

WELCOME TO...

**The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David
July 28, 2013**

Early Morning Service

SHAPED BY PRAYER



Gathering: *We have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.*

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Confession: *God of truth, we know we fall far short of your expectations for us – sometimes we fail even our own self-expectations. We wander away from you in our daily routines; we ignore your commands and in apathy turn our backs on those who are suffering. Forgive our short-sighted vision, our constant focus on ourselves, and our discounting of future generations in our decision-making. Help us to deepen our connections with you through prayer, praise and scripture, and with others through affirming, supportive relationships. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all grace, Amen.* posted on The Presbyterian Church in Canada web

Hymn: 'Take my life and let it be

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Jesus uses questions and concerns to take us to the next level in our understanding and our spiritual journey - so it's not surprising he would give us a prayer that explodes with implications we are still feeling today.

Focus Reading Luke 11: 1-13 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children

are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Hymn: Lord, I want to be a Christian 571

The disciples find Jesus at prayer. They are people of faith, taught to pray from early childhood, but when they see the strength, the power, the wisdom of God in Jesus, they want to be strong, and full of power, and wise, too. Jesus responds to their request with a short prayer that has become the prayer that marks us, identifies and unifies us as Christians. Jesus models prayer as an intimate, two-way conversation with God, a loving parent who listens to us, cares for us, forgives us, provides for us, protects us. Jesus doesn't talk obscure, intellectual theology, but brings the reality of God's love home to the people in terms they-we can understand, the language of everyday relationships, at their best and even at their not-so-best. However, this prayer Jesus gave us is not just a comforting, private little prayer to get us through our tough times and personal crises. It is the corporate prayer of a faith community seeking to be faithful in tough times

Hymn: O Holy Father 529

Invitation: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke

it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him. This is the Lord's table. Our Saviour invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *The Lord is here. **God's spirit is with us. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.*** (Continue in prayer)

*By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the world, **until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honour and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever more.*** (Our Father...)

Hymn: Hallelujah 532

Communion

Hymn: For the bread which you have broken (1-2) 549

Prayer after communion *Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. **Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Hymn: For the bread which you have broken (3-4) 549

