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## WELCOME!

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

Service for the Lord's Day

December 14, 2014

ADVENT 3 – White Gift

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

# THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAINT DAVID

### Our Vision:

*A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

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Clerk of Session: ..... Murray Alary

### God Calls Us to Worship



Prelude: Nativity Carol by Rutter

Decommissioning of the hall

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

\* Call to worship: *The Reign of God is drawing near: The apostle calls us to change our lives! Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances. This is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us as we watch and wait.*

*Advent Liturgy*

*The Kinley family*

\*Hymn: Arise your light is come!

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Opening prayer: *Holy God, We long for the joy of the Lord to be our strength, in joy and anticipation we hear your call to turn toward you, to change our lives and welcome you in, to seek forgiveness from everything that seeks to separate us from your love and your forgiveness. May the God of hope fill us with joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may glorify and enjoy God forever. In the Name of the One who is coming, we pray. Amen!*

### Where we Hear God's Word

First Reading: *Isaiah 61: 1-4; 8-11*

One: *The Word of the Lord.*

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: \* **Psalm 126** *When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.*

Gloria Patri (sung)

\*Hymn: Oh come, Oh come Emmanuel 1-3,6

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Celebrating our White Gifts...A time with our children: The journey to Bethlehem

From the letters: *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Gospel: *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

One: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

All: Praise to you, O Christ

\* Hymn: Hark the glad sound

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Sermon: **WITH SHOUTS OF JOY**

### We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: The Friendly Beasts by Rover Davis

\*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: Lord's Prayer ("debts & debtors")

## We Go Out to Serve God

\*Hymn: Good Christians all rejoice **141**  
Commissioning and Benediction: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon us. The Spirit of the Lord is in us. Anointing us, sending us to bring good news to bind up, to proclaim favour, to comfort, to provide, to loosen. The day of the Lord is coming. The day of the Lord has come.*

\*Choral Amen:

Postlude: Sir Christemas by Matthias

A final word – renovation and the future

**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.

Ever been part of **CGIT?** 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer – see website for details and registration.

The Choir of St. John's United Church is presenting "A Christmas Tapestry" on Thursday, Dec. 18th – 7p.m. at the Conservatory.  
\$10.00

### **Presbyterians Sharing**

Giving Goal for 2014:	\$22,000
Given up to December 7 <sup>th</sup> :	\$19,003      86%
We are so close! If we exceed \$22,000, Ken and Gloria Mader will match the excess. \$22,400 would become \$22,800.	

First Baptist, St. Andrew's United, St. John's United and the Presbyterian Church of Saint David's will gather together at St. David's on Monday, December 22, at 7 pm for the **Longest Night Service** - a worship service for those who have a heaviness in their heart this Christmas. Christmas is a time of joy and celebration. For many, Christmas also carries undertones of grief and loss and sorrow. The Longest Night service recognizes those voices as well. We invite you to experience a meditative worship service that takes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places, and preparing ourselves to receive light.

With the closure of the hall many folks have realized we need new ways to build fellowship. One that has been suggested is a periodic breakfast. Thus on Sunday, December 28 at 10 we will be welcoming folks to a potluck breakfast. Bring your favourite breakfast food and we will have the coffeepot on and juice to share.

**The choir** practices on Thursday at 7:30 pm.

**David's Place** Friday from 10- noon

**The Circle of prayer** Sunday at 10 in the minister's study.

**The early service** is every Sunday at 9 am

**Sunday Lectionary Bible Study** – please feel free to get refreshments and join us in the minister's study.

*December 14: White Gift and Food Bank Sunday*

*December 20: Wrapping Party for Christmas Families*

*December 21 at 7:00 p.m. Carol Service*

*December 22: Homeless Memorial service Monday, December 22, 11am PAXnorth, 5568 Cunard Street.*

*December 22: Longest Night Service 7 pm*

*December 24: Services at 4pm and 7 p.m.*

*December 28: Congregational Breakfast 10 am!*



### 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: Male Motivators Help Lead on

**Maternal Health** Patrick and his wife Caroline live with their newborn baby in northern Malawi. While Caroline was pregnant, the couple received visits from their village safe motherhood committee. "This was the first time I realized it was risky for my wife to deliver at home," remembers Patrick. After that visit, Patrick began to act as a male motivator. Through PWS&D's maternal health program, male motivators are equipped with the knowledge and skills to help other men understand of the effects of pregnancy and delivery for their partners and to take an active role in the welfare of their families. Patrick recalls travelling to the health facility early to ensure they were ready when Caroline went into labour. Patrick's experience of a happy and healthy delivery just reinforces for him "why men should always be with their wives during pregnancy!"

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** *During the consumer-driven days leading up to Christmas, pray for a spirit of gratitude and an awareness of "enough."*

**STEWARDSHIP** Real charity doesn't care if it's tax deductible or not. *Anonymous*

**We welcome** younger children to our services! St. David's is still a breastfeeding friendly facility.



! Breastfeed.

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

Our Greeter this morning is Johannah Roberts. Our scripture reader for this morning is Lisa Glennie. Our refreshment hosts are David and Nancy Tindall.

- **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11** The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion-- to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.
- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24** Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.
- **John 1:6-8, 19-28** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did

not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.