

The
Church
Saint



Presbyterian
of
David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Minister: Kenn Stright

Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson Clerk of Session: Murray Alary

WELCOME!

Service for the Lord's Day March 15, 2015
Fourth 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: *Friends of God, believe this – God loved the world,*

God loves the world, we are the beloved! May the truth of this great love story, shine through our worship today, and renew our sense of calling. Friends of God, let us worship!

Hymn: **God is love: come heaven, adoring** **314**

Prayer of Confession: *God of Comfort and God of Challenge, we come to you this morning the way the Israelites did, full of complaints and*

dissatisfaction. Nothing is enough; we do not recognize your blessing at work in our day to day lives. Forgive us when we become so comfortable that we moan and groan about the most insignificant details of our lives. In our complaints, challenge us as you did the Israelites, to consider the bigger picture of oppression, injustice, and inequality around us. Forgive us when we close our eyes for fear of what you might show us; keep sending loving and compassionate leaders to open our eyes until we see what you see in our world.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Lenten Liturgies

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: *Numbers 21:4-9*

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22** *O give thanks to*

God, for God is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever. Let the

redeemed of God say so, those whom God redeemed from

trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Some were sick through their sinful

ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction; they

loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. Then they

cried to God in their trouble, and God saved them from their

distress; God sent out God's word and healed them, and delivered them from

destruction. Let them thank God for God's steadfast love, for

God's wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer sacrifices

of thanksgiving, and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy. Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: **Amigos de Christo**

476

Conversation with the young people:

Sunday school leaves for classes

From the letters: *Ephesians 2: 1-10*

Gospel: *John 3: 14-21*

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

Hymn: **As when the Hebrew Prophet**

189

Sermon: **Amazing Grace**

The Rev. Sydney McDonald

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: **Guide me o thou Great Redeemer** **651**
 *Benediction:
 *Choral Amen:
 Postlude:

Worship is now ended let our service begin!

THIS WEEK - (March 15-22)

Today Sunday School: 11:15 am.
 Refreshments following the service.
 Our Lenten Study this year is called **PEOPLE OF THE COVENANT** and explores the lectionary readings from the perspective of the covenant created between God and people. .
 Lenten Study after worship today: "The Covenant in Christ"
We welcome Rev. Sydney McDonald to our services today.
Wednesday 7:00 pm Session
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.
 Refreshments to follow
 Lenten Study after worship
 The minister returns tomorrow night

Once again Saint David's is being asked to support the snack program at **Phoenix House**. This is a once a year contribution that goes towards healthy snacks for the youth who use Phoenix's facilities. We have been asked to provide \$175 and anyone who wishes to contribute is asked to give their donations to Carol

Dobson or Anne Sommerville (income tax receipts will be issued). Thank you for supporting this worthwhile endeavour.

Please join us for a half hour prayer service at 7:30 a.m. followed by a continental style breakfast.

Monday, March 30 Cathedral Church of all Saints

Tuesday, March 31 First Baptist Church

Wednesday, April 1 TBA

Thursday, April 2 Presbyterian Church of Saint David

Friday April 3 Good Friday service 10:30 – St. Andrew's United.

April 5 – 6:40 am Easter Sunrise service at Point Pleasant Park (Lower Parking lot) with First Baptist. Sunrise is 6:48 am.

Early service at 9 am.

Congregational potluck breakfast at 9:45 am.

Easter Communion service at 11 am.

Numbers 21:4-9 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Ephesians 2:1-10 You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and

senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

John 3: 14-21 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.

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



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 Murray Alary. Our scripture reader for this morning is _____. Refreshment host is _____

MISSION CAPSULES: Gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* help share the gospel with Korean immigrants in North York, Ontario. Sohrae Church, which was started with support from *Presbyterians Sharing*, is well known to the community for its work with the Sohrae Youth Orchestra. The orchestra, which began as an ensemble that played during Sunday worship, soon grew into an independent non-profit organization. It develops and realizes the musical talent of Korean youth, and allows them to serve the local community with a Christian spirit. A recent concert raised \$4,000 for three charities. Sohrae's music classes also reach out to and build connections with the community. The majority of students come from outside of the Sohrae congregation, and some of the students' families have started to attend Sunday services

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP *Give thanks for the Lenten season, which provides opportunities for reflection and spiritual growth in divine love.*

STEWARDSHIP The fragrance always stays in the hand that gives the rose. *Hada Bejar*

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.