



## 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 today and consider making us your church home in 2017. Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact one of the following:*

Kenn Stright                                      office: 423-1944  
Valerie Macdonald                                home: 455-1893

**The vouchers help me survive** “In Syria, I could do anything.” Now settled in Lebanon with his daughter Rihan, Mousa remembers his peaceful home before the war. Mousa has not been able to find work because of restrictions placed on Syrian refugees. To get by, he picks fruit for local farmers but does not earn enough to cover his expenses. With partners at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, PWS&D is providing food vouchers to Syrian refugees so they can purchase groceries at local stores and save money for rent. For Mousa, this assistance has been an answer to his prayers. During the uncertainty of war, knowing he can provide a warm dinner for his daughter is a source of comfort and strength.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** As a new year begins, please pray for PWS&D programs that are responding to poverty, hunger and emergency situations around the world.

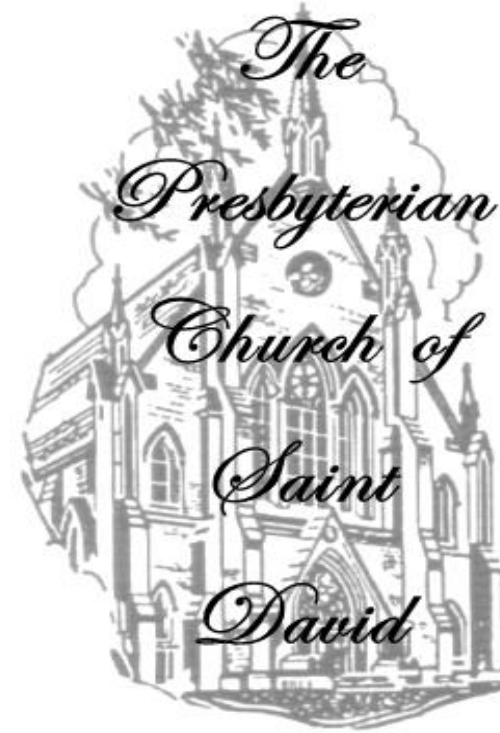
**Wise are congregations** that invite and challenge believers of all ages and abilities to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Pet 3.18).

**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 Greeters this morning .... Our reader today is Murray Alary. Refreshment Host is Phyllis Morrison.



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

**Minister:** Kenn Stright

**Clerk of Session:** Valerie Macdonald

**Organist:** We welcome Freeman Dryden today

**WELCOME to our Church At Worship**

**January 01      Christmas 1**

*We acknowledge the Mi'kmaq people on whose territory we gather this morning. This acknowledgement is not a simple or superficial statement but is one that points to the heart of reconciliation. It acknowledges the unceded rights and title of the Mi'kmaq people and our desire for healing and reconciliation.*

**VISION:** *How can we be the best church possible in service to Christ in 2017*

**A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community**  
**This is the church we want our neighbours to see in 2017.**

**Mailing Address:** 36061 RPO Spring Garden Halifax, NS B3J 3S9  
**Minister (Kenn Stright):** stdavids.stright@bellaliant.com  
**Office:** stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca    **Telephone:** (902) 423-1944  
**Web site:** www.saintdavids.ca

## GATHERING



Prelude: *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* as set by Jens Klimek (1984 - ); Harold Darke and Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

### \*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to worship: *A new day has dawned, a new year begun. O Lord, call us so we may hear your voice. The world turns to hopes and dreams of the future. O Lord, keep us in your ways and on your path. We enter this new year with hope and excitement. O Lord, remind us that you lead us. O Lord, guide us as we look to you, and worship you. Amen.*

\*Hymn: *In the Bleak Mid-winter* **145**

Prayer: *A new year is here and God is still with us. In loving and in carrying, in hoping and expecting, God is with us and never lets us go. God live in us, God live with us, God live through us. God keep us faithful through the days that lie ahead, God keep us caring in the pain that fills your world, God keep us serving as we seek to do your will, God live in us, God live with us, God live through us. God keep us loving toward neighbours near and far, God keep us trusting through the uncertainties of life, God keep us sharing from your generous abundance. God live in us, God live with us, God live through us. Amen.*

## PROCLAIMING

First Reading: **Ecclesiastes 3:1-13**

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

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 8** O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. **Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.** *When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,*

**whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

\*Hymn: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* **143**

Our community conversation Can you count the seconds?

From the letters: **Revelation 21:1-6a**

Gospel: **Matthew 25: 31-46**

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

\*Hymn: *In the bulb there is a flower* **674**

Sermon: **Seasons of Life**

## RESPONDING

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Précis on Lo Star-Led Chiefs - Wm. Crotch.....*

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements:

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

## SENDING

\*Hymn: *All beautiful the march of days (Forest Green)* **809**

\*Benediction: As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry. As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned. As you have been received – give. As you have heard – proclaim. And the blessing which you have received from the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be always with you.

Postlude: *Forest Green, Clonmel and St.Michael's*

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

**THIS WEEK - (January 1-8 )**

**Regular services resume next week:**

**Early communion service at 9 am**

**Prayer Circle at 10 am**

**Covenanting Service at 11 am**

**David's Place continues on Friday**

**The Session has its regular meeting Wed., January 11, at 7 pm**



Interested in being a **Sunday greeter**  
– please talk with Colin  
MacPherson – 902-434-1674

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-13** For everything  
there is a season, and a time for

every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

**Revelation 21:1-6a** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

**Matthew 25:31-46** "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."