



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!

Service for the Lord's Day November 27, 2011

First Sunday of Advent

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

May the God of **hope** fill us with joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit

we abound in hope!

(from Living Faith)

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude O Come Emanuel by R Lind

*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship:

Advent 1 Liturgy: (Saouds)

*Hymn: All earth is waiting **109**

Prayer of Adoration and Confession: *Gracious God, thanks to you we are not without hope. Your love which created us to be beautiful*

is also the Love that rescues us from the fall and will restore that lost beauty.

In Christ who comes to us, we have a precious place in the salvation of God. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Bring us back, O God of hosts, let your face shine, and we shall be saved. The good things I want to do, I don't do. Yet the evil I do not want, that I end up doing. Bring us back, O God of hosts, let your face shine, and we shall be saved.

Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy on us. Assurance of God's pardon

We Hear God's Word

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

First Reading: *Isaiah 64: 1-9*

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

Responsive Reading: *Psalm 80: 1-7; 17-19*

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might, and come to save us! Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves. Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name. Restore us, O Lord God of

hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: Hope is a star **119**

Conversation with the young people: **The Waiting Place**

Hymn: Hope is a star (verse 1) **119**

From the Letters: *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

Gospel: *Mark 13: 24-37*
One: *The Gospel of the Lord.* **All: Praise to you, O Christ**
Hymn: In the bulb there is a flower **674**
Sermon: **SURPRISED BY... HOPE**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Anthem: Sans Day Carol by John Rutter
*Doxology: "*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow*" **830**
Affirmation of Faith : The Apostles' Creed (inside back cover of the Book of Praise)
Offertory Prayer
Announcements:
"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: Those who wait on the Lord **662**
*Benediction:
"*Irish Blessing*" by L. MacLean
May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Choral Amen: (Please be seated for the Amen)
Postlude: Shepherds Carol by B Chilcott

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 Colin MacPherson. Our scripture reader for this morning is Lois Yorke. Our host for after church refreshments is Phyllis Morrison

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.

the White Gift Envelope. Children will receive an envelope in the mail. Adults may pick up theirs at the back of the church on December 4 and 11. If you are giving by cheque, please make it payable to "Saint David's Church School." Your generosity will greatly encourage the Sunday School and help less fortunate youth in these uncertain times.

Seton Cantata Choir presents **Seton's Greetings**, the choir's annual Christmas concert, on **Saturday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Chester United Baptist Church** (84 King Street) in **Chester**, and on **Sunday, December 4 at 3:00 p.m.** at Bethany United Church (7171 Clinton Street), **Halifax.**

A King's Christmas A feast of seasonal song and story
Sunday, December 11 2011, 2.00 and 7.30 PM All Saints Cathedral.

St. Andrew's UCW will be having a bake sale plus crafts, jewellery and NEW TO YOU items after church on Sunday December 4, 2011 12 noon - 1:30 PM. Free admission, come and join us for coffee and muffins.

Start your Christmas Season off by listening to the Halifax Girls Honour Choir concert at Fort Massey United on Wednesday, November 30th at 7:00 pm.

Artist Talk with Cathy Busby AST Art Gallery (Located in the AST Library, 624 Francklyn Street) **Wednesday, November 30 6:30 p.m.**

Readings for Advent 2: Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2,8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

The **Newsletter** is ready to be picked up this morning

Mark your calendars: Christmas Cantata Dec. 18, 7 pm

THIS WEEK - (November 27-December 04)

Today 11:15 am Sunday School:
Monday 7:00 pm Evening Study: join with us in exploring the foundations of faith. Held in the Minister's study
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-10:30 am Fitness Classes
Wednesday 10:30 am Morning Study: join with us in exploring the foundations of faith (in the minister's study)
Thursday 7:30 pm Choir Practice
Friday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm David's Place (Hall)
Saturday **See all the announcements about today!**
Sunday 9:00 am Early service with communion: This ½ hour service consists of meditation, music and message. Please join us! The service this week will explore the Christian understanding of God in Christ (Living Faith section 3).
10:00 am Circle of Prayer.
11:00 am Traditional Service celebrating the second Sunday of Advent.

AST Advent Service Monday, November 28 7 p.m. St. Columba Chapel 634 Francklyn St.

Christmas Chowder Luncheon and Sale, 12 – 2 pm Saturday December 3rd, 2011 Tickets \$10.00 for chowder lunch, or \$5 for tea & sweets. Shop at the bake table, silent auction and gift table.

Phyllis is looking after the Bake Table and would ask that you pull out your favourite recipe and help us with this fund raising event. We

accept bread, rolls, muffins, cookies, cakes, squares, fudge or other kind of candy, jams, pickles, etc. We ask that you put your name on the item and maybe add what price you might expect- Please indicate if items contain nuts!

Christmas Families: Once again this year we have requested 15 families to support with food and gifts. Watch for tags on the tree by December 11 at the latest. Please remember to sign out your tag. You can also donate money towards the groceries. If you purchase a gift, you may obtain tax credit by giving your receipt to Mac Fyfe. Wrapping Day will be December 21. If you have any questions, please contact Valerie Macdonald at 455-1893.

PLUM PUDDINGS . Please consider ordering a pudding for a friend or neighbour and don't forget yourself. November 29th is the last day of production, so please order well in advance. Prices: 1 lb - \$10; 1 ½ lb - \$15; 2 lb - \$20. Call Diane McClintock

Annual Turkey Supper – First Sackville Presbyterian Church. 60 Beaver Bank Road, Lower Sackville. Eat-in or Take-out. Three sittings 4:30, 5:15, and 6:00 pm, Saturday December 3, 2011. Adults \$12.00, Child age 6-12 \$5.00, under 6 free. Call 865 8477 for information or to reserve tickets. Also **Bake Sale table.**

A Child's Christmas in Wales Dec. 4 at 4 pm The Halifax Camerata Singers, featuring Camerata Xara Young Women's Choir, present a family concert of Christmas music and the reading of *A Child's Christmas in Wales* on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 4 pm at First Baptist Church, Halifax. This popular work will be read by John Hancock, a familiar voice from CBC Radio where he is national sports host and a member of the local Information Morning team.

Come to the Stable: You are cordially invited to participate in "Come to the Stable" at St. Matthew's United Church, Barrington @ Spring Garden, on Sunday, November 27 from 2 till 4 pm. In the sanctuary, there will be a collage of Nativity Scenes from around the world to view and appreciate. Singing, stories will be

presented, all related to the *Creche*. Light refreshments will be served. Suggested donation is \$5 per person/family.

“Coping With The Holidays Following The Death Of A Loved One” Time: 7:00 pm Date: Monday, December 5th, 2011
Venue: Hospice Society House 9 Spring St. Bedford, N.S.
Speakers: Jacquie Bell, Nick Zwaagstra & Roy Ellis.

White Gift Sunday is December 11 It is not too early to plan our giving for White Gift Sunday. Each year the Sunday School collects money the second Sunday in December to help support local missions, especially those that help children and youth. Last year your generous donations broke the all time record for this outreach (\$351.00). Your gifts were distributed to Camp Geddie, Uniacke Square Hot Meals Program for children, the Out of the Cold Outreach, and Feed Nova Scotia.

Will you help break last year's record? Your gifts to the Sunday School are tax deductible if your church envelope number is on **From Feed Nova Scotia:** **Myth:** People on welfare have it pretty good.

Fact: The money people receive through Income Assistance isn't enough to cover life's basic necessities, let alone the small extras that so many of us take for granted. And when individuals try to rise out of poverty by obtaining employment, they are punished by a system that restricts how much they are able to earn before money is deducted from their monthly cheque. It is impossible to get ahead.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP *1st Sunday of Advent*

Pray that hearts and minds will be open to the radical message of Christ's coming into this world.

STEWARDSHIP Christian stewardship is gratefully, faithfully, systematically, and proportionally managing all of our time, ability, and financial resources so that God can use them to

transform human life spiritually, help hurting people, and reach out to others with Christ's redeeming love.
Herb Miller, TheParishPaper.com

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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