



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, N.S.

Minister: Rev. Kenn Stright

Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

Clerk of Session: Murray Alary

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

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

WELCOME!

Service for the Lord's Day March 01, 2015
Second Sunday in Lent

Our Vision:

A Worshipping-Sharing-Welcoming Community

Mailing Address: 1537 Brunswick St., Halifax, NS B3J 2G1

Minister (Kenn Stright): stdavids.stright@bellaliant.com

e-mail: stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca Telephone: (902) 423-1944

Organist (Tristan Cleveland-Thompson): davids.music@bellaliant.com

Web site: www.saintdavids.ca

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude:

*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship: *Come into this sacred space to worship God whose teaching is perfect; whose directions are sure. Come into this holy place to worship God whose standards are right; whose commandment is clear; whose judgements are true. Come with holy fear – to be given life, and made wise, to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide. Come - let us worship God. Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts be according to your will, O God. Amen.*

Hymn: The God of Abraham Praise

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Prayer of Adoration & Confession *Your glory, O God is declared in the holy silence of the heavens, and told in the silent succession of day and night. No speech, or word or voice is heard; yet they speak to all the world, and their words reach to the ends of the earth. The sun joyfully leaps across the sky, from one end of the heavens to the farthest reaches, and nothing is hidden from its heat or light. So nothing that we do or say or whisper in our hearts is hidden from you, Lord God. Release us from darkness we hide deep within our lives. Let our lives be radiant with holy fear; delighting in your teaching, receiving insight from your commandments and wisdom from your encouraging. Enliven our desire for your everlasting judgements over wealth or fame: to enjoy the sweet drippings of the honeycomb, that are to be found in right relationship with those around us, and with you. Amen. ©*

2000 Jeff Shrowder

Lord

have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Lenten Liturgies

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: *Genesis 17:1-7,15-16*

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 22:23-31** *You who fear God, praise God! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify God; stand in awe of God, all you offspring of Israel! For God did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; God did not hide God's face from me, but heard when I cried to God. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear God. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek God shall praise God. May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to God; and all the families of the nations shall worship before God. For dominion belongs to God, and God rules over the nations. To God, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before God shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for God. Posterity will serve God; future generations will be told about God, and proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that God has done it.*

Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: Follow me, the Master said

645

Conversation with the young people:

From the letters: *Romans 4:13-25*

Gospel: *Mark 8:31-38*

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

Hymn: Take up your cross the Saviour said **211**

Sermon: **Laughter - The BEST Medicine**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

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

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed 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: Will you come and follow me **634**

*Benediction:

*Choral Amen:

Postlude:

Worship is now ended let our service begin!

The Halifax Metro Women's Inter-Church Council 2015 **World Day of Prayer Service** at 2:00pm on Friday, March 6 (storm date will be March 13) at Calvin Presbyterian Church. The service this year has been written by the women of the Bahamas with the theme "Jesus said to them, "Do You Know What I Have Done to You?". Guest speaker will be Reverend Michael Koslowski. Please join us as we unite with Christians in more than 170 countries around the world and 2,000 communities across Canada who will gather to pray and act in solidarity with the people of The Bahamas.

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 Welcoming Elder this morning is _____. Our scripture reader for this morning is _____. Our luncheon is provided by the men taking part in the annual soup contest.

THIS WEEK - (March 01 – 08)

Today Sunday School: 11:15 am.

Soup contest! Annual Congregational Meeting!

No formal study this week due to Annual meeting – please pick up take home sheet (again!): "This is my Covenant"

Tuesday 10:30 am Presbytery at St. David's
2:00 pm W&CL

Thursday 7:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm David's Place

Sunday 9:00 am Early service with communion:

10:00 am Circle of Prayer.

11:00 am Traditional Service. Lenten

Study after worship: "Bound in Covenant" The minister will be on holiday from MARCH 9-16. Next **Session** meeting is March 18.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarah your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah who is ninety years old bear a child?"

Romans 4:13-25 For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law

who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Mark 8:31-38 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

MISSION CAPSULES: Experiencing God's transforming love The Presbyterian Church of East Africa's Theological Education by Extension program in Kenya provides practical, interactive theological courses to help lay leaders understand scripture, apply it to their context and put it into practice. The course is also offered to prisoners who are eager to learn about God and turn their lives around. Joseph Wanyama, who is serving a life sentence for robbery in Kingongo Maximum Prison, was one of the first inmates to enroll in the course at Kingongo. He became a Christian on his graduation day. Joseph shares, "This course has both liberated and transformed me. I now feel freer inside this prison than I felt before I was imprisoned. I am happy that I can now understand God from my own perspective." *Presbyterians Sharing* helps people like Joseph experience God's transforming love.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP *Annual Congregational Meeting*
We think of all that awaits us in our gathering and ask that God will be with us in the decisions we make.

STEWARDSHIP A significant portion of our Annual budget comes from those who have remembered this congregation in their wills. We praise God for their thoughtfulness and promise to remember their contributions.

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.