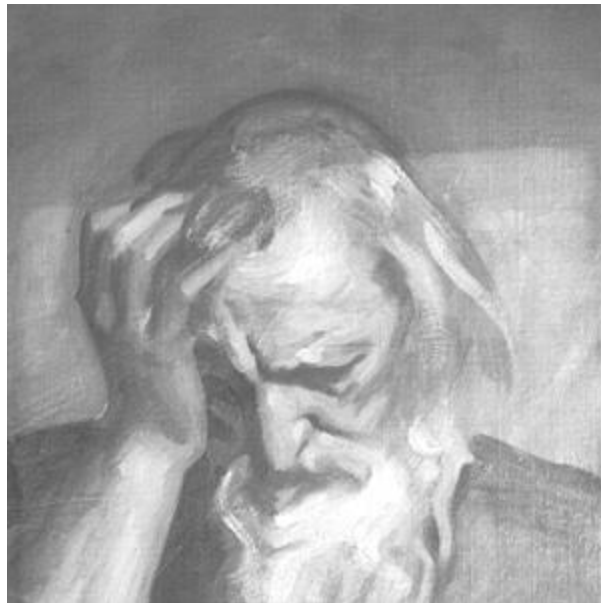


WELCOME TO...

The Presbyterian Church of Saint David  
Early Morning Service May 06, 2012

# A JOURNEY TO MY PROPHETS



## Prophets of God

From *Frieze of Prophets*, detail of the head of the prophet  
Zephaniah

**“The Lord will not do good nor will he do harm.”**

The real question before us in this series is – “what voices do you listen to?” Similar is the question “what ‘right’ does religion have to speak out on social and political issues of the day?”

**Gathering:** *Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, who do his commands; seek righteousness, seek humility.*  
*Perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the Lord’s wrath.*

Hymn: O day of God (verses 1-3)

786

Prayer of Confession:

*God, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair, in you is calmness, peace, and concord. Heal the dissensions that divide us from one another and bring us back to a unity of love bearing some likeness to your divine nature.*

*Through the embrace of love and the bonds of godly affection, make us one in the Spirit by your peace which makes all things peaceful. We ask this through the grace, mercy, and tenderness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Dionysius of Alexandria, died 264) Lord have mercy on us. Christ have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us as we seek a deeper understanding of your will and way. Create in us a desire to devote ourselves to the discipline of searching for and studying your truth, to the glory and praise of Jesus Christ our prophet and priest. Amen.*

## Sharing the Peace

**Words for reflection:** Zephaniah 1: 7-18    **7** Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. **8** And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who dress themselves in foreign attire. **9** On that day I will punish all who leap over the threshold, who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. **10** On that day, says the Lord, a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. **11** The inhabitants of the Mortar wail, for all the traders have perished; all who weigh out silver are cut off. **12** At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." **13** Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant

vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. **14** The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. **15** That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, **16** a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. **17** I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. **18** Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Matthew 25: 31-36

Prayer:

**You send us prophets and truth speakers to open our eyes and ears. Sometimes the message seems fearful, at other times comforting, at all times transforming.**

Hymn: O day of God (verses 4-5) **786**

A brief message: **A Journey to my prophets  
Zephaniah – On that Day!**

Celebrating the sacrament:

*Come, remember and renew the covenant. Eat the bread and drink the wine of the new covenant, Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the many signs of the kingdom of God among us, and to lead you into ever greater participation in that kingdom. We come, to remember, renew and be renewed. We partake in this feast with thankful hearts.*

Hymn: Come, know my joy (1-2) **786**

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *The Lord be with you. And also with you.*

*Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise. Glorify the Lord with me. Let us together praise His name ... By your word and Spirit, O God, sanctify these your own gifts of bread and wine, that the bread which we break may be to us communion in the body of Christ, and the cup of blessing which we bless may be communion in the blood of Christ Come, holy Spirit, come.*

Hymn: Come, know my joy (3-4) **786**

**Communion**

Prayer following communion:

Hymn: May the Lord bless you **553**