

Prayer of Thanksgiving: *The Lord is here. God's spirit is with us. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise. Loving and gracious God who surrounds creation with abundant love, we give thanks and blessings to you. We bless you for your love, made known to us through Jesus, which reassures and reconciles us to you, to ourselves and to one another.*

**Thank you, merciful God, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendours of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this Holy Communion - oneness of heart, love for neighbours, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends.** (Continue in prayer) *By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the world, until Christ comes in final triumph, and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honour and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever more. (Our Father...)*

Hymn: Bread of the world 551

### Communion

**Prayer following communion:** *In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people we give ourselves to you O God.*

**Gracious God may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. In Jesus' name. Amen**

Hymn: May the Lord bless you 553

*Lord, let me hunger enough that I not forget the world's hunger.*

**Lord, let me hunger enough that I may have bread to share.**

*Lord, let me hunger enough that I may long for the Bread of Heaven.*

**Lord, let me hunger enough that I may be filled. O Lord,**

*let me not hunger so much that I seek after that which is not bread, nor try to live by bread alone. Amen.*

WELCOME TO...

# The Presbyterian Church of Saint David

March 05, 2017

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EARLY SERVICE – 9 AM Lent 1

**LOST &  
FOUND**

**Gathering:** *May we seek you and find you, gracious God, may we knock and the door be opened, for we are sojourners looking for your Kingdom.*

**As we encounter suffering in this world, turn our hearts, our ears, our eyes, our souls toward Christ, who emptied himself, and was tempted, and suffered for us, even giving his own life. In this suffering, plant seeds of hope, and let us never stray so far into despair, that we forget the resurrection of Christ and the power of his Spirit. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Lead us heavenly Father, lead us 647

**Opening Prayers** *Turn away from the calls of worldly success.*

**Repent, and turn back to God.** *Turn away from the desire to have what everyone else has. Repent, and turn back to God. Turn away from greed and the race for power. Repent, and turn back to God.*

*As we enter Lent, may we turn back to God. May we seek forgiveness, may we seek healing, may we seek wholeness. May our hearts be renewed in this time of worship.*

**Hymn:** Just as I am (1-2) 682

*Almighty God, your Son fasted in the wilderness, and faced human temptations. Give us courage to face and name our own temptations, and to direct our lives in obedience to your Spirit. You know us better than we know ourselves; may we know you and grow closer to the vision you have for us, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever; Amen.*

**Matthew 4:1-11** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**Hymn:** Just as I am (3-4) 682

Lent is a time for us to sort out the voices in life that try to seduce us away from obedience, the sin at our origins that offers rational arguments to convince us that God is a liar, that God's word to us is not a mandate, but simply one of many options. Lent invites us to ponder those voices and choices, and strive to live more deeply into the realm of God's grace. Yes, we are dust; from dust we have come and to dust we will return—none of us is getting out of this alive. Not even Jesus could do that. But his death unleashed the grace and power of God for us, a grace that refuses to let the distance that sin creates between us and God become the last word and kill us. Wars, atrocities, and other forms of abuse will continue, for evil is real and sin still has a death grip on human hearts, causing us to create evil when we think we are choosing good. Why else would people go to war or put this planet and its life at risk? And so, we pray for that day when Jesus returns. For then, he will make all things new, redeeming even the power of evil, doing away with sin forever, and giving all of us obedient hearts.

Fred R. Anderson

**Hymn:** Just as I am (5-6) 682

**Invitation:** *Dear friends, we are going to Jerusalem with Jesus. He is our pardon, our healing, and our peace! We will suffer the trial with him, resisting evil. With him, we will walk the path to life. But come first to the table where there is food for the journey. With hearts full of joy we come, giving thanks to God, our maker, and offering our praise!*