



1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, N.S.

Minister: Kenn Stright

Clerk of Session: Valerie Macdonald

Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

## WELCOME!

Service for the Lord's Day  
July 17<sup>th</sup> 2016 Pentecost 9

Gathering on the traditional territory of the M'ikmaq People

## Our Vision

*A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

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## GATHERING

Prelude:

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to worship: *Christ is in our midst! How will you bid him welcome? We will throw open the doors to our hearts. We will delight in his presence. When God shows up, surprising things can happen. We will make ourselves ready. We will lay*

*down our burdens and set aside our distractions. Here we receive good news: Nothing is too wonderful for God! So let us laugh and sing, rest and listen, dance and praise — Let us worship God!*

\*Hymn: Jesus stand among us

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Prayer of Confession: *Gracious, inviting God, you continually provide us with opportunities to practice generous hospitality. Our fear of difference, reluctance to share, and desire to be in control make our welcome appear weak and insincere. Because we long for what is familiar and comfortable, we have difficulty honouring the stranger as a sacred guest who bears the face of Christ. Worn out and irritated by the work we think we must do, we miss opportunities to receive the gifts that such guests offer us. Forgive us, O God, for focussing on the wrong things. We confess that we have our priorities completely out of balance. Forgive us for the many ways that we trample on your will and dismiss your Word. Redeem us, by your grace. Give us hearts and minds that are focused on you, O God. Show us how to do what is right.*

## PROCLAIMING

First Reading:

Amos 8: 1-12

One: *The Word of the Lord* All: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 52** *Why do you boast, O mighty one, of mischief done against the godly? All day long you are plotting destruction. Your tongue is like a sharp razor, you worker of treachery. You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking the truth. You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue. But God will break you down forever; he will snatch and tear you from your tent; he will uproot you from the land of the living. The righteous will see, and fear, and will laugh at the evildoer, saying, "See the one who would not take refuge in God, but trusted in abundant riches, and sought refuge in wealth!" But I am like a green olive tree in the*

house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever. **I will thank you forever, because of what you have done. In the presence of the faithful I will proclaim your name, for it is good.**

\*Hymn: Here I am Lord 592

Conversation: How do you make Decisions? Eny meny

From the letters: **Colossians 1:15-28**

Gospel: **Luke 10: 38-42**

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

\*Hymn: Take my life and let it be 637

Sermon: **CHOOSING WISELY**

### RESPONDING

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements:

*"Lord, listen to your children praying"* (unannounced) 449

Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer (debts & debtors)

### SENDING

\*Hymn: Be thou my Vision 461

\*Benediction:

\*Choral amen

Postlude:

**Worship is now ended let our service begin!**

**Here is our summer schedule with all services starting at 10:30.**

**Communion and Baptism will be celebrated August 7**

July 24 St. David's July 31, Aug. 7 St. Andrew's

Aug. 14, 21, 28 First Baptist

### **THIS WEEK - July 17-24**

**Today** 10:30 am Traditional service followed by refreshments. Today is also Food Bank Sunday! Donations to Feed Nova Scotia are way down so every item is needed for our David's Place Guests!

**Friday** Morning David's Place. David's Place runs every Friday morning throughout the summer.

**Next Sunday** service at the Presbyterian Church of Saint David lead by St. Andrew's United.

Services move to **St. Andrew's** for the last Sunday in July. The service at St. Andrew's for August 7<sup>th</sup> will be led by the Presbyterian Church of Saint David (Baptism and Communion).

A NOON-TIME ORGAN RECITAL will be given by James Burchill at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 1330 Cathedral Lane on Wednesday 3 August 2016 at 12.10 pm.

**First Baptist Church Halifax Announcements - Please visit our website for more information - [fbchalifax.ca](http://fbchalifax.ca)**

**Our Prayer List** We pray for all members of our congregation, especially those who are in frail health and unable to join with us for worship and activities. Particular prayers are requested for: Lynne Alary, Evelyn Denton, Barbara Mitchell, Noreen Lawlor (VG). **SINCERE SYMPATHY** is extended to Fred Fountain and Family on the death of his mother Marjorie Fountian, July 9<sup>th</sup>. A memorial Service will be held in early August. And also to Ken Myers and family on the death of his father Donald Myers, July 11, a memorial service is being held Tuesday morning. This week's announcements are sponsored in honour of Jean Dexter's birthday from her family

**Children's Go Project: August 15 - 19**, 9am -4pm, we will host, along with St. John's United, a vacation Bible Camp here at FBC. Register early at [fbchalifax.ca/vacation-bible-school](http://fbchalifax.ca/vacation-bible-school) or speak to Rev. Jenny. We need your help with: billets for two leaders, donations of peanut free snacks or drink boxes, transportation for field trips in the city, kitchen

help preparing snacks and lunches (sign up sheet in the narthex), volunteer as a counselor, pray for all the prep, volunteers and the children attending and tell your friends and invite others!

Eat, Pray, Listen: Through the summer, there will be two opportunities each week to gather at the parsonage to eat, pray and listen. We will have a simple meal together, listen to a short piece of scripture (using a Lectio Divina method) and join in prayer for one another, our congregation, our community, our world. It is designed to be a relaxed, gentle introduction for those less experienced with Lectio and/or intercessory prayer, but certainly also open to those with a longer prayer history. The day and times will be Tuesdays (5:30 – 6:30 pm) and Thursdays (12 noon – 1:00 pm). While registration is not essential, it would be helpful to have some idea of numbers for food preparation; please email Rev Lynn (lynuzans@fbchalfax.ca).

Vacations: Rev. Jenny will be away to July 18; Rev. Nelson is away for the month of July. Pastoral Care during these times will be provided by one of our ministers who can be reached by contacting the church office. Alana is away to August 2. Jean Ferguson will be in the office Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays during this time from 9am - 12 noon. The bulletin deadline for the summer will be 11am on Tuesdays. Custodian hours will be Mon - Fri., 7:30 to 11:30 am.

A young woman beginning a Master's Degree in Library Sciences in September is moving from Victoria and looking for suggestions re housing (bachelor apartment or sharing with one other person).

Rebecca is the daughter of a Pastor, and is described as quiet, non-drinker/smoker who likes to read or get together with a small group of close friends. If you know of accommodation (willing to pay up to \$900/month) could you please email lpretty@shaw.ca or contact Rev Lynn Uzans at First Baptist (902-422-5203). She is used to travelling by bus, so accommodation need not be right downtown.

**Amos 8:1-12** This is what the Lord GOD showed me - a basket of summer fruit. He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the LORD said to me, the end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day," says the Lord GOD; "the dead bodies

shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!" Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? On that day, says the Lord GOD, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day. The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.

**Colossians 1:15-28** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making

peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him - provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

**Luke 10:38-42** Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.



## PASTORAL CARE

*We are pleased that you are here and look forward to discovering ways that we can grow in faith and service together. We pray that you will be blessed in worship and that you will come again soon.*

*Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact one of the following:*

*Kenn Stright*

*office: 423-1944*

*Valerie Macdonald*

*home: 455-1893*

## MISSION MOMENTS Improving Her Life With Water

In Vayiness Kawonga's village in Malawi, sources of drinkable water were scarce. When the well closest to the village suddenly broke, the future seemed uncertain. Residents were forced to travel across large swaths of uncertain terrain to fetch water from an unprotected source. Vayiness had to forgo income-generating activities because of time spent hauling and collecting enough water to get by. Many people fell ill with waterborne disease. When a Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported project helped construct a new borehole her village, hope was restored. A nearby source of clean water meant Vayiness could improve her family's health and have more time to harvest her fields, expand her livelihood and experience life in abundance.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** Pray for our International Visitors as they head back to their home countries after a three-week visit with The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

**STEWARDSHIP** You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you. *John Bunyan*  
**We welcome** younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility.

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

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

**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 Phyllis Morrison. Our reader today is Phyllis Morrison. Refreshment host is Susan Lappin.