



# The 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!

Service for the Lord's Day  
October 12, 2014

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

## THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

Our Vision:

*A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

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### God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude: At this Time Give Thanks by Sirrett

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

\*Call to Worship: God stretches out the heavens and shapes the earth. **Come and give thanks!** God raises up the mountains and pours water into the seas. **Come and give thanks!**

God calls forth plants from the soil and forms animals in infinite variety. **Come and give thanks!** God breathes upon us and fills us with life. **Come lift your voices in praise!** God gives our lives meaning through laughter and tears. **Come lift your voices in praise!** God touches our hearts through family and



friends. **Come lift your voices in praise!** God loves us and blesses us with everything good. **Come and worship!** God loves us and overwhelms us with never-ending generosity. **Come and worship!** God loves us and surrounds us with love in abundance!

**Come and worship!**

\*Hymn: Come, ye thankful people, come

**803**

Prayer of Confession: *We fill our lives with the fear of scarcity, assuming there is not enough money, time, patience or love. We turn away when a stranger asks for nourishment, claiming there isn't enough even for ourselves.*

**Forgive us when we doubt your abundance and ignore the possibilities in what we have been given. We often sit with arms crossed and fists clenched, crying out that you have turned away and left us empty handed. Forgive us when we reject your abundance and neglect the possibilities in what we have been given. We easily give thanks for the good things in life, turning away from those which lead us to deeper community or second-guessing blessings as too good to be true. Open our eyes to the wonders that surround us. Help us surrender to the loving embrace that enfolds us.**

Assurance of Pardon: *Take comfort: we, and the whole world with us, are always embraced in Christ's love. In Christ, there is always enough.*

### We Hear God's Word

"Put Peace into Each Other's Hands by Ron Klusmeier

First Reading: *Deuteronomy 8:7-18*

*One: The Word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 65 *Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed, O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come. When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions. Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple. By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples. Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy. You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. You*

water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. *You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.*

Gloria Patri (sung)

\*Hymn: Can a little child like me 441

Conversation with the children: Where does the water go?

From the letters: *2 Corinthians 9:6-15*

Gospel: *Luke 21: 1-4*

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

Hymn: Give thanks for life (tune: Sine Nomine) 613

Sermon: **A Time of Abundant Giving**

### We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: For the Beauty of the Earth by Willcocks

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

Prayer of gratitude: *Generous God, for the abundance of your blessings to us, day by day and year by year, we give you our thanks. For the simple pleasures of life: for garden harvests, coffee conversation, and familiar surroundings, for health and strength to appreciate the wonder of life, for needs met and desires fulfilled, we give you our thanks. For food to nourish body and spirit, for homes which supply shelter, which nurture order and beauty, and offer hospitality, we give you our thanks. With gifts of money which reach farther than we can manage ourselves, with deeds done in service of neighbor and stranger, with family and friends distant and nearby, we worship you, God, with grateful hearts and joyful spirit.*

**Alleluia. Amen.**

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: Now thank we all our God 457

**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** is every Sunday at 9 am. Consider adding this quiet, reflective communion service to your fall schedule.

Food Banks and Beyond: **Lunch and Learn Panel and Discussion** - World Food Day, Thursday, October 16, 2014 12:00 noon —1:30 pm Christ Church Hall (Upper Hall) 61 Dundas Street, Dartmouth.

**"Forgiven/Forgotten"**: follows a family and their reactions to learning that an ex-offender will be serving his parole in their community. An emotionally driven piece with a hard-hitting script and talented performers. Theatre of the Beat has quickly gained a reputation as a social justice theatre company which tackles tough topics. Wednesday, October 29, First Baptist Church (1300 Oxford St), Halifax, NS, 7:00 pm. Admission by freewill Offering.

First Baptist Church Halifax has scheduled an Induction Service for Jenny Csinos as Minister of Faith Development Sunday, October 26th at 7 p.m. The guest speaker will be Melvin Bray of Atlanta. **Faith Forward: A conversation on Children, Youth, and the Future of Faith Formation.** All Sunday school teachers, parents, pastors and youth leaders are invited to attend a FREE event. Everyone is welcome. Friday, October 24 from 7:00-8:30 at Columba Chapel, Atlantic School of Theology.

### **Total Offerings**

Giving Goal for September: \$8,878

Amount given in September: \$9,284

Thank you for your generosity. Sanctuary renovations are well under way. However, we must keep up our contributions for the day to day expenses of running Saint David's.

### **Presbyterians Sharing**

Giving Goal for 2014: \$22,000

Given up to September 30th: \$15,464 70% Thank

you for your generosity to Presbyterians Sharing. If we exceed our \$22,000 goal, the excess amount will be matched by Ken and Gloria Mader. (e.g. \$22,200 would become \$22,400.)

Commissioning: *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God. And whatever we do, in word or deed, we do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Benediction: *Do not worry about anything in life - what you'll eat, or what you'll wear. Look at the birds of the air, or the flowers in the field. If God takes such good care of birds and flowers, how much more will God care for you? So don't be afraid. Instead, let our lives be marked by compassion and generosity, sharing what we have been given with those in need, storing up treasure in heaven instead of here on earth. And may the blessing of God - Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer - encourage and strengthen you in every good word and deed.* \*Choral Amen:

Postlude: All Good Gifts by Schwartz

**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 Murray Alary.

Refreshment Hosts: Roderick and Val Macdonald. Our scripture reader for this morning is Anne Sommerville.

**We welcome** younger children to our services! St. David's is still a breastfeeding friendly facility. Try out the new room soon!

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

**Refreshment Hosts** are needed for November 9, 16,23,and 30. Please see the sign-up sheet by the coffee urn to record your availability.

A **lectionary bible study group** begins next week at 12:15 after refreshments in the minister's study. The lectionary readings for the next week will be explored. The group will meet for 45 minutes weekly and give participants an unique glimpse into worship and the place of scripture. **Handout available from the minister.**

### **Deuteronomy 8:7-18**

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

### **2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for

the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

**Luke 21: 1-4:**

**1** He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; **2** he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. **3** He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; **4** for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

**Prayer for the Synod of the Atlantic Provinces**

This year the meeting will be hosted by the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island and will be held at Summerside Presbyterian Church, from October 20, 2014 to Oct. 22 (Kenn's home church!).

**Almighty God**, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to walk with us. He promised that we would never be alone. Hear us as we pray that your presence will be with your faithful servants who will be meeting at the Atlantic Synod. May your presence guide them in all that they do and may your Spirit give them wisdom and understanding, vision and knowledge. Grant them compassion, courage, and the desire to unite in love and peace. Teach them, and all of us, Lord, to be faithful stewards of your kingdom here on earth. May they follow your will so that your people may be uplifted and confirmed in their faith; And may your love be declared to all the world, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



**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: *Enough for All***

**October 16 is World Food Day** - a day to raise awareness of the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty. God created the earth to sustain us and yet 870 million people do not have enough to eat. Presbyterian World Service & Development is working to end global hunger by providing food in times of emergency and by helping small-scale farmers increase crop yields. In Guatemala, PWS&D's partners are working to teach 440 families sustainable farming techniques and help mitigate the effects of climate change. "We eat healthier now because our maize and beans are grown using organic fertilizers," says Miguel Quintanilla. "The money we were spending on chemical products is now buying necessities for our home. We are not mistreating our land; instead we are making the land more fertile." See announcements for event in Halifax.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** *Give thanks* for the many blessings we enjoy in this country. May we care for those who are not as fortunate and who struggle daily for basic necessities. Pray that our Food bank Sunday makes a difference to many!

**STEWARDSHIP** There's no reason to be the richest man in the cemetery. You can't do any business from there.

*Colonel Sanders*