



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

Minister: Kenn Stright

Clerk of Session: Valerie Macdonald

Supply Organist: Freeman Dryden

## WELCOME to our Church at Worship

January 22 Epiphany 3

*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.

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## GATHERING



Prelude:

\*The Entry of the Beadle with Bible

Call to worship *God of the prophets, call to us today. Call us into Your ways of love, justice and righteousness. God of the poets, remind us again how much you love us. Sing to us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness. God of the disciples, teach us how to follow you. Teach us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness. God of all creation, help us to know Your ways. We gather to hear Your call, to sing Your praise, to teach each other, to pray and worship as the Body of Christ.*

\*Hymn: There is a balm in Gilead

747

Prayer of Confession: *God of Justice and Mercy, we confess that we have silenced our prophets. We have covered our ears to those who speak out for justice because it makes us uncomfortable. We ignore calls to end oppression and violence because it is inconvenient for us. We avoid the looks of the poor because they embarrass us. Forgive us, Lord, for not learning from the mistakes of our ancestors, who ignored and killed their prophets. Forgive us when we follow their steps instead of following your ways. In the name of Christ, who forgives us, we pray. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon: *God's faithfulness endures forever. God forgives, renews, and restores. God's mercies are new every morning. We are called to seek the restoration and healing of others in our own forgiveness. Go with this good news, that God loves you deeply, and calls you into new life. Amen.*

## PROCLAIMING

First Reading:

Isaiah 49:1-7

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

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 40:1-11** *I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD. Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods. You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted. Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.*

**Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.** *Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me. I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD. I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation. Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.*

\*Hymn: Love the Lord your God

715

Community Conversation

From the letters:

**1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

Gospel:

**John 1: 29-42**

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

\*Hymn: I'm gonna live so God can use me

648

Sermon: ***Long Road to Justice - meet Viola Desmond***

### RESPONDING

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: *Go down Moses*

Andrew Lappin

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

830

Offertory Prayer

Announcements:

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

### SENDING

\*Hymn: Precious Lord, take my hand

675

\*Benediction: Postlude:

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



**THIS WEEK - (January 22-29 )**

**Next Sunday:** Early communion service at 9 am  
Prayer Circle at 10 am Traditional Service at 11 am  
Men's choir practice: 7:30 pm Thursday evening!

**David's Place continues on Friday**

**Set aside March 5<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Congregational meeting!**

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

**Check out:** <http://presbyterian.ca/donate/mission-priority-funds/#priorities> for a local connection to this mission initiative!

**Isaiah 49:1-7** Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

**1 Corinthians 1:1-9** Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every

way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**John 1:29-42** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).



## 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

**Human Relations Day** - a day when we claim that the vast diversity of the human family is a fabulous gift from our creator rather than a burden to be endured and feared. This year it was January 15.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** Pray for congregations committed not only to serving people in their community who are homeless and hungry during the winter months, but also advocating for changes to address homelessness.

**Blessed is the congregation that expresses in its worship** *the communion in the body of Christ, the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, the oneness that is the gift and calling of God, that unites the young and old, and believers of every time and place who share a common calling by the Spirit of God in Jesus Christ.*

**Stewardship** is at the heart of what Christian life is all about. Stewardship is about giving. Stewardship is about living.

**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 Davida Mackay. Our reader today is Lisa Glennie. Refreshment Host is Sally Fyfe.