



# 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 29, 2012  
The First Sunday in the season of Christmas

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

## Our Vision

*A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

Office & Mailing Address: 1537 Brunswick St., Halifax, NS B3J 2G1  
Minister (Kenn Stright): [stdavids.stright@bellaliant.com](mailto:stdavids.stright@bellaliant.com)  
Office: [stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca) Telephone: (902) 423-1944  
Organist (Tristan Cleveland-Thompson): [stdavids.music@bellaliant.com](mailto: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:

\*Hymn: Good Christians, all rejoice

141

Prayer of Confession: *God of compassion, you offer light to live by, and yet too often we live in darkness. You promise new life but we confess that we are in love with our old ways; with hurts that we nourish, hatreds that hold us hostage, and fantasies that restrict our living. You offer to us unconditional love, but we reject our neighbours and live apart from you and one another in so many ways. Recreate us in the image of your son and for your glory's sake forgive us.*

Assurance of Pardon: Here is the good news of the Gospel; Jesus Christ is chosen for our salvation. In him we are made acceptable to God. Let us give thanks to God, and be at peace with ourselves and with one another.

## We Hear God's Word

First Reading:

Isaiah 63:7-9

*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: *Don't put Christmas away!*

From the letters: **Hebrews 2:10-18 2:10**

Gospel: **Matthew 2: 13-23**

*One: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ*

\*Hymn: A Holy Baby 345

Sermon: **And now... for the rest of the story.**

### We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

\*Doxology: "*Praise God*" 830

\*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (inside back cover of the Book of Praise)

Offertory Prayer

Announcements:

*"Lord, listen to your children praying"* 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!**



*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.*

(Howard Thurman)

**THIS WEEK - (December 29- January 5)**

**Today** 9:00 am Early service  
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  
11:00 am Traditional service  
Mission and Outreach meeting immediately following worship this morning.

Upcoming notice: Session meets January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

**Year End**

If you are making a donation and you want it to be credited for the 2013 tax year, please have your donation in to the church office or in our Brunswick Street mail slot by 1 pm on Tuesday December 31st. Thank you!

**Thank you...**

to the congregation for your best wishes, cards and gifts to me and my family. We are ever so grateful to God for your love and support. We wish you all God's blessing in the New Year soon to dawn!

**Isaiah 63:7-9** I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

**Hebrews 2:10-18 2:10** It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

**Matthew 2:13-23** Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."



## 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 scripture reader for this morning is Phyllis Morrison. Refreshment Host is Phyllis Morrison.