



## PASTORAL CARE

*Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact*

Valerie Macdonald 455-1893

Iona MacLean 404-6108

## MISSION MOMENTS: World AIDS Day

Dr. Eddy Jonas, head of women's health at Zanmi Lasantein Haiti, is standing up for victims of gender-based violence. While Haiti's justice system is unable to respond adequately to widespread occurrences of violence against women, Dr. Jonas remains committed to providing the medical care, psychosocial support and community accompaniment victims need to recover. Dr. Jonas is thankful for the support from Presbyterian World Service & Development that is helping address this critical human rights issue and giving victims hope again. "If we can't receive victims and give them proper treatment, then we are a part of the system of violence," says Dr. Jonas. "There is a level of responsibility." His hope for the program is to provide a shelter for women after they receive treatment.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** On Human Rights Day, we remember families living in danger, hunger or exile as they search for peace and we pray for the programs associated with Presbyterian World Service & Development that protect the rights of refugees.

**STEWARDSHIP** Generosity is not giving me that which I need more than you do, but it is giving me that which you need more than I do.

*-Khalil Gibran (1883-1931), Lebanese-American artist, poet*



I Breastfeed.

**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. Greeting you this morning is Don Knox. Our reader for this morning is Simon Blake. Our refreshment hosts are Don and Margot Knox.



*The  
Presbyterian  
Church of  
Saint  
David*

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

**Interim Moderator:** Iona MacLean

**Clerk of Session:** Valerie Macdonald

**Organist:** Nick Veltmeyer

# WELCOME!

**Service for the Lord's Day**

**December 10, 2017 Second Sunday of Advent**

*We gather on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Mi'kmaq bind us together as we strive for reconciliation.*

## Our Vision

*A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

**Mailing Address:** 36061 RPO Spring Garden Halifax, NS B3J 3S9

**Organist:** (Nick Veltmeyer) [nick.veltmeier@gmail.com](mailto:nick.veltmeier@gmail.com)

**Office:** [stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:stdavids.office@ns.sympatico.ca) Telephone: (902) 423-1944

**Web site:** [www.saintdavids.ca](http://www.saintdavids.ca)

## GATHERING



Prelude: *Nun Komm Der Heiden Heiland*

-J.S. Bach

\*The chimes and The Entry of the Scriptures

\*Call to Worship:

*God has prepared for us things beyond our imagining.*

**Our hope is for a renewed world**

**and for fullness of life in the age to come.**

*Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;*

**righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

Hymn: *"Prepare the way, O Zion"*

**129**

Prayer of Approach: **O Lord, one day is like a thousand years to you, and a thousand years are like one day. Though we**

chafe with impatience for change in our world, you are not slow about your promise, but are patient with us, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. We praise you for your grace and mercy, your comfort and compassion. As we await the coming of the new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home, help us to lead lives of holiness and godliness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, in whose Name we pray. Amen.

Advent Liturgy: **The Candle of Peace** Nickerson Family

### EQUIPPING

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

*Lord, you were favourable to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.*

**You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
you pardoned all their sin.**

*Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.*

**Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

*Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.*

**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

*The Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.*

**Righteousness will go before him,  
and will make a path for his steps.**

Hymn: *"Comfort, comfort you my people"* **113**

Community conversation

From the letters: II Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

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

Hymn: *"Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"* **116**

Sermon: **The unsettling and comforting good news**

### We Respond to God's Word

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements

Prayers of the People

### SENDING

Hymn: *"Come, thou long-expected Jesus"* **110**

Benediction

Postlude: *Veni Emmanuel* -Edward Bairstow

**Our worship continues with our service in the world.**

### THIS WEEK – (dates)

<b>Today</b>	9:00 am	Early service with communion
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional Service – Sunday School Food Bank Sunday
	12:00 pm	Refreshments
Thursday	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
Friday		David's Place -
Sunday	9:00 am	Early service
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional service –

St. David's will again support families for Christmas. We have a tree with gift tags for some of the gifts and needs of the four families we will help this year. Feel free to take a tag (leave your name on part of it) and make the purchase on the tag. Return your unwrapped item to the church by **Sunday, Dec. 17** with its tag attached. Volunteers will finalize shopping, wrap everything, and prepare to deliver food and gifts the week of Dec. 18, with a wrapping party to be held at **10 am on December 20**. Contact Nicole Watkins Campbell if you have questions. 902-422-5878.

Members of the congregation who would like to prepare and deliver 20 brown bag lunches to the Out of the Cold Shelter can contact Nicole Watkins Campbell, 422-5878 to finalize

arrangements. We are scheduled for the **first Saturday night of each month until the end of April.**

Join Terry Hurrell and guests in a Celebration Concert, **7:30 pm on Wednesday, December 13th** at St. Matthew's United Church, Barrington and Spring Garden. There will be songs from St. Matthew's musicals - *JC Superstar, Godspell, West Side Story, Joseph .....*, songs and humour from Berwick Choir Camps, war time - Canadian songs and much more. King Herod will be there; so will King Arthur - as will Albert (and the Lion)! Accompanist: Scott Taylor; Compere: Olga Misolevich. Admission by donation. Light refreshments. Proceeds to St. Matthew's Outreach.

The Dalhousie Medical School Tupper Concert Band will present its 38th annual Christmas concert on **December 15 at 7:00 pm** at St. Andrew's United Church. Special Guests will be the Dalhousie Health Professions Chorale. Admission is by donation at the door.

On **Sunday, December 17** the Nova New Horizons band program will present its annual Metro based Christmas Concert at the Sea King Club on CFB Shearwater in Dartmouth starting at **7:30 p.m.** The admission price is \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 for young children.

A King's Christmas 2017 - Paul Halley and the University of King's College Chapel Choir present their 10th annual feast of seasonal song and story, this year with guest narrator Rev. Canon Dr. Gary Thorne. Described by the Chronicle Herald as "annual magic", A King's Christmas is a celebration that brings audience and performers fully into the profound beauty and poignancy of Christmas. Two performances on **Sunday, December 17: 4:00 pm & 7:30 pm** in the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 1330 Cathedral Lane, Halifax. Tickets and information at [www.ukings.ca/concerts](http://www.ukings.ca/concerts).

To Bethlehem With Kings 2017 – Nick Halley and Capella Regalis Men & Boys Choir offer their 8th annual presentation of beautiful carols for Christmas, ancient and modern, performed by a choir of boys (age 6 and up) and men in the European tradition. The concert also features the Maritime Brass Quintet and Paul Halley

accompanying on the great Cathedral pipe organ. This will warm the cockles of your heart! **Thursday, December 21 at 7:00 pm** in the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 1330 Cathedral Lane, Halifax. Tickets and information at [www.capellaregalis.com](http://www.capellaregalis.com)

The Longest Night Service will be at First Baptist Church on **Thursday, Dec. 21st at 7 pm.** This will be a joint service with St. David's, St. Andrew's, St. John's and First Baptist representatives. In the busyness of the Season some may wish to take a time for a quieter, more reflective service. All are welcome.

**Isaiah 40:1-11** Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

**II Peter 3:8-15a** But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will

come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

**Mark 1:1-8** The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”