



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

544 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 30, 2012

The First Sunday in the season of Christmas

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

Our Vision

A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community

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Organist (Tristan Cleveland-Thompson): stdavids.music@bellaliant.com

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God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude:

*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship:

*Hymn: The hand that first held Mary's child

158

Prayer of Confession:

O God, you are slow to anger and swift to have mercy; Forgive us when we treat time as a commodity or an enemy, when we abuse your gift of time. In our fastness and our slowness, help us to keep pace with you. Free us to live in your time, a new time, in which there is a time for everything under heaven, and slow is not too slow, and fast is not too fast. Transform us into people who see time as a gift and a friend, who live as if we have time. We know that your time will never cease. Through Jesus we pray, Amen.

We Hear God's Word

"Open our eyes" (sung unannounced)

445

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 10- 62:3

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 148 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: Infant Holy **143**
 Conversation: ---
 From the letters: **Galatians 4:4-7**
 Gospel: **Luke 2:22-40**
One: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ
 *Hymn: In Bethlehem **140**
 Sermon: **When the waiting is finally over**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

*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:

"Lord, listen to your children praying" (sung unannounced) **449**

Prayers of the People

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

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Lord, dismiss us with your blessing **468**

*Benediction:

*Lord God, you have now set your servant free **791**

*Choral Amen:

Postlude:

Worship is now ended let our service begin!

If you are making a donation to Saint David's or to Presbyterians Sharing and want to have credit for your donation for tax purposes in the year 2012, please have your donation in to the church hall by 2 pm Monday 31st December. Up to December 23rd, our receipts for Presbyterians Sharing are \$21,987.50. Our target is \$26,000.

A heart-felt **'thank-you'** to one and all for prayers, gifts, best wishes and outpouring of love this Christmas Season (from Kenn and family!)

THIS WEEK - (December 30- January 6)

Today	9:00 am	Early service cancelled until Jan. 13
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional service.
Friday	10:00 am - 1:00 pm	David's Place (Hall)
Sunday	9:00 am	Early service cancelled
	11:00 am	Traditional service will be led by Lindsay Rankin, Synod Hospital visitor. Kenn will be in Hardwood Lands and Elmsdale preaching that pulpit vacant

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Galatians 4:4-7 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Luke 2:22-40 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed--and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.



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: Healthy Babies, Happy Moms: PWS&D Sunday School Challenge Although one of the most important interventions for a safe pregnancy and delivery is the assistance of a skilled health worker and quality health facilities, in Malawi, less than half give birth in a hospital with the assistance of a trained nurse or midwife. As a result, Malawi has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. Your support of Presbyterian World Service & Development's Sunday School Challenge "Healthy Babies, Happy Moms" will make lasting improvements to the health and wellbeing of women and children. A gift of only \$330 teaches a nurse how to help mothers deliver and care for new babies, so women and children survive birth more often and babies are given a strong start in life.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP Pray for the treasurers and finance committees of our congregations who work hard all year to keep the financial books in order.

STEWARDSHIP Scripture teaches that we have been blessed in order to bless other – now that's a great New Year's resolution!

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.**

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 Mackay. Our scripture reader for this morning is John Wamboldt. Refreshment Host is Phyllis Morrison.