

# 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 December 11, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent

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

There is one true God  
whom to know is life eternal,  
whom to serve is **joy** and peace. (from Living Faith)

### God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude: What Sweeter Music by Rutter

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

\*Call to Worship:

Advent 3 Liturgy: Elizabeth and Abigail Molyneaux

\*Hymn: Come thou long expected Jesus

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

**Assurance of God's pardon**



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### We Hear God's Word

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

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

*One: The Word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 126** *When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.*

Gloria Patri (sung)

\*Hymn: This is my commandment (round) 694

Conversation with the young people: **The JOY of Giving**

Hymn: This is my commandment 694

From the letters: **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Gospel: **John 1:6-8, 19-28**

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

\*Hymn: Good Christians, all rejoice 141

Sermon: **SURPRISED BY... JOY!**

### We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: In the Bleak Mid-Winter by Darke

\*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:

Invitation

Communion Hymn: "O come all ye faithful" (vs 1 and 4) 159

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Please follow at 564) ending with Lord's Prayer ("debts & debtors")

Celebration of the Sacrament

Prayer following Communion

## We Go Out to Serve God

\*Hymn: Joy to the World

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\*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: Noel Nouvelet by Willcocks

**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 Shelley MacDonald-Parsons. Our scripture reader for this morning is Valerie MacDonald. Our refreshment hosts this morning are David and Nancy Tindall.

**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.**

**Today is White Gift Sunday** Today pupils, teachers, and all members of the congregation have the opportunity to support the local outreach of the Sunday School. There are still envelopes at the back of the church if you need one, or you may see John Wamboldt or Graeme Hicks. Since we are trying to re-use resources, you may see several different sizes of envelopes. The White Gifts will be placed in the basket at the front of the church as the children leave for classes. If you are giving by cheque, please make it payable to "Saint David's Church School".

All gifts are tax deductible if your church envelope number appears on the White Gift Envelope.

<b>THIS WEEK - (December 11- December 18)</b>	
<b>Today</b>	11:15 am Sunday School Food Bank Sunday
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 pm The evening study will continue in the New Year!
<b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b>	9:30-10:30 am Fitness Classes
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:30 am The morning study will continue in the New Year!
	7:00 pm Kirk Session in the Parlour
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 pm Tupper Band Christmas Concert
<b>Friday</b>	10:00 am – 1:00 pm David's Place (Hall)
<b>Saturday</b>	Special Choir practice
<b>Sunday</b>	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 the Holy Spirit (Living Faith section 4). 10:00 am Circle of Prayer. 11:00 am Traditional Service celebrating the fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Carol Service with the St. David's Choir and friends! 7 p.m. The freewill donation will go towards the music program.

**Christmas Families:** This year we have 11 families, 37 men, women and children, whom we are supporting for Christmas. All the tags have now been placed on the tree, including those for the 5 families we had not been able to contact before last Sunday. Thank you to those who took some tags last week. It would be wonderful if all the tags could be handled by the congregation members. That would ease both the work and financial load of the organizing group, and any money that people donated would be

used to cover the cost of the food, which could run as high as \$700. While we have funds from the chowder luncheon last week as a back -up, we encourage the congregation to take this annual outreach project to heart and oversubscribe it, so that all the chowder money could be used for other projects.

Come one, Come all! Come celebrate the advent season with the Senior Choir of Saint David's and Friends. It's going to be an evening of Carols and Anthems from around the world. This years Lessons and Carols service will encompass music by Bob Chilcott, Rachmaninoff, Biebl, as well as some familiar carols. Everyone is welcome to join us in this evening of choral bliss and enjoy the sounds of Christmas. We welcome you to bring a friend and enjoy the Advent season with us at 7pm in the sanctuary for this evening of Lessons and Carols that is not to be missed!

**Tupper Band Christmas Concert** with Special guests The Vocal Chords and the Testoster Tones Thursday December 15 at 7:30 pm here at St. David's.

**Circle Talk: First Nations People of Nova Scotia**

When: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 Time 7:00pm

Where: Universalist Unitarian Church of Halifax , 5500 Inglis St. Author and elder Dan Paul will be one of the speakers.

As a follow-up to Bible Society Sunday in October, did you know that the **Canadian Bible Society** collects used stamps and then sells them to collectors to raise money for their work. If you would like to cut them off the envelopes and pass them along, Valerie Macdonald would be happy to forward them to the CBS.

Upcoming: The list of special services was circulated last week. Please especially note the Longest Night Service on December 22 at 7 pm and the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 pm.

**MISSION CAPSULES:** Overjoyed with Success in Ghana Isaac Bukari's face can hardly contain his beaming smile. For

many years, Isaac suffered discrimination and neglect from his family and community in Ghana due to epilepsy until a PWS&D partner helped him access medication and enrolled him in a PWS&D-supported vocational training centre. Isaac excelled at weaving, dyeing fabrics and making soap, and received a new wooden loom and weaving materials to start his own business. Filled with joy and gratitude, Isaac says his life is now "fruitful and productive." Today, Isaac runs a successful weaving business from his home and occasionally visits the training centre to teach new students how to follow in his footsteps. This Advent season, you can help young people like Isaac get a new start on life through support of PWS&D.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** *3rd Sunday in Advent*

During the consumer-driven days leading up to Christmas, pray that we will focus on good stewardship practices and an awareness of "enough."

**STEWARDSHIP** The Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' *Acts 20:35b*

**PASTORAL CARE**



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



Kenn Stright office: 423-2660 home: 477-2870  
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**The Presbyterian Church of Saint David**  
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