

The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David

1544 Grafton at Blowers, Halifax, N.S.

Minister: Rev. Kenn Stright

Organist: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

Clerk of Session: Valerie Macdonald

**BORN IN
BETHLEHEM!**



Welcome: This morning we welcome the birth of Jesus Christ as the long-expected gift of God to this world.

Christians Awake! Salute the happy morn 135

A Prayer to gather us: Today we ask for faith that will open our eyes to see Jesus for who he is, that we might worship him in truth. **We open our eyes to see his glory. We open our ears to hear his wisdom. We open our hands to offer him gifts. We open our mouths to sing his praise. We open our hearts to offer him our love.**

Re-Lighting the Christ Candle



Carol Sing for Christmas morning

Hark the Herald 139
Good Christians all rejoice 141

A prayer for Christmas morning

The Christmas story in scripture:

Isaiah 62:6-12 Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is

with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Titus 3:4-7 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

A Reading: I am There

Val Macdonald

Carol: What child is this

161

Luke 2: 15-20 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Christmas Sharing: Any who would like to share a Christmas gift or a Christmas story are welcome to do so.

Our Christmas Message

Our Christmas Offering: This is a generous congregation. Help us reach our goal of \$128,500 by December 31!

Our Christmas Creed

read by John Wamboldt



Carol Sing: Infant holy, Infant lowly **143**
Away in a Manger **149** *It has been done! The News has been shared!* **A young maiden will bear a child, and she will call him Jesus.** *But that is the beginning of the story, a story that has not yet ended. It is a story that includes us, a story of which we are a part. So we go out to live the story, to tell of the Hope that is being born among us this Christmas, to be agents of Peace in times of trouble, to sing songs of deep and abiding Joy, to share the Love of the season with the world. As you go, may God go with you, challenging us to respond to God's call in ways that are new, unexpected and a little unsettling. And, as Tiny Tim said so very well... God Bless Us Every One! Amen.*

Carol: Go tell it on the mountain

133

Benediction

Our hosts for this Christmas after church refreshment time are Rod and Val.

May this Christmas morning and the soon-to-come New Year bless you and your family. Love and prayers from Kenn, Jeanne and family.

Service Next Sunday is at 11 am

December 29 **7 pm** For Auld Lang Syne' – **a night of music and remembrance as we celebrate Tristan's seven years with us and bid him (and the present choristers) a warm farewell. The congregation and friends of Saint David's are cordially invited to this time of celebration and reflection**

Year End

If you are making a donation and you want it to be credited for the 2016 tax year, please have your donation in by 1 pm on Friday December 30th. Thank you!