



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers



WELCOME!

*We are so glad you have chosen
to worship with us this morning!*

Service for the Lord's Day

September 21, 2014
15th 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: All people that on earth

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Prayer of Adoration and confession: *We are thankful that your mercy
is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our
sin. Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life,*

our callousness toward suffering,

our envy of those who have more than we have,

our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,

our indifference to the treasures of heaven,

our neglect of your wise and gracious law.

*Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love
what you love, and do what you command, Through Christ our Lord.*

Assurance of Pardon:

We Hear God's Word

"Open our eyes" (sung unannounced)

445

First Reading: Exodus 16: 2-15

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45**

O give thanks to

the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful
works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD
rejoice. Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence**

continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles,

and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham,

**children of Jacob, his chosen ones. Then he brought Israel out with
silver and gold, and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled.**

**Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had
fallen upon it. He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by**

night. They asked, and he brought quails, and gave them

food from heaven in abundance. He opened the rock, and water

gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river. For he

remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant. So

he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing. He gave

them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of

the wealth of the peoples, that they might keep his statutes and

observe his laws. Praise the LORD!

Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: The wise may bring their learning

637

Conversation with the community You're in my spot (Sheldon)

"In an ever-changing world it is a single point of consistency..."

From the letters: *Philippians 1: 21-30*

Gospel: *Matthew 20: 1-16*

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

Hymn: We give thee but thine own **661**

Sermon: A GENEROUS GOD

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

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Take my life and let it be **637**

* Commissioning: *Let us continue in our work in God's vineyard.*

Let us live in manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. *Let us be in one spirit, striving side by side, Let us find Christ in our struggles, Let us be surprised by the joy in our faith, Let us find you, O God, in all our work.*

*Benediction and *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 Barbara MacKeigan. Our scripture reader for this morning is Phyllis Morrison. Our refreshment hosts are Nancy and David Tyndall.

Refreshment Hosts are needed for the Fall. Please see the sign-up sheet by the coffee urn to record your availability. This is a great way to meet people and there are always folks around to help you if you are a first timer. It isn't onerous--come a little bit early with 1 litre of milk and if so desired some cookies or other munchies. The coffee is usually already on and the table set up. Please consider this

ministry of fellowship as one way to contribute to the life of Saint David's. If you have any questions contact Valerie Macdonald

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 Tristan after the service!

The **early service** will begin next Sunday 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 past. If you have any items, please get them to Carol today!

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 concludes today. Please remember them in prayer and for a safe return home.

Saturday September 27 at 7:30 p.m., at St Matthew's United Church 1479 Barrington Street, **'Jazz in a Sacred Space'** featuring Peter Woods, saxophone and Brian Browne, piano with special guest appearance by the St. Andrew's house band "The Mostly Righteous Brothers". Tickets are \$20 adult/\$10 student at the door.

What **WE** always wanted **YOU** to know about the ORGAN... but you never asked! The evening is intended to be entertaining but informative, and refreshments will be served. FRIDAY, September 19, at 1930h; FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1300 Oxford St.

Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him--what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the

burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous? ' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

There's a play by Timothy Thompson based on this parable in which he depicts two brothers vying for work. John is strong and capable; Philip is just as willing but has lost a hand in an accident. When the landowner comes, John is taken in the first wave of workers, and as he labors in the field he looks up the lane for some sign of Philip. Other workers are brought to the field, but Philip is not among them. John is grateful to have the work, but feels empty knowing that Philip is just as needful as he. Finally, the last group of workers arrive, and Philip is among them. John is relieved to know that Philip will get to work at least one hour. But, as the drama unfolds, and those who came last get paid a full days' wages, John rejoices, knowing that Philip - his brother - will have the money necessary to feed his family. When it comes his turn to stand before the landowner and receive his pay, instead of complaining as the others, John throws out his hand and says with tears in his eyes, "Thank you, my lord, for what you've done for us today!"
(Philip W. McLarty)

Today we have much at St. David's to give thanks for!



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: Treating leprosy with love and care in Nepal Karna Bahadur suffered from leprosy for over seven years without diagnosis or treatment – a time he describes as the most painful of his life. Desperate for a cure, Karna visited several traditional healers, but the herbal supplements only brought numbness and worsened the severe pain. “I became depressed and considered my life worthless,” he recalls. But all hope was not lost. At the recommendation of his neighbour, Karna came to the Presbyterian World Service & Development supported Jumla Clinic. Right away he was diagnosed with leprosy and started a multi-drug therapy for a year. Glad to have his life back, Karna says, “I came to the right place. Not only was I diagnosed and cured, but I was also treated with love and care.”

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP Pray for the Atlantic Mission Society's annual meeting as it convenes in Dartmouth at this time.

STEWARDSHIP Live like a shepherd, not like a wolf. Remember, recycling is an act of worship! *Christians for Environmental Stewardship*

We welcome younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility. If desired a **nursery room** is now available.



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