

PASTORAL CARE

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

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



MISSION MOMENTS: Welcoming the stranger

With support from *Presbyterians Sharing*, Jackie Bannerman is serving as a young adult intern in Budapest, Hungary with our long-standing partner, the Reformed Church in Hungary. Jackie is excited about helping the Kalunba Refugee ministry to build relationships with refugees in a safe environment. She teaches English lessons and helps with Kalunba's website, providing English content to connect international readers. Jackie shares, "I hope to help create a sort of home, if only a temporary one, and provide a much needed sense of hope to people coming from fearful situations with uncertain futures."

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP *Pray for those who receive and count the Sunday offering - that they will be blessed in this important task.*

STEWARDSHIP "when journeying with God some of the best parts of any pilgrimage are the detours." Margaret Feinberg

We welcome younger children to our services! St. David's is a breastfeeding friendly facility.



! Breastfeed.

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 Greeter this morning is Anne Sommerville. Our scripture reader for this morning is Anne Sommerville. Refreshment Hosts Gary and Barb Smith.



1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, NS

Minister: Kenn Stright
Clerk of Session: Valerie Macdonald
Organist: Freeman Dryden



WELCOME!

We are so glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning!
Service for the Lord's Day
Lent 2 - March 12, 2017

**All who are able are asked to stand.*

Our Vision

A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community

Mail: 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 (Rod Macdonald)

Lent is a time to take time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us, a time to let the events get up and walk around in us, a time to intensify our living unto Christ, a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts, a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and listen to his Word, a time to touch his robe and

feel the healing surge through us, a time to ponder and a time to wonder. Anne Weems in 'Kneeling in Jerusalem'

God Calls Us to Worship

Prelude

*The Entry of the Scriptures

Call to Worship: *With Abraham and Sarah we gather to worship the Lord. With the saints of every age we gather to worship the Lord. We embark on our own journey of faith God's Holy name be praised. We journey in the presence of God. And we do not journey alone.*

Lenten Liturgy: Lent 2 Anne Sommerville

*Hymn: The God of Abraham praise 331

Confession: *Gracious God, you reached into Abraham and Sarah's lives and asked them to dream the impossible dream - that you would transform what appears to have been a barren and lifeless situation into one overflowing with promise and hope - and, through faith in you, they believed your promises.*

Forgive us, O God, if we never get beyond thinking of your call on our lives as an impossible dream or even as an unwelcome interruption. Help us to journey in faith each and every day.

Assurance of Pardon: *Out of love for the world, God chose to share our humanity in the person of Jesus Christ, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ we are accepted, we are loved, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!*

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4a

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

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 121 *I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will*

keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

*Hymn: One more step along the world I go 641

Conversation with the children: How many steps?

From the letters: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: John 3: 1-17

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

*Hymn: To Abraham and Sarah 478

Sermon: A JOURNEY OF FAITH

We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem:

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements:

Prayers of the People:

The Lord's Prayer ("debts & debtors")

We Go Out to Serve God

*Hymn: Guide me O thou great Redeemer 651

*Commissioning:

*Choral Amen:

Postlude:

Worship is now ended let our service begin!

THIS WEEK - (March 12-19)		
Today	9:00 am	Early service
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional service and Sunday School
	12:15 pm	Lenten Study 1 in the minister's study
Thursday	7:30pm	Choir Practice
Friday		David's Place
Sunday	9:00 am	Early service
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional service and Sunday School

12:15 pm Lenten Study 2 in the minister's study

You are invited to participate in a five-week study program starting today after church entitled, **“Learning from the Lectionary.”** Feel free to join us for any or all the series! Lent 3: Exodus 17: 1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4: 5-42

Once again Saint David's is being asked to support the snack program at **Phoenix House**. This is a once a year contribution that goes towards healthy snacks for the youth who use Phoenix's facilities. We have been asked to provide \$175 and anyone who wishes to contribute is asked to give their donations to Carol Dobson or Anne Sommerville (income tax receipts will be issued).

Sunday Suppers: Saint David's and friends will prepare casseroles for about 300 people on Sunday March 19. Anyone who would like to prepare and deliver a casserole can call Nicole Watkins Campbell, 902-422-5878.

St. John's United Church is hosting its monthly **Taize Prayer** tonight @ 7 p.m. in the Maritime Conservatory.

Genesis 12:1-4a Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his

descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

John 3: 1-17 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved

through him."