussion based on Calvin's Institutes Book 1 Chapters 14-15 5th Edition.

Men's Breakfast: June 20th, 9:00-11:00 a.m. at BPC

BIBLE STUDIES

- **Adult Bible study:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays via Zoom. Led by Reid Campbell. Meets next on May 13. Studying 1 Samuel.
- **ISMC study groups** are meeting—contact Will or Chi Perrie.
- **Women's Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the home of Laura Priddle studying Joshua. The 7:15 p.m. Monday evening study on Romans meets every other week.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE OPEN DOOR CENTRE

which provides a safe place for youth who are sexually exploited or who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. On Mother's Day we invite you to pick up a HEY (Helping Exploited Youth) box or a baby bottle and fill it generously. Bring the box or bottle back with your donation inside, on Father's Day. Your gift is tax deductible. We are so thankful for your partnership with us! To find out more about Open Door visit opendoorcentre.com

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- Family of the week: Diana Weaver

HOW TO GIVE

E-transfer to bedfordpca@gmail.com

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!

**People: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble**

Leader: and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

**People: Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of
death, prisoners in affliction and in irons,
for they had rebelled against the words of
God, and spurned the counsel of the Most
High.**

Leader: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and
he delivered them from their distress. He brought
them out of darkness and the shadow of death,
and burst their bonds apart.

**People: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast
love, for his wondrous works to the children
of man!**

—Psalm 107:1-3, 10-11, 13-15

HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy, Holy, Holy

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 3:6–8

⁶ For a man will take hold of his brother
in the house of his father, saying:

“You have a cloak;
you shall be our leader,
and this heap of ruins
shall be under your rule”;

⁷ in that day he will speak out, saying:

“I will not be a healer;
in my house there is neither bread nor cloak;
you shall not make me
leader of the people.”

⁸ For Jerusalem has stumbled,
and Judah has fallen,

because their speech and their deeds are against the
LORD,

defying his glorious presence.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Based on Old Testament reading

SONG OF REFLECTION

Psalm 84

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Our Father in heaven, we thank you that you
have led us into the light. We thank you for
sending the Saviour to call us from death to life.
We confess that we were dead in sin before we
heard his call, but when we heard him, like
Lazarus, we arose. But, O Father, the grave
clothes bind us still. Old habits that we cannot
throw off, old customs that are so much a part of
our lives that we are helpless to live the new life
that Christ calls us to live. Give us strength, O
Father, to break the bonds; give us courage to
live a new life in you; give us faith to believe that
with your help we cannot fail. All this we ask in
the name of the Saviour who has taught us to
come to you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive
ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we
confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive
us our sins and to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.

—1 John 1:8-9

SONGS OF RENEWAL

Majesty
Cornerstone

NEW TESTAMENT READING

James 3:13–18

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? By his
good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of
wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish
ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the
truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from
above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where
jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder
and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is
first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of
mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a
harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who
make peace.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND CITY

Prayer for Diana Weaver & Mothers Day

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be
thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be
done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread; and forgive us our
debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

SERMON

The Dawn of the Kingdom

Rev. Jim Poopalapillai

CLOSING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

BENEDICTION

Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD
make his face to shine upon you and be
gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward
you and give you peace.

—Numbers 6:24-26

DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God!

