



Presbyterian Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax

WELCOME!

We are so glad you have chosen
to worship with us this morning!
September 14, 2014

14th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Our Vision:

A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community

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God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship:

*Hymn: As when the Hebrew Prophet **189**
Prayer of Adoration and confession: *God, the forgiveness you offer on our account is larger than we can comprehend, still we withhold forgiveness and carry the grudge over petty items. We are eager to do your judging.*

And the worst: we conspire our inner thoughts to secure your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance. Forgive us Lord for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us Lord from the sins we hide. (pause for reflection and self-examination) *The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and has not dealt with us*

according to our sins. Instead, God has chosen the gift of God's own son on our account. This gift of forgiveness makes us able, with the power of Holy Spirit, to choose to forgive, renew and live again in right relationship with each other and with our God.

We Hear God's Word

"Open our eyes" (sung unannounced) **445**

First Reading: Numbers 21: 4b-9

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 98:1-5** *O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.*

Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: What a friend **746**

Conversation with the community: *Connect the dots*

From the letters: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

Gospel: John 3: 13-17

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

*Hymn: In loving Partnership **759**

Sermon: God loved the world – and still does!

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

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

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: Take up your cross

211

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 ---. Our scripture reader for this morning is Val Macdonald. Our refreshment host is Phyllis Morrison.

This is **food bank Sunday**. Our gifts augment what Feed Nova Scotia provides for David's Place (now meeting at Ft. Massey until we are ready!). For some of our guests this is a crucial service to provide nourishment between cheques!

The Circle of prayer continues each Sunday at 10 in the minister's study. Join us as we 'take it to the Lord in prayer'!

The choir practices on Thursday at 7:30 – why not consider joining them – talk with a choir member after the service!

The **early service** will begin September 28 at 9 am. Why not consider adding this quiet, reflective communion service to your fall schedule.

Sunday School begins on Oct. 5 – World Communion Sunday. We are blessed with an excellent staff, classroom facilities which will be available into the new year and lots of young and eager children. Please make certain they are informed and encouraged to bring their friends!

The newsletter deadline is next Friday – September 19: This is your newsletter and we need your input. Please send your submissions to Carol at caroljdobson@gmail.com If you don't have e-mail, just tell us your news and we will write it up for you. Tell us what book you are reading, where your children are this year and

what they are doing, how you spent your summer vacation, your favourite recipe, your ideas for fellowship activities now that we don't have the big hall, or your favourite story, quiz or puzzle.

You are invited to a workshop **on Healing and Reconciliation** with Aboriginal people at Calvin Presbyterian September 27, from 8:45- 4 pm... a time of learning, discussion, community building and reflecting on the future (Lunch is provided!)

AMS annual meets September 26-28 at Iona Presbyterian – all welcome!

Celebrate Leonard Cohen's 80th birthday in concert with vocalist Cliff Le Jeune, the Blue Engine String Quartet and keyboardist Lisa St. Clair, Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Fort Massey United Church, 5303 Tobin Street, corner of Queen and Tobin in Halifax.

Numbers 21:4b-9 ...the people became impatient on the way.

The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

1 Corinthians 1:18-24 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

John 3:13-17 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through 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

Clerk of Session: Murray Alary



MISSION CAPSULES: Teaching theology in Taiwan

Presbyterians Sharing supports Ted and Betty Siverns as they serve our partner church, the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. Ted is a Visiting Scholar at Tainan Theological College and Seminary where he teaches New Testament studies at the Doctoral level. Betty is a cheerful presence on campus, helping students with their English. In addition to teaching, Ted directs a Masters of Theology thesis, sits on committees, and occasionally leads morning worship. He also writes for a Taiwanese and English church and society journal. Ted shares, "We are glad to be here as Canadians, members of the PCC and friends of the PCT." *Presbyterians Sharing* helps strengthen our partnership with the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP Pray for wisdom and guidance for PCC mission staff Ted and Betty Siverns as they return to Tainan Theological Seminary in Taiwan, having spent the summer in Canada with family and friends.

STEWARDSHIP In necessary things, unity; in disputed things, liberty; in all things, charity. *Richard Baxter*



! Breastfeed.

We welcome younger children to our services! St.

David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility.

The 3 R's at Saint David's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
This is a 'scent free' zone for the comfort of all.