



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, N.S.
(by Memorial Library)
Minister: Rev. Kenn Stright
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. John Pace
Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson
Clerk of Session: Murray Alary

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY!

Service for the Lord's Day September 18, 2011

** All who are able are asked to stand.*

We live in Christ...

as in freedom we observe Sunday
as the weekly festival of the resurrection,
for the worship of our Lord, rest from our work,
and the enjoyment of God's world.. (Living Faith)

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude: Postlude pour L'Office de Complies by Jehan Alain

*The Entry of the Scriptures

*Call to Worship:

*Hymn: We will tell each generation **46**

Prayer of Adoration and Confession: *Almighty God, the heavens and the earth cannot contain Your glory. Your mercy and love stretch to the far horizon and beyond. Our minds cannot encompass all that you are and all that you give.*

Yet still we praise you. When we cannot imagine you or contain your splendour in the smallness of our minds, help us soar on the wings of Your love, and be overwhelmed by your joyfulness. Help us plunge into the depths of

your mercy, and even in the darkness be embraced by your tenderness.

In the ordinary and the every day, let us see your handiwork and be reminded at every turn of Your abiding presence, Your infinite imagination, and your relentless graciousness. Gracious God, forgive us when our lives betray the littleness of our vision, our understanding and our service.

Forgive us when we grumble when we should praise; when we resent when we should rejoice; when we withhold when we should offer all we have and all we are. Touch us once more so that our, even our, splintered hearts and minds might be added up in to a mosaic of grateful love and service, reflecting, even through our brokenness, or because of it, that we are still Your children, loved, reclaimed, redeemed, and that where there is room for us within your merciful heart, there is room for all. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

"Speak, Lord, in the stillness" (sung unannounced) **442**

First Reading: *Exodus 16:2-15*

One: *The Word of the Lord.* **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: *Psalm 105*

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones. Then he brought Israel out with silver and gold, and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled.

Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it. He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night. They asked, and he brought quails, and gave them food from heaven in abundance. He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river. For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant. So he brought his people

out with joy, his chosen ones with singing. **He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,** *that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the LORD!*

Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: I am the church (vs. 1-3) 475

Conversation with the young people: **What's Happening?** John

Hymn: I am the church (vs. 4-5) 475

From the Letters: *Phil. 1: 21-30*

Gospel: *Matthew 20: 1-16*

One: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ**


Welcome to worship and Church life! Val

*Hymn: Amazing Grace 670

Sermon: **"It's Not Fair!" (Our response in the face of God's generosity and grace)**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Musical Selection  In the Evening arranged by Stephen Smith. Music Note: In the Evening is an arrangement of a Susan Crowe song by Stephen Smith, a native of Nova Scotia who currently resides in Vancouver. The text is very reflective of the journey we at the church choir experience every Thursday evening. It is a love song that can very well be taken as a love song with Jesus and the church in just trusting in its guidance and love. "In the evening, as I wait to spy your star, every breath regrets my leaving as I wonder where you are."

*Doxology: *"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"* 830

The Apostles' Creed – inside back cover – Book of Praise

Offertory Prayer

Announcements:

Welcome to our Mission and Outreach: Shelley

"O Lord, hear my prayer" (sung unannounced) 446

Prayers of the People:

The Lord's Prayer ("debts & debtors")

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Lord Dismiss us with your blessing 468

*Commissioning, Benediction and Choral Amen:

Postlude: Variations sur Lucis Creator by Jehan Alain

Worship is now ended let our service begin!

We welcome all who are worshipping here today! If you are here for the first time, please sign the Guest Book at the main entrance.

Our Welcoming Elder this morning is Murray Alary.

Our reader today is Carolyn MacDonald.

The **Mission and Outreach** committee is hosting a "Welcome Back to Church" luncheon today. We hope everyone will join us to share some food and catch up after the summer. This is not a fund raiser. However, we will be holding our next fundraising luncheon for the Halifax Refugee Clinic on Sunday, November 6th. If you enjoy this week's gathering, we would like to ask you to join us for lunch that week when we will be collecting donations to support the Clinic's work.

We welcome younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility. If desired a **nursery room** is available with an audio link.

The 3 R's at Saint David's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
This is a 'scent free' zone for the comfort of all.

THIS WEEK - (September 18-25)

Today we are celebrating "Welcome Back! Sunday". Mission and Outreach have prepared a special luncheon for us to enjoy!

Conveners of some of our committees will be telling the story of what is happening and inviting your participation.

Sunday School: 11:15 The Superintendent will be sharing what is happening in our Sunday School this year.

Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Classes
Thursday 7:30 pm Choir Practice
Friday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm David's Place (Hall)
Sunday 9:00 am Early service with communion:
 This ½ hour service consists of meditation, music and message. Please join us! Our new year together begins by celebrating the Season of Creation.
 10:00 am Circle of Prayer begins again. Please join us for conversation and prayer
 11:00 am Traditional Service celebrating Presbyterians Sharing Sunday

Upcoming Notice: Communion will be celebrated on October 2nd for World Communion Sunday (11 am). Communion is celebrated every Sunday at 9 am.

A **Food Handling Course** for Volunteer Organizations will be offered Wednesday, September 21st, 2011, 7-9 p.m. in the church hall. This course is being offered as the training of kitchen volunteers is in keeping with our Food Handling Policy, and we hope a number of our volunteers will be able to attend.

This food handling course put on by the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture is free of charge and is geared to volunteer organizations. The 2 hour course will cover the 4 basic food safety principles of: "Cook, chill, separate and clean". Please let us know this morning.

David's Place is looking for a volunteer to purchase inventory items on a regular basis. The items can be purchased any time and delivered to the church at your convenience. Most items are purchased at the Atlantic Wholesaler (Armdale Rotary) or grocery stores. We have a list of basic supplies needed and you would be reimbursed for all purchases. You may be interested in David's Place and have not been able to attend on Fridays. This is one way you could assist with David's Place. Please contact Marg Craig if you are interested in helping. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Royal Canadian College of Organists- Halifax Centre presents Organist, Thomas Annand, "In Recital" on Tuesday, Sept. 27th - 7:30 p.m. at St. James Anglican Church, Halifax (in-the-Rotary). Admission \$10. Mr. Annand will be performing works by J.S. Bach, Stanley, Sweelinck, Buxtehude, Praetorius and Pachelbel. A warm welcome to all!

NOTE: Tomorrow, September 19 a number of traffic flow

changes will take effect on streets surrounding the church. Please take note of them, either through the diagrams in the paper or by going on-line at

Halifax.ca/traffic.



Countries in the Horn of Africa are facing the world's worst humanitarian disaster as drought and famine intensify across the region. More than 11 million people are struggling to cope with widespread crop failure, massive loss of livestock and skyrocketing food prices. Presbyterian World Service & Development is responding ... working with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Canadian Churches in Action and the ACT Alliance to provide people with food, water, shelter, hygiene kits, psychosocial support and

livelihood recovery initiatives for hundreds of thousands of people affected by this crisis. Please mark all donations as "East Africa Relief." **Thank you for your generosity!**

Calvin Presbyterian Church's Mission and Outreach Committee invites you to join them Saturday October 1, 2011, for a light breakfast at 9 AM followed by an interactive learning experience called The Blanket Exercise, beginning at 9:30 AM. This event will be facilitated by Rev Kenn Stright. We wish to deepen our understanding, and enrich our communication, and connection with our First Nations neighbours. Kairos Canada has developed the Blanket Exercise as a way of retracing historic relationships between Europeans and indigenous people. The exercise will demonstrate how first nations lost their nation hood, their access to land, and were prevented from practicing their own forms of worship. We will gain a deeper understanding of the impact these losses had on these communities both in the past and continuing to this day. We look forward to sharing this powerful experience with you. In order to have sufficient food we'd be grateful if those interested in attending would RSVP to Committee Chair, Lilla Tanner at 869-0105 or by E mail: lftanner@bellaliant.net

The new **church directory** is available if you have not yet picked up your copy. Any who did not have a picture taken and wish a copy can do so for \$17.50.

MISION CAPSULES: CANADA: Companions for the journey

Our gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* help start and support new congregations like Keswick Presbyterian Church in Keswick, Ontario. Keswick has vibrant worship and a family friendly space. On their website they explain "We are fellow sojourners on the same road. None of us has yet arrived but we are learning how to become more like Jesus, the one who is a model for life worth living. We are friends and family, companions for the journey. We are ordinary people, learning together what it means to follow Jesus in our time." Keswick is currently raising funds to build a new church home. Let us pray for everyone involved in the planning and building process.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP *International Day of Prayer for Peace*
Pray for Project Ploughshares as it carries out its mission to bear witness to peace and human security.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS *When thinking about stewardship consider:* 12 percent of the world's population lives in North America and Western Europe and accounts for 60 percent of private consumption spending, but the third of humanity that lives in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa accounts for only 3.2 percent. *Worldwatch Institute*

PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact one of the following:



Kenn Stright office: 423-2660 home: 477-2870
Valerie Macdonald home: 455-1893



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

Our Vision: *A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

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