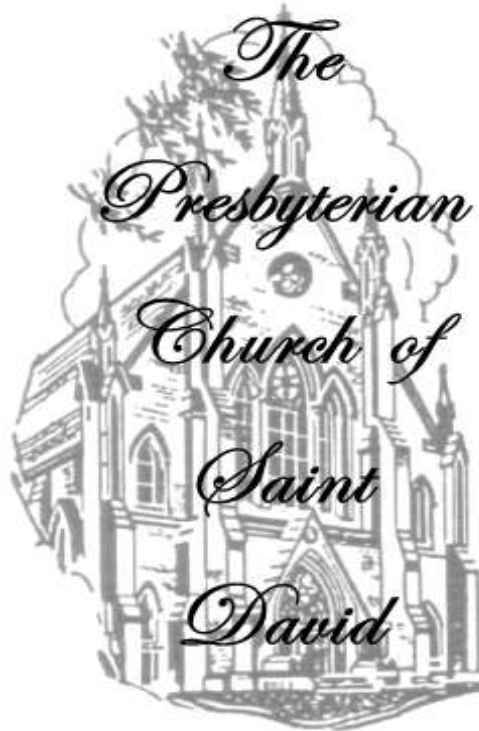




Do Justice
Love Kindness
Walk Humbly



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

Minister: Kenn Stright

Clerk of Session: Valerie Macdonald Supply Organist: Freeman Dryden

WELCOME to the Church at Worship

January 29 Epiphany 4

We acknowledge the Mi'kmaq people on whose territory we gather this morning. This 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.

What does the Lord require of you in 2017?

Justice, mercy- while walking with God

**A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming
Community of faith**

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:

*The Entry of the Beadle with Bible

Call to worship *How shall we worship our God? We have heard what the Lord requires of us. Leave empty talk and pride behind. We must walk the walk. Prepare to step out in faith, even into troubled waters. Only God knows where we might need to go. Don't be afraid. Jesus will guide our steps along the way, Teaching us to walk humbly, to love boldly, to serve God with body, soul, mind, and strength. Let us pray for the humility and courage to follow where the Spirit leads.*

*Processional hymn "Seek ye first"

625

Prayer of Confession: *Loving God, in Jesus you chose to come to the world in humility. You chose the path the world saw as foolish. You used what the world considered weak. Forgive us when our lives reflect another kind of life – of greed and indifference, of suspicion and hostility, of fear and distrust. . Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven when you follow in Christ's footsteps. Thanks be to God.*

Assurance of Pardon: *What does the Lord require of you? To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. Be assured that God will be with you in living this life.*

PROCLAIMING

First Reading:

Micah 6: 1-8

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

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 15** LORD, *who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbours; in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.*

*Hymn: The wise may bring

344

Community Conversation

From the letters: **1 Corinthians 1:18-31**
 Gospel: **Matthew 5: 1-12**
One: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ
 *Hymn: God bless your church with strength **491**
 Sermon: ***So, what's it all about – really.***

RESPONDING

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
 Anthem: "The Men" - *Blest are They*
 *Doxology: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow" **830**
 Offertory Prayer
 Announcements:
 Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer (debts & debtors)

SENDING

*Hymn: Lord, speak to me **767**
 *Benediction:
 Postlude:
Worship is now ended let our service begin!



THIS WEEK - (January 29-February 02)

Next Sunday: Early communion service at 9 am
 Prayer Circle at 10 am Traditional Service at 11 am

David's Place continues on Friday

WCL meets Feb. 1 at 1:30 Session meets February 8th, 7 pm

Set aside March 5th for the Annual Congregational meeting!



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

Intentional kindness It's proven and simple! Pick a person for the challenge, then for 30 days: Say nothing negative to them or about them. Find one positive thing you can praise about that person and tell them. Then, tell someone else. Do one small act of kindness for them.

Congratulations: The total of the offerings at St David's in 2016, including the two Special Appeals, came to \$133,490. This is the largest offering total we have raised in recent years. At a crucial time, this congregation stepped forward. Bravo! Please be sure to attend the annual meeting for further financial updates. **THANK YOU!**

St. David's is supporting the **Out of the Cold Shelter** at St. Matthews United Church again this winter. This organization ensures that anyone who wants to get out of the cold can do so any winter night between Dec. 1 and April 30. Our role is to prepare and deliver 15 lunches on the first Saturday night of each month, and we're looking for volunteers for Feb 4, March 4 and April 1. If you would like to participate in this mission to our community, please contact Nicole Watkins Campbell at 902-222-1691.



Micah 6:1-8 Hear what the LORD says Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it

is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Matthew 5:1-12 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Oh God
Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer-
How do we thank you?
How do we show our gratitude?
Do you want signs and sacrifices?
Do you want gold and cattle?
Can we turn over our children to you?
Would that repay our debt, make everything right?
Tell us, what do you require in return for all your goodness?

Oh God,
Our teacher, example, companion—
You have shown us what is good,
and call us to remember
that what you require is not
repayment of debt
or settling the score,
but obedience.
Show us, God
When to do justice,
how to love kindness,
and where to walk,
humbly,
with You.
Amen.



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

Kenn Stright

office: 423-1944

Valerie Macdonald

home: 455-1893

Mission Moment: Together, Farming for the Future One way our church is empowering vulnerable families to overcome hunger and improve nutrition is by supporting the Malawi Farmer-to-Farmer Agroecology project through PWS&D. The project has helped 6,000 farm families in Malawi transform their withered plots of land and improve their livelihoods and lives for the long-term. Learning from one another, farmers practice and apply sustainable methods that help protect crops from a changing environment. Annie Nguluve was amazed by the results of the program. Since learning about the advantages of intercropping, her small plot of land has sprung to life. “I’ve seen that I get more yields by adding other crops”

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 here in Halifax and across the country.



Stewardship Moments: The first great gift we can bestow on others is a good example. -*Thomas Morell (1703 – 1784)*,

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 Andrew Lappin. Refreshment host is Jackie Kinley