

**WELCOME TO...**

**The Presbyterian Church of  
Saint David  
July 14, 2013**

**Early Morning Service**

## **THE PLACE OF HEALING**



*"Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the  
overcoming of it." - Helen Keller*

Call to Worship: We believe in a God of health and healing, a God who wants us to be made whole;  
**we come as people who are wounded in body and in spirit, people who seek healing. We come to worship the God of health and healing, the God who wants us to be made whole.**

Hymn: Lord in this broken world

723

**A Prayer for Today:** *Lord, I know You have welcomed me, for You said, "Come to Me"; I know You have a plan for me, for You said, "Follow Me"; I know You have cleansed me, for You said, "Your sins are forgiven"; I know Your will is restful for me, for You said, "Go in peace"; I know You will never leave me without Your presence, for You said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."*

**Lord, no one speaks with the power of Your voice—***You said "Come forth" and the dead lived again; You said, "Rise, take up your bed and walk" and the feeble could stand to their feet; You said, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" and clear images flooded darkened eyes.*

**Lord, no one speaks with the comfort of Your voice—***it calls me as a shepherd to its lost lamb; it soothes me as a mother to her hurting child; it woos me as a bridegroom to his bride; it reassures me as a friend to his companion.*

**Lord, no one speaks with the clarity of Your voice—***You speak words of light to shine upon my path; You speak words of nourishment to feed my soul; You speak words of truth to make me wise; You speak words of vitality to make me whole.*

**Lord, speak, for your servant hears. You who speak love, my heart is listening; You who speak hope, my heart is trusting, You who speak life, my heart is receiving.**

Hymn: There is a balm in Gilead

747

"Healing does not mean going back to the way things were before, but rather allowing what is now to move us closer to God." - Ram Dass

**Focus Reading**      **Psalm 30** *I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." By your favour, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication: "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!" You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.*

**Gospel: John 9: 1** As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

**Invitation**      *Come, for all things are now ready. Come to the table and share with all in need: the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those in sin, the gift of assurance for those in doubt, and the gift of hope for those in tears. May we who share these gifts share Christ with one another and all God's people.*

**This is the table where God intends us to be nourished; this is the time when Christ can make us new.** *So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his. The Sacrament of Bread and Wine – where God comes to meet us in the ordinary things of the earth that God has made holy – wheat and grapes, food and drink for our souls and for our bodies, grown in the soil, watered by the rain, ripened by the sun, fashioned by human hands so that the divine purpose may once again be fulfilled.*

### Great prayer of Thanksgiving

*Liturgy at the table*      Here is bread, here is wine      **546**

*Distribution*

Prayer after communion

Hymn: Now let us from this table rise      **556**