

# WELCOME TO...

## The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

September 11th, 2016

Call to Worship: *Let us focus on God's presence. In the midst of a*

**KEEP  
CALM  
IT'S JUST THE  
END OF THE  
WORLD**

world where people hunger and thirst ... *Come worship a God who feeds the hungry. In the midst of a world where people are abused and oppressed ... Come worship a God who calls for compassion and justice. In the midst of a world filled with wars and rumours of war ... Come worship a God who desires nothing less than peace for the world. In the midst of a world of spiritual emptiness ... Come worship a God who gives life meaning. Come, let us worship the Lord, whose grace and love know no end!*

Hymn: Sound the note of Judgement (1) **117**

Opening Prayer: *Lord of goodness and grace, guard and guide us in our time of worship and wonder. Help us ponder the mystery and the marvel of the world and our place in your purpose and plan. Open our eyes to see beyond the obvious to the heart of what you wish for us.*

Hymn: O day of God (1-2) **786**

Confession: *Lord, we would follow you wherever you might lead. Lord, we would follow you. Forgive us when we stumble and when we stray. Forgive us when, distracted we lose our way. Be the one to whom we turn, whose hand we hold, the Shepherd who leads us safely to the fold. Lord, we would follow you wherever you might lead. Lord, we would follow you.*

Assurance: *Friends, when we are lost, all is not lost. God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around, gathering us in to the people of God. Let us rejoice in God's mercy! Amen.*

Hymn: O day of God (3-4) **786**

*God, you were in the beginning, and before. You will also be in the end, and beyond. As you intended the beginning, you intend the end. You are I AM, ever present. While all things began from you and will end in you, at present all holds together in you. You are Alpha and Omega, beginning and end. You don't tell us how things will end. You don't tell us when. You simply tell us to live faithfully in the here and now knowing that one day the end – either by our own death, or by your return – will come. We listen to the voice of the prophets.*

*God, the end is coming. We don't know when or how; but we trust you. All the while, we are waiting, but not passively, frantically or fearfully. We wait deliberately. We trust you with our own endings and we can trust you with the world's ending. And while we wait, we work with Jesus!"*

Hymn: O day of God (5) **786**

**Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28** At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert towards my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse—a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgement against them. 'For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children,

they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good.' I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled.

I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

Hymn: Your word, O God has guided (1-2) **508**  
*We are often anxious about End-time talk. In Leeds, England in 1806 a hen began laying eggs on which the phrase "Christ is coming" was written. Eventually it was discovered to be a hoax. The owner, Mary Bateman, had written on the eggs in a corrosive ink so as to etch the eggs, and reinserted the eggs back into the hen's oviduct.*

“Jeremiah 4 provides us with much to ponder on the nature of divine judgment. First, God's judgment causes us to take a sobering look at the consequences of our failures as human beings, speaking the plain truth about the outcomes of our shortsightedness. Second, judgment pushes us to take responsibility for these failings, to turn from our destructive ways and make right what we have made wrong. Repentance is simultaneously turning from evil and turning toward good. Finally, God's judgment makes us aware of the fact that human sinfulness is not simply about individual morality. Obedience to God's covenant is intimately connected to our relationship with others and to the created order. When things are not right among humans, the whole earth groans. We are answerable not just to ourselves as individuals, but we are accountable to all our fellow human beings and to the earth from which we came. When we inflict violence on each other, we hurt the earth. When we abuse God's good creation, we damage ourselves. Knowing God, by the prophetic definition, means that we act justly with each other and live responsibly in relationship to all of God's creation.”  
(Frank Yamada)

**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. All are invited and all are welcome. Come, for the meal is ready!*

Hymn: Here is bread, here is wine (1-2) **546**

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.* (we continue in prayer) *Come to us, Spirit of our Lord of love, and let the bread and wine before us bear your life to our life, nourish us with his vision of hope, and unite us in one body of peace. God of all creation, Author of all good, faithful Provider of all our needs, to you we give our praises, our prayers and our thanksgivings on this day of remembrance. All honor and glory be yours, O God, now and forever.*

Amen.Hymn: Here is bread, here is wine (3) **546**

## Communion

**Following communion** *God, you are the source of wisdom, justice, love and peace: Give us in our present need the light of your wisdom, the courage of your justice, the patience of your love and the assurance of your peace. Amen.*

Hymn: Your word, O God (3-4) **508**

*“The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen” (I Peter 4:7-11).*

*Postlude*