

The Presbyterian

YEAR C
First Sunday
after Christmas

Church of Saint David

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax

Minister: Rev. Kenn Stright

Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

WELCOME!

December 27, 2015

**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:

*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship: *I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us - the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.*

*Hymn: Christians awake! 135

Prayer of Adoration and Confession: *Almighty God we come before you with adoring reverence and lift up our hearts with thankful praise. Fill us with the gladness of your great redemption and enable us to join in the angels' song 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward all'; God, who sent your Son to seek and to save the lost; we confess that we have not always lived in the light you have given us in him. We have known what it is to do good, but have not done it. You have called us in the needs of our neighbours, but we have often passed by on the other side. We have harboured unholy desires, and living for things that do not last, we have neglected your everlasting life and peace. We acknowledge that we do not deserve to receive your love in Jesus Christ, yet we pray to fulfil in us your word of pardon and cleanse us from every kind of wrong; through the same Jesus Christ our Saviour. So may we rejoice in our Saviour's words: 'Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace.'*

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: **Isaiah 63: 7-9**

One: *The Word of the Lord.*

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 148: 1-6** *Shout praises to the Lord!*

*Shout the Lord's praises
in the highest heavens.*

² **All of you angels,
and all who serve him above,
come and offer praise.**

³ *Sun and moon,
and all of you bright stars,*

come and offer praise.

⁴ **Highest heavens,
and the water above the highest heavens,
come and offer praise.**

⁵ *Let all things praise
the name of the Lord,
because they were created
at his command.*

⁶ **He made them to last forever,
and nothing can change
what he has done** (sung: Sursum Corda)

*Hymn: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly **143**

Conversation:

From the letters: **Hebrews 2: 10-18**

Gospel: **Matthew 2: 13-15**

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

*Hymn: What child is this? **161**

Sermon: **The work of Christmas begins...**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthems 

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements

Prayers of the People

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Hark! The Herald **139**

*Benediction:

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 Greeter this morning is ----. Our scripture reader

for this morning is Phyllis Morrison. Refreshment host are Sara and Jackie Kinley.

Year End

If you are making a donation and you want it to be credited for the 2015 tax year, please have your donation in to the church by 1 pm on Thursday December 31st. If no one is present at the church, drop your envelope through the letter slot on the North West Passage door. (It faces Blowers Street.) Thank you

Thank you to everyone who served as Refreshment Hosts this year. This is a very special part of our Sundays and provides a wonderful opportunity to build fellowship. A new year is starting soon and we need volunteers for January. Please see the sign up sheet by the coffee urn.

THIS WEEK - (December 27- January 04)

Today	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 04	9 am	Communion
	10:00	Prayer Group
	11 am	Traditional service
January 10	11 am	Annual Covenanting Service

Isaiah 63: 7-9

⁷ I will tell about the kind deeds the Lord has done.

They deserve praise!

The Lord has shown mercy to the people of Israel;
he has been kind and good.

⁸ The Lord rescued his people, and said,
"They are mine.

They won't betray me."

⁹ It troubled the Lord
to see them in trouble,

and his angel saved them.
The Lord was truly merciful,
so he rescued his people.
He took them in his arms
and carried them all those years.

Hebrews 2: 10-18

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters,¹² saying,

‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’

¹³ And again,

‘I will put my trust in him.’

And again,

‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Escape to Egypt

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt,¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what

had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I have called my son.’



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: The Key is Good Soil

Subsistence farmers in Africa, Asia and Latin America make up more than 70 per cent of the world’s hungry. While Canada has a good track record for supporting agriculture in its aid programs, the aid budget for agricultural development has been on the decline. Good Soil is an ongoing campaign of Canadian Foodgrains Bank that aims to strengthen government funding for small-scale agriculture. Increased funding will not only help farmers improve their yields and adapt to changes in climate, it will stimulate economic growth, improve opportunities for women, enhance vital nutrition for children and promote environmental sustainability.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP In these cold days, pray for those who are homeless, that they might find safe and warm shelter.

STEWARDSHIP Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

1 Timothy 6:18

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.