

Welcome to . . .
The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David
March 13, 2016



"Steadfast Love"

Opening Responses:

- L> Peace on each one who comes in need,
ALL> peace on each one who comes in joy.
L> Peace on each one who offers prayers,
ALL> peace on each one who offers song.
L> Peace of the Maker, peace of the Son,
ALL> peace of the Spirit, the Triune One.

Gathering: [*from Psalm 36*]

L> Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**ALL> Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

L> How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**ALL> All people may take refuge in the shadow of your
wings.**

L> They feast on the abundance of your house, and you
give them drink from the river of your delights.

**ALL> For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.**

L> O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

ALL> and your salvation to the upright of heart! Amen.

HYMN: This is a story full of love (vs. 1,2,4)

No. 504

Prayer of Confession (*together*):

Eternal God, full of mercy and steadfast love: though
your people turn from you, yet your forgiveness awaits their
return. We are humbled by your patience and grace. For we
are timid to follow where you lead and stingy in our
commitment to you. Have mercy on us and listen to our
silent prayers of confession.

[*silent prayer*]

O God, forgive us in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our
Lord. Help us to give ourselves wholeheartedly to you and
your future; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

L>How precious is God's steadfast love. All people may take
refuge in

the shadow of God's wings. The good news of the gospel is
that in

Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ALL> Thanks be to God!

HYMN: This is a story full of love (vs. 5-6)

No. 504

Scripture: John 12:1-8 Six days before the Passover Jesus came
to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the

dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

L> The gospel of the Lord. **ALL> Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection: "Steadfast love"

It is God's steadfast love in the face of human folly that brings God down to earth in Jesus Christ: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." Life-giving, life-transforming, generous, extravagant love.

Invitation:

Come with hope or hesitation; come with joy or yearning;
all who hunger, all who thirst for life in its fullness.
It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

HYMN: Let us break bread together

No. 548

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Blessing

Prayer of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

Communion

Prayer following Communion: *(together)*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life
into our hands;
now we put our lives into yours.
Take us, renew and remake us.
What we have been is past;
what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

HYMN: More love to thee

No. 707

CLOSING RESPONSES:

L> For all that God can do within us,
for all that God can do without us,

ALL> Thanks be to God.

L> For all in whom Christ lived before us,
for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

ALL> Thanks be to God.

L> For all the Spirit wants to bring us,
for where the Spirit wants to send us,

ALL> Thanks be to God.

L> Listen.

Christ has promised to be with us in the world
as in our worship.

ALL> Amen. We go to meet him.

*[Liturgy adapted from The Iona Community Worship Book and A Wee
Worship Book]*