



# The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax  
Minister: Rev. Kenn Stright  
Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

## WELCOME!

*We are here this morning to worship God.  
Through our songs, words of praise, prayers and  
scripture reading, we give honour and glory to God.*

December 20, 2015

The Fourth Sunday in the season of Advent

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

### Our Vision

#### ***A Worshiping, Sharing, Welcoming Community***

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### God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude: Cradle Hymn

Carol sing: Please be ready to request your favourites

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship: *Glory to God in the highest! And love to every discouraged heart. Glory to God in the highest! And love to every conflicted soul. Glory to God in the highest! And love to every downcast spirit. Glory to God in the highest! And love to every one everywhere. We pray to God: Holy God of Love, there is light in our lives because of the abundance of your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, that you became one of us. May we live within the power of this love.*

\*Hymn: Of eternal love begotten

163

Advent Wreath: The Candle of LOVE

Shona Kinley MacKeen and Kirstie MacKeen

### We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Micah 5: 2-5a

*One: The Word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: **Luke 1:46b-55** *"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."*

(Now to Christ who loved us - 554)

Prayer of Confession: *We confess we are not the people you hope us to be, Advent God. The very ones you favour, we too often ignore or ridicule. The ones you knock off their pedestals, we admire and emulate. We are so focussed on having more and more, we risk being sent away empty. Forgive us, Mighty God, and look with grace upon us. We would live secure in your love; we would be the ones of peace for our world, we would seek to do your will, as did Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, in whose name we pray. (Silence is kept) Even now- yes, even in this very moment, God comes to us, bringing hope, bringing forgiveness, bringing love and grace as freely offered gifts to us. May*

**we open our hearts to the God who is with us, and receive the gifts which have been offered to us. Amen.**

\*Hymn: Saviour teach me day by day **698**

Conversation: *Gift of love – gift to love*

From the letters: **Hebrews 10: 5-10**

Gospel: **Luke 1: 39-45**

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

\*Hymn: Lord, you were rich **134**

Sermon: **What does “LOVE” look like?**

### **We Respond to God’s Word**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: Lo, How a Rose/The Rose by Craig Hella Johnson

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements

Prayers of the People

### **We Go Out to Serve God**

\*Hymn: In the bleak mid-winter **145**

\*Benediction:

\* May the God of Hope go with us **726**

Postlude: The First Noel by Halley (please remain seated)

**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 Greeter this morning is Mac Mackay. Our scripture reader for this morning is Marie Wamboldt. Refreshment host is Anne Sommerville.

The choir of the Presbyterian Church of Saint David will present a **service of Lessons and Carols** at 4:00 pm this afternoon. Saint David’s Organist and Music Director Tristan Cleveland-Thompson has assembled a group of extremely talented choristers for this annual celebration. A freewill offering will be taken to support our Refugee sponsorship.

**HOMELESS MEMORIAL SERVICE** Tuesday, December 22, 2015, 11:00 am Saint Patrick’s Church 2267 Brunswick Street, Halifax Please join us in remembering and honouring the lives of people who have lived and died homeless.

### **THIS WEEK - (December 20- 27)**

December 20	10:30	Carol Sing
	11 am	Advent 4 Candle of Love
	4 pm	Choir Lessons and Carols Service
December 21	7 pm	Longest Night Service at First Baptist
December 24	4 pm	Family Service: The Flight into Egypt
	7 pm	Candlelight Service
December 25		David’s Place
December 27	9 am	Communion
	9:45	Potluck breakfast
	11 am	Traditional service
January 01		Morning: New Year’s Levee - You are invited to come and celebrate the New Year with our guests at DAVID’S PLACE
January 10	11 am	Annual Covenanting Service

**Micah 5:2-5a** But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

**Hebrews 10:5-10** Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your



will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**Luke 1:39-45** In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

**What does love look like?**



**“It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of others. That is what love looks like.”**  
 ~St. Augustine



**PASTORAL CARE**

*WE WELCOME YOU to worship this morning! We are glad you are here, and we invite you to worship with us regularly! If you are a visitor, or if you have a prayer or pastoral concern, please contact*  
 Kenn Stright office: 423-2660 home: 477-2870  
 Valerie Macdonald home: 455-1893



**MISSION MOMENTS: Advocating for refugees**

*Presbyterians Sharing* supports Action Réfugiés Montréal as it advocates for refugees in Montreal and beyond, promoting partnerships for mutual empowerment among people in refugee and faith communities and society at large. Through its detention, sponsorship and twinning programs ARM provides hope and assistance while raising awareness of refugee rights. The Twinning Program pairs newly-arrived refugee women with women volunteers, helping to break isolation, create unique bonds of friendship and introduce the women to realities they might never have otherwise encountered. The twins meet at least six hours per month for at least six months, and also participate in regular group activities hosted by ARM, including potlucks, information sessions and collective cooking.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** Pray for church music directors, choirs and musicians during the Advent and Christmas season. Come and celebrate with them this afternoon!

**STEWARDSHIP** Riches enlarge rather than satisfy appetites.  
*Thomas Fuller*

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