



Epiphany 5 Yr A – 8th February 2026

Leader : David Pigott **Greeter : Wendy**

Meditation Hymn: My Peace

My peace I leave you,
My peace I give you:
Trouble not your hearts.
My peace I leave you,
My peace I give you:
Be not afraid. x3

Welcome:

Welcome to the 5th Sunday in Epiphany

Greeting:

May the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness: As we begin our service, let's take a moment to be still and aware of God's presence within and all around us.

Christ Candle:

We light this light to remind us that the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

Acknowledgement First Peoples:

As we gather to worship God, we acknowledge the First Peoples of this country on which we gather today; the Gadigal and Wangal people. And we pay our respects to their Elders past and present, together with all descendants.

We commit ourselves to support Voice, Treaty, Truth – justice for First Nations Peoples.

Call to Worship:

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
the downtrodden and despairing,

They will rejoice in God's reign forever.

Blessed are those who mourn and who are grieving
They will be comforted in God's reign forever.

Blessed are the ones who seek justice and righteousness

They will find it in God's reign forever.

Blessed are we when we love our neighbors and seek their needs

We will live in God's reign forever.

Blessed are we all when we seek to serve
others in God's name.

Let us worship together, serving one another and serving our Mighty God.

Amen

Opening Prayer

God of compassion and justice,
the worship you choose for us is to loose
the bonds of injustice,
to let the oppressed go free,

to share bread with the hungry,
to shelter the homeless and the poor.

Then your light shall break forth like the
dawn and your healing shall spring up
quickly.

So in praise and wonder, we come to
worship you not just with our words
but with our hearts and our lives.
Glory and honour be to you, O God,
Creator of a new heaven and a new earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Hymn : Loving Spirit (Shirley Erena Murray)

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be --
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Like a mother you enfold me,
hold my life within your own,
feed me with your very body,
form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father you protect me
teach me the discerning eye,
hoist me up upon your shoulder,
let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover, in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
in your promise is my comfort,
in your presence I may rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be --
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Prayer of confession:

God of Light,
we confess that we have gone astray and have left Your light.
We follow the dim lights of the world of success and fortune.
We follow the dim lights that call us
to be more religious by following rules.
We follow the fading light of personal salvation.
Forgive us for not seeking the true Light
of Your love for all the world.
Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus,
who commanded us to love one another.
Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion and justice,
in which the Mystery of Your Love is revealed.
In the name of Jesus the Messiah, we pray.

Amen

Words of assurance:

The Light has come.
The Light has come and has put out the darkness.
Now we can walk in the light.
You are loved by God and called to walk with God in the light.
Let us be salt and light to each other,
giving and receiving forgiveness in the name of Christ.

Hear then Christ's words of grace to us:

“Your sins are forgiven.”

Thanks be to God

Amen

Peace:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with one another

Hymn: TIS 474 Here in this place

Here in this place new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
We are the old who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place, the new light is shining;
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in - and hold us forever,
gather us in - and make us your own.
Gather us in - all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Moment for the young at heart: **Brian Lenehan**

Bible Readings: John Read

Isaiah 58:1-12 NRSV

False and True Worship

58 Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.
2 Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the
ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on
their side.
3 “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do
not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your
workers.
4 You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.
5 Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?
6 Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the
straps of the yoke to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor
into your house; when you see the naked, to cover the and not to hide yourself
from your own kin?
8 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring
up quickly; your vindicator[b] shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be
your rear guard.
9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he
will say, “Here I am.” If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of
the finger, the speaking of evil,

Matthew 5:13–20 NRSV

Salt and Light

13 “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its
saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and
trampled under foot.

14 “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Law and the Prophets

17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev James Baker

We welcome James is the new Young Adult Ministry Facilitator for PULSE, which means that he gets to amplify the voices of young adults throughout the Synod. This takes the form of equipping and empowering young adults for the ministries that they get to do in the church, community, work and indeed all places.

Moment of Stillness: Let's take a moment to be still and aware of God's presence within and all around us.

Prayers of the People: Ron Brown

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever.
Amen**

Community News:

**4th February: Wednesday Morning Prayer & Communion Service(resumes)
16th February: Women's Spirituality Group (resumes)
18th February: Ash Wednesday - combined event 7.30pm @ LUC
1st March: Welcome Liesl Homes
1st March: St David's Day
6th March: World day of Prayer
7th March: Music Team Meeting**

Offering Prayer:

Source of life and love, we bring these gifts, symbols of our everyday. By your Spirit of grace, move us to use them to bring freedom from injustice and oppression, to share our bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless and clothe the naked.as we seek to walk in the way of Jesus.

Amen.

Song: Into the Deep (Roxanne McLeod)

1.From different streams of life we come drawn to the Source of living hope ready to trust in the depths of God's love abandoning fear, God's calling us near

Chorus

And so we will go into the deep
where we will find our place with those who believe
the shallows behind, together we'll be
immersed in God's grace, carried by love, into the deep

2. We will find peace in the mystery of faith

Living our lives in joyful praise
ready to dive in the depths of God's grace
surrendering all, we follow God's call

Chorus

And so we will go into the deep
where we will find our place with those who believe
the shallows behind, together we'll be
immersed in God's grace, carried by love, into the deep

3. Here in the deep we are never alone

as we declare one faith, one hope
learning from those who have gone here before
welcomed to be in God's family

Chorus

And so we will go into the deep
where we will find our place with those who believe
the shallows behind, together we'll be
immersed in God's grace, carried by love, into the deep

And so we will go into the deep
where we will find our place with those who believe
the shallows behind, together we'll be
immersed in God's grace, carried by love, into the deep
immersed in God's grace, carried by love, into the deep

Benediction & Blessing:

As people of faith we have gathered for worship.
As people of faith we now return to the world.
Go out to share the story of faith,
the story of life, with the world around you.
As you go out to give a living witness,
as you go out to testify to God's love active in the world,

go knowing that God goes with you,
sharing the laughter and the hope,
the fears and the tears.

Thanks be to God!

Amen.

3-fold-amen

Acknowledgements:

Call to worship Rev. Mindi, and posted on Rev-o-lution.

Opening prayer, Rev. Iona MacLean, First Presbyterian Church, Pictou, Nova Scotia, in Change is Happening,

Prayer of confession: Rev. Mindi and posted on her Rev-o-lution

Assurance: adapted from – ministrymatters.com

Benediction: Rev Gord, Worship Offerings