

WELCOME TO...

The Presbyterian Church of  
**Saint David**  
November 23, 2014



**We Gather And Offer Praise**

*God hears the cry of the needy, and does not wait for us to call  
before coming to our aid;*

**While we were still lost in our brokenness and sin,  
God came to us  
lived among us  
died our death  
and rose to lead us into life.**

*And so we come to worship, to offer God our devotion and love  
our thanksgiving and praise.*

**For God is worthy. Praise to our God.**

Hymn: Christ you call us all to service (1-2) **585**  
**Prayer of Confession** *God of the people, you have called us to walk  
humbly before you and to share in the struggle with the least of these, yet we  
have failed to live up to this call. Today, we come before you asking your Spirit  
to empower us to be agents of transformation for the world. Make us a  
chalice from which all the oppressed can find the living  
waters of God, who calls us to live a life of service, of  
humility, and of reconciliation with you, with creation, and  
with the world. Amen.* ~ posted on **Many Voices.**

**Declaration of Forgiveness** *'Come, you that are blessed by my Father,  
inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...'*

Hymn: Christ you call us all to service (3) **585**

**Matthew 25:31-46** [*Jesus said:*] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

'Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

**A different perspective:** Jim Wallis of Sojourners put it this way: "I still hear Christians arguing about which issues are most important. Matthew 25 says, 'I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, sick, in prison.' Climate change affects all of these issues. Until we integrate our approach, we will continue to bicker over the issues." "In Matthew 25, Jesus says we are to feed the hungry and give something to drink to those who thirst. Certainly we can staff and supply food banks, but if we want to take on the larger causes of hunger and thirst, we must look at the very underpinnings of our society: our use of fossil fuels and inefficient water use. Our current practices deplete resources, destroy ecosystems, and exacerbate climate change...How will we be judged for the ways in which we have lived on this planet with each other? Will we have tilled and kept it well, as Adam and Eve were commanded to do? Or will we have dominated and destroyed it? We have choices every day. Choose to see Christ in every person" Meghan Pritchard

Hymn: Christ is King 272

**Prayer:** *Lord, let this be our prayer as we seek to follow Jesus in our daily living: Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people; Move my hands that they may feed the hungry; Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing; Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers; Let me share my possessions to clothe the naked; Give me the care that strengthens the sick; Make me share in the quest to set the prisoner free. In sharing our anxieties and our love, our poverty and our prosperity, we partake of your divine presence.* ~ Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe

Invitation prayer: *We are so grateful that God has welcomed us to this table, We celebrate this, and all the ways that God cares for us and shows us love. It is good to be reminded of God's compassion and generosity. It is good to respond with thanksgiving, with praise, and with generous living.*

Hymn: Come now you blessed, eat at my table (1-3) 724

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Blessing of the Elements: *God, may this bread connect us more closely with you and with our neighbors near and far. Bless this bread, we pray. May this fruit of the vine remind us of the inter-connectedness of people around the world. Bless this cup, we pray. May this meal bring us into union with you, your people and your world united in the One Body of Christ.*

### Celebrating the Sacrament

**Prayer after Communion** *Thank you, God, for this meal, and for the way it feeds our souls, changes our hearts, and unites us with you. We go now to live as followers of Christ, as people of compassion, as those who seek to serve and heal the world.*

Hymn: Come now you blessed, eat at my table (4) 724

*As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry.  
As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned.  
As you have been received – give.  
As you have heard – proclaim.  
And the blessing which you have received  
from the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit  
be always with you. Amen. ~ written by Rev. Daniel B. Randall*