



PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact

Valerie Macdonald 455-1893

Iona MacLean 404-6108

MISSION MOMENTS: Called into relationship

Gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the Rev. Blair and Vivian Bertrand as they serve a three-year term with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Malawi. Blair supports leadership development through the Blantyre Synod's youth department, Zomba Theological College and the Theological Education by Extension program. Vivian's desire is to support the Synod's work combating poverty. Blair feels called to this mission, and shares that "to be sent is to participate in the mission of God." Vivian adds, "As Christians, we are called into relationship. My understanding of mission centers around the idea that we are all impoverished in our own way, and as humans living in this world, through the grace of God, we have something to offer our brothers and sisters."

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP We pray for those God is calling into a life of faith but have not yet found Christian communities to call home and that God prepares congregations to welcome them.

STEWARDSHIP You can give without loving. But you cannot love without giving

-Amy Carmichael (1867-1951), author, missionary in India



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 Valerie Macdonald. Our reader for this morning is Barend Kamperman. Our refreshment host is Phyllis Morrison.



*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 31, 2017 Christmas 1

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

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

Web site: www.saintdavids.ca

GATHERING



Prelude: *Improvisation on Angels from the Realms of Glory*

*The chimes and The Entry of the Scriptures

*Call to Worship: *Joy to the world! The Lord is come!*

Let earth receive her king, Let every heart prepare him room.

And heaven and nature sing! And heaven and nature sing!

Let us worship God with joy this day.

Let us join with heaven and nature in singing praises to God.

Hymn: *"Angels from the Realms of Glory"*

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Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

God of time and eternity:

**we gather today, the last day of the year,
and on the threshold of the new year,
to end and begin the year with praise.**

**We praise you for the gift of life,
for the gift of your presence in good times and in bad,
and for the great gift of your Son our Saviour
who leads us into the future in love.**

**We join heaven and nature in giving glory to you,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Guide, one blessed God.**

**Lead us, we pray from the past
with your forgiveness of our sin and failure,
into the future blessed by your renewal and hope.**

**Clothe us with the garments of salvation
and cover us with the robe of righteousness,
so that your righteousness and praise
will spring up before all the nations;
through Jesus Christ, Babe of Bethlehem, Lord of all. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

EQUIPPING

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 148

¹ *Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!*

² **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

³ *Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!*

⁴ **Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵ *Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.*

⁶ **He established them for ever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

⁷ *Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,*

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his
command!**

⁹ *Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!*

¹⁰ **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying
birds!**

¹¹ *Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!*

¹² **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

¹³ *Let them praise the name of the Lord,*

for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his
faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise
the Lord!**

Hymn: "Infant holy, infant lowly" **143**

Community conversation

From the letters: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:21-40

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

Hymn: "See amid the winter's snow" **168**

Sermon: **Better days ahead**

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 and Lord's Prayer ("debts")

SENDING

Hymn: "Joy to the World" **153**

Benediction

Postlude: *In Dulci Jubilo* -J.S. Bach

Our worship continues with our service in the world.

THIS WEEK – (dates)

Today	11:00 am	Traditional Service
	12:00 pm	Refreshments
Friday		David's Place -
Sunday	9:00 am	Early service
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer
	11:00 am	Traditional service –

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.**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Galatians 4:4-7 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Luke 2:21-40 After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.