



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.*

January 10, 2016
First Sunday after the Epiphany
**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: *God is with us always and calls us each by name.*

**When we pass through difficulties and stress, God is with us
and calls us by name. When we are discouraged and feel lost and**

**alone, God is with us and calls us by name, and heals us. Blessed be
God who knows us and calls us by name. Amen**

*Hymn: How firm a Foundation

685

Prayer of Confession: *God of new beginnings, we confess that we have not
always paid much attention to the baptism of Jesus, but viewed it as a nice
story which begins Jesus' ministry. We don't always see ourselves as
standing in that long line of those marked for service; and
therefore it is easy for us to dismiss this as a nice story and
nothing more. Yet you have called us by name, knowing each of us, and
loving us. We are astonished by this. We know that we have behaved in very
unloving ways and in some behaviours which do not promote your love and
peace. Forgive us for our blindness. Turn us around. Help us
to be people who not only recognize the light, but who are
willing to live in that light, bringing help to others in your
name. For we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*
Words of Assurance: *People of God, you are known and loved by the
Creator. You are marked as God's chosen ones to bring hope and peace to
others. Be at peace and live in hope. Amen*

We Hear God's Word

First Reading

Isaiah 43: 1-7

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: ***Psalm 29 (The Voice of God in a Great Storm)*** *Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly being, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendour. The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, 'Glory!' The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!* Gloria Patri (sung)

*Hymn: I am the Church

475

Conversation:

Claim the Name

Terms of the Baptismal Covenant: *Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers? With the help of God, I will. Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ? With the help of God, I will. Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself? With the help of God, I will.*

Covenanting Prayer: I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing: I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Covenant Hymn: Standing at the Portal (vs 3.) 811

From the letters: **Acts 8: 14-17**

Gospel: **Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

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

*Hymn: Christ when for us you were baptized **183**

Sermon: **The Voice says... you are mine!**

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthems  God so helped the World by Enns.

We welcome Sarah Richardson and Lisa Webb leading music

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements

Prayers of the People

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Now thank we all our God **457**

*Benediction:

Postlude: (please remain seated)

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 Davida Mackay. Our scripture reader for this morning is Mac Fyfe. Refreshment host is Claudia Saoud.

St. John's United Church, Halifax, is hosting its monthly Taize Prayer this Sunday, Jan. 10 – 7 p.m.

On Tuesday, January 12, Sara Faber will be hosted by the Zonta Club of Halifax, at the Wardroom, CFB Halifax (Stadacona), to discuss her research studying the effects of music on people with dementia. Networking at 6:00 pm followed by her talk. The 12th Wave Metro **New Horizons** Beginner Band will start with an instrument demonstration and experimentation session on Sunday, January 17 at 1:00 p.m. above the Long & McQuade store on Main Street in Dartmouth.

THIS WEEK - (January 10-17)

January 10	Food Bank Sunday Refreshments after church Refugee sponsorship meeting at St. Matthew's immediately following worship this morning.
January 12	10:00 am Presbytery Study Day in Lr. Sackville
January 14	7:30 pm Choir
January 15	David's Place in the morning
January 16	10:00 am Session Study Day 1470 Summer St.
January 17	9:00 am Communion service 10:00 am Prayer Group 11:00 am Traditional Service

Isaiah 43:1-7 But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you; 6 I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth - 7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Acts 8:14-17 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire. Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Today, you have an opportunity to remember, if you've forgotten, the love that God has for you. You have an opportunity to remind yourself that you are God's child, that God pours grace upon grace out into your life, and into your heart. You have an opportunity to commit yourself again to God's plan for your life. You have an opportunity for a beginning, a change of direction, a parting of the heavens as God smiles upon you to remind you that you are Beloved. May God's love bless you today, this year, and always. Amen.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Services – 12:15-12:45 pm

TUESDAY Jan 19, St. Matthews, Rev. Paul Friesen (preacher)

WEDNESDAY Jan 20, St. David's, Archbishop Anthony Mancini (preacher)

THURSDAY Jan 21, First Baptist, Rev. Kenn Stright (preacher)



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, have a prayer or pastoral concern, please contact.

Kenn Stright office: 423-1944 home: 477-2870

PLEASE note that 902-423-2660 does not work!

Valerie Macdonald

home: 455-1893

MISSION MOMENTS: In response to Christ's call to serve and defend the vulnerable and the persecuted, Presbyterian World Service & Development provides humanitarian aid to refugees worldwide, while promoting and protecting their rights. This past year, the Pickering Presbytery Mission and Outreach Committee headed a refugee sponsorship project with support from PWS&D. An outpouring of generosity from member churches allowed the presbytery to raise enough money to sponsor not one, but five Syrian families escaping violent conflict. "Although many of the churches in our presbytery are small—as partners together—we have been able to do something really meaningful," said Liz Stark, a member of the Pickering committee. In generosity, faith and partnership, Presbyterians are helping refugees on their journey toward peace.

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP Pray for our sponsorship partnership for Refugees, especially as we meet after worship today.

STEWARDSHIP Where will your time, talent and treasure end up in 2016? – we can use a 10th of each here at St. David's!

We welcome younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility.



I Breastfeed.

The 3 R's at Saint David's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

This is a 'scent free' zone for the comfort of all.