



# The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

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



## WELCOME!

We are so glad you have chosen  
to worship with us this morning!  
Service for the Lord's Day December 16, 2012  
The Third Sunday in the season of Advent  
*\*All who are able are asked to stand.*

### Our Vision

#### *A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

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Office: stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca Telephone: (902) 423-1944  
Organist (Tristan Cleveland-Thompson):  
stdavids.music@bellaliant.com  
Web site: [www.saintdavids.ca](http://www.saintdavids.ca)

### God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude:

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship: *The God of joy is with us on our Advent journey  
to the stable and beyond, God is with us in our meeting and in our  
travelling together, God is with us in our worship and our praying  
together, God is with us on our Advent journey to the stable  
and beyond, our God of joy.*

\*Hymn: Joyful, Joyful we adore you 410

Gathering prayer: *Rejoice in the Lord always, shout out God's name.*

**For God is with us, our God is with us, the God of our  
salvation in whom alone we trust. Rejoice in the Lord always  
shout out his name For God is our God who draws us home  
by streams of living water where we shall thirst no more.  
Rejoice in the Lord always shout out his name. He knows our  
thoughts, understands our hearts, and enables us to become  
the people we were meant to be. Amen**

Advent Wreath: The Candle of JOY Phyllis Morrison

### We Hear God's Word

"Open our eyes" (sung unannounced) 445

First Reading: **Zephaniah 3:14-20**

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

Responsive Reading: **Isaiah 12:2-6** *Surely God is my salvation; I will  
trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my  
might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give  
thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the  
nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the LORD,  
for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.*

*Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the  
Holy One of Israel.* Gloria Patri (sung)

\*Hymn: May the God of Hope go with us 726

Conversation: *The JOY of Christmas!*


From the letters: **Philippians 4:4-7**

Gospel: **Luke 3: 7-18**

*One: The Gospel of the Lord.* **All: Praise to you, O Christ**  
**\*Hymn: Good Christians all rejoice** **141**  
**Sermon: All I want for Christmas is... JOY**

## We Respond to God's Word

## Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthems  I Wonder as I wander by Carl Ruti  
For Him all Stars Have Shone by Bob Chilcott

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

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

Offertory Prayer

## Announcements

## Invitation

\*Communion Hymn: “*I Come with Joy*” **530**

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Celebration of the Sacrament

### Prayer following Communion

## We Go Out to Serve God

\*Hymn: Joy to the world 153

\*Benediction:

\*Choral Amen:

## Postlude:

**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 Greeter this morning is Mac McKay. Our scripture reader for this morning is Phyllis Morrison. Refreshment hosts are Nancy and David Tindall.

# ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

The study continues after church:

### Study 3 What Instrument do you play?

### Study 4 Can you sing? What gifts have you been given?

The choir of the Presbyterian Church of Saint David will present a **service of Lessons and Carols** at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 17. Saint David's Organist and Music Director Tristan Cleveland-Thompson has assembled a group of extremely talented choristers for this annual celebration. A freewill offering will be taken to support the music programme.

**THIS WEEK - (December 16 – December 23)**

<b>Today</b>	9:00 am	Early service with communion:
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Christmas Communion service.
		Sunday School at 11:15
	12:30	Bible study
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 pm	Service of Carols and readings
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:30 am	Fitness Class
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Friday</b>	10:00 am	David's Place (Hall)
	7:00 pm	The Longest Night service at Calvin
<b>Saturday</b>		Christmas Wrapping Party - 9 a.m.
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am	Early service with communion:
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional Service-
	12:30 pm	Advent Bible Study in the Study

**Zephaniah 3:14-20** Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At

that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

**Philippians 4:4-7** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**Luke 3:7-18** John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

## 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



## MISSION MOMENTS: Women and War

Being a woman and living under military occupation is dangerous.

Women face harassment by soldiers, displacement, and even physical abuse. The impact of conflict on men sometimes expresses itself as abuse in the home. Presbyterian World Service & Development works in partnership with KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, to support Palestinian women in the West Bank. Social workers help address domestic violence by providing counselling for women and offering employment training. The program helps empower victims to become voices in their own defence and for community justice. Your support of PWS&D and KAIROS is improving the lives of women and girls living under military occupation on Palestinian lands.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** Pray for those who have lost loved ones during the past year, that they will find strength and peace. Remember the Longest Night service being held this year at Calvin.

**STEWARDSHIP** It's about identifying, for yourself, what you need as opposed to what you want, what purchases or types of purchases actually bring you fulfilment, what represents "enough" to you and what you actually spend money on.

**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.**