

WELCOME TO...

The Presbyterian Church of

Saint David

May 29, 2016



Prelude

Call to Worship: *We come to worship God, in response to God's holy splendour and majestic powers. We come to celebrate with new songs of joy, because our God is sovereign. We come to worship*

God, in response to God's continuing acts of justice and equity. We come to celebrate with new songs of praise because God's ways are just and holy. We come to worship God, in response to God's great love, goodness and mercy - because all humanity is invited into a personal and intimate relationship with God. We come to celebrate with new songs of never-ending thankfulness; and in reverent awe, we rejoice in our God, because all of God's truths will be revealed to the nations. Amen.

Hymn: I will call upon the Lord

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Opening Prayer: *We come and sing to the Lord! We sing a new song for the Lord has made known his salvation. Shout for joy all the earth!*

For all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of God.

Hymn: Come rejoice in God

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Confession: *Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Psalm 96:1-9 *O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth.*

Hymn: Sing a new song unto the Lord

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"Singing a new song might even mean discovering for the first time,

what our individual new song with God really is. The church calls that new experience conversion. Singing a new song might also mean intentionally renewing our perspective about God as Creator, as Redeemer and as constant Companion. Singing a new song might also mean intentionally refreshing our personal relationship with God. How is our particular individual story – and our communal church story -- connecting with God's great story of love and grace and forgiveness for the whole of humanity and even for the Earth? The church calls that ongoing spiritual transformation and renewal.

The “new” in “new song” might mean a fresh experience and expression of the greatness of God for us personally and as a church. When we take the time to give some thought to God the Creator, we will realize that nothing – absolutely nothing in all the universe – compares or even comes close to the one and only living God we are talking about. Singing a new song for us as Christians must include the person of Jesus. There must be in our lives a fresh expression because of a fresh experience of the “realness” of Jesus... when Jesus moved into our humanity, the mystery of God was exposed in a clear way in the humanness of Jesus. That is why we often say: if you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus. Whatever is included in our new song, there must be a fresh appreciation of Jesus and how our individual stories – our lives – connect with his story and thus with God's story of redemption and love... So, my friends, let's sing to GOD a brand-new song! Earth and everyone in it, join us in worship! Let's sing together the good news of God and God's wonders for one and all to hear! (Chris Miller, York Mills United).

What does the writer of Psalm 96 include as reasons to praise God?

What are the things you would include in a new Psalm?

How would you express them in a new psalm of praise?

Hymn: O sing to our God 453

Invitation: *Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west and north and south and sit at table together in the kingdom of God, ready to share the great feast of the new creation and to sing new songs of praise forevermore. So come to this table. Bring your new songs of praise and thanksgiving. Gather here and share this feast, for Christ himself is our host.*

Hymn: Let us break bread together (1-2) 548

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *Rejoice in the Lord always. Shout out his name. For God is with us. Our God is with us... the God who turns us around and offers us new life. Rejoice in the Lord always Shout out his name* (we continue in prayer) *Pour out your Spirit upon the gifts of remembrance and the people who gather. Come, Holy Spirit, upon us and what we do here that these your gifts of bread and wine may be for us the body and blood of Christ so that we may bring life, hope, and love to all your world.*

Hymn: Let us break bread together (3) 548

Communion

Following communion *We give you thanks for this holy meal where we remember Jesus' death and proclaim his new life. By this bread and cup, strengthen us for the life of faith, that we might sing your new song in this place and in this world and invite others to join in until we share this feast with you in the kingdom of God.*

Hymn: The Lord bless you 619

As people of faith we have gathered for worship.

As people of faith we now return to the world. *Go out to share the story of faith, the story of life, the song of salvation with the world around you. We share the faith in word and in deed, in speech, in song and in action.*



Postlude

