



# 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

## WELCOME!

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

Service for the Lord's Day March 29, 2015, 11 a.m.

**Palm/Passion Sunday**

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

### Our Vision:

***A Worshiping-Sharing-Welcoming Community***

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*\*(please send announcements to this e-mail address)*

Office: [stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca) Telephone: (902) 423-1944

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

Web site: [www.saintdavids.ca](http://www.saintdavids.ca)

### God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude:

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship: *Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. You are our God, and we will praise You! You are our God, and we exalt You!*

\*Hymn: Ride on, Ride on in majesty 217  
(Our Palm Sunday Parade with our children)

Opening prayer: *God, we gather on this day to begin a week of contrasts. From hope to despair to hope again. As we begin the week, as we join with the crowd help us cut through the noise to see what is happening, to see what is at stake.*

*As the story unfolds, open us to both the hope and the pain. In this time of worship, prepare us to celebrate, to weep, and to wait. We pray in the name of the one who leads the parade.*

Lenten Liturgies

Murray Alary

### We Hear God's Word

First Reading: *Isaiah 50: 4-9a*

*One: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.*

Responsive Reading: Psalm 31:9-16 *Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.*

**I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many- terror all around!- as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.**

**But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.**

**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**

Gloria Patri (sung)

\*Hymn: Hosanna, loud hosanna

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Conversation with the young people:

Sunday school leaves for classes

From the Letters: *Philippians 2:5-8*

Gospel: *Mark 15: 1-39*

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

\*Hymn: Hail our once rejected Jesus

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Sermon: **Path to the Passion**

## We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

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

Offertory Prayer: *Bless these gifts and our lives, O God, for we offer them in the name of Jesus, our Lord. He emptied himself that we might be filled. He humbled himself that we might be lifted up. We pray these gifts be used to proclaim the gospel which fills lives that are empty and lifts up those who need help. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen*

Announcements:

"Lord, listen to your children praying" (sung unannounced) **449**

Prayers for the people of the Middle East

The Lord's Prayer ("debts & debtors") John Wamboldt

## We Go Out to Serve God

\*Hymn: Lord Jesus, you shall be my song **665**

\*Benediction:

Choral Amen:

Postlude:

**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 Welcoming Elder this morning is Murray Alary. Our scripture reader for this morning is Murray Alary.

**The Helen M. Watson Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Saint David:** Applications for financial assistance from the Helen M. Watson Fund will be received prior to April 30, 2015. The Helen M. Watson Fund of The Presbyterian Church of Saint David produces income to be used "exclusively for local missionary work in Nova Scotia". If you have any questions, please contact Mac Fyfe (902) 425-3844, Mac Mackay- (902) 422-5481 or Johannah Roberts (902) 457-2836. Application Form and Guidelines Document, may be obtained by calling the church (902) 423-1944, or from the Web site, after April 1, 2015.

**Regular activities THIS WEEK - (March 29- April 5)**

**Today** Sunday School: 11:15 am. Thank you for the members of Sunday who are leading our Palm Sunday parade!

**ECUMENICAL HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**March 30-April 1; 7:30 - 8:00 A.M.**

**Continental Breakfast after each Service**

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** Presbyterian Church of Saint David

**Wednesday, April 1** First Baptist Church

**Monday, Communion at Melville Heights 11 am**

**April 2 St. Vincent's Communion at 1:30 pm**

**April 2 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Communion here.**

Choir will meet immediately following the service

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

**David's Place meets at its regular time on Good Friday.**

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

**Early Communion service at 9 am**

**Congregational potluck breakfast at 9:45 am.**

**Easter Communion service at 11 am.**

Due to the difficult winter and church closures, the deadline for financial contributions toward the **Food for Phoenix Program** has been extended. An Interdenominational Program with April being 'Presbyterian Month', Saint David's has been asked to provide \$175 toward this special once-a-year request which provides healthy food snacks for Phoenix Drop In Centre. Anyone wishing to contribute is asked to give donations to Anne Sommerville (tax receipts issued). With thanks

Spring Tea & Sale St. Andrew's Presbyterian Dartmouth  
Ladies Guild Saturday, April 18, 2015, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**Isaiah 50:4-7** The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens-- wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

**Philippians 2:5-8** Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

**Mark 15:1-39** As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves

and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"



## PASTORAL CARE

*Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact one of the following:*

Kenn Stright                      office: 423-2660  
Valerie Macdonald                home: 455-1893



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*...the mighty God chose to come into this world in weakness. In Christ, God entered most deeply into our suffering.* (from Living Faith)

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### **MISSION CAPSULES: Serving congregations**

**Equipping congregations.** Providing tools for growth and renewal. Encouraging generous giving. Developing worship resources. Equipping leaders. Engaging in justice issues. Supporting new ministers. And so much more! Your gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support staff at our national office as they work with ministers, lay leaders, treasurers, clerks, presbyteries and synods across Canada in many ways. More than just an office, 50 Wynford Drive is a meeting place where Presbyterians come together to plan, vision and share ideas.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** *Passion/Palm Sunday* As we enter this passion week, pray for courage to walk the path of sorrow and to expose our hearts to the brokenness of the world.

**STEWARDSHIP** The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor. *Proverbs 22:9*

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



I Breastfeed.

breastfeeding friendly facility. If desired a **nursery room** is available with an audio link.

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