



## PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact

Colin MacPherson 434-1674 (Sept.5-Oct.5)

Iona MacLean 404-6108

## Our Vision

### *A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community*

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

Organist: (Nick Veltmeyer) nick.veltmeyer@gmail.com

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### MISSION MOMENTS: Winter in War-Torn Syria

With Syria facing its seventh year of conflict, the humanitarian situation in the country continues to deteriorate. Caught in the middle of a war zone in central Syria, Rabeha was living a nightmare. Her brother had been killed and her mother lost her legs when the family's home was destroyed. Rabeha's father suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed. Unable to secure a job, Rabeha couldn't afford food, medicine for her parents or heat for the winter. The family endured cold, hungry nights before they enrolled in a Presbyterian World Service & Development food aid project with Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Now that her family receives food baskets, Rabeha is saving money for other needs and was able to face the harsh winter with greater peace of mind.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** - (World Week for Peace in Israel and Palestine) Members of the World Council of Churches pray to the God of Hope for a just peace for all in Palestine and Israel.

**STEWARDSHIP** - Now is no time to think of what you do not have. Think of what you can do with what there is.

*Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961), novelist*



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.**



Grafton Street at  
Halifax, N.S.

Blowers,

**Interim Moderator:** Iona MacLean

**Clerk of Session:** Valerie Macdonald

**Interim Organist:** Ian Bent; **Choral Director:** Simon Blake

## WELCOME!

*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.*

**17th Sunday after Pentecost - September 16, 2018**

*"New Beginnings Sunday"*

*\*Please stand if able*

## GATHERING



Prelude

Introit

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

\*Call to Worship:

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Choose this day whom you will serve;

**We will choose the Living God.**

The road is narrow that leads to life;

**We will walk the way of Christ.**

Faith is not our holding on

**Faith is letting go.**

We offer more than words, O God;

**We offer you our lives.**

\*Prayer of Adoration: *(said together)*

**We do offer you our lives, O God, with hearty thanks  
for you have given us life in the first place.  
As individuals and as the company of your people,  
we praise you for the story of your love,  
which has become our story both to enjoy and to share.  
Bless our time together this day  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Hymn: All people that on earth do dwell 65

**Prayer of Confession:** *[from Present on Earth, The Iona Community]*

To the spoken words that end each petition

"we ask for your grace and your mercy, O God,"

**we sing the following response:**

*Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us.* 336

**Assurance of Pardon:**

One: Listen, these are words of Jesus Christ  
and they can be trusted:

"I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.

Whoever does God's will

is my mother and sister and brother.

Never mind what the others do . . . you . . . follow me."

**ALL: Thanks be to God who meets and mends us in Jesus.  
Amen.**

### EQUIPPING

Prayer for Illumination

The Prophets: Habakkuk 2:2-3 *(from The Message)*

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

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 19:7-9 *(The Message)*

The revelation of God is whole and pulls our lives together.

**The signposts of God are clear  
and point out the right road.**

The life-maps of God are right, showing the way to joy.

**The directions of God are plain  
and easy on the eyes.**

God's reputation is twenty-four carat gold,  
with a lifetime guarantee.

**The decisions of God are accurate  
down to the nth degree.**

\*Hymn: In the bulb there is a flower 674  
Community Conversation

The Letters: Philippians 1:3-11 *(The Message)*

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

New Beginnings: *Five Marks of a Vital Congregation*

The Prophets: Micah 6:6-8 *(The Message)*

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

New Beginnings: *A Portrait of Saint David's*

\*Hymn: Brother, sister, let me serve you 635

The Gospel: Matthew 28:18-20 *(The Message)*

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

New Beginnings: *An Amazing Visit - Dramatic Reading*

Hymn: *(remain seated)* Lead me, Lord 575

New Beginnings: *Now What? Steps Toward the Future*

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: *Blest are the pure in heart* - Bruno Huhn

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

Offertory Prayer

Announcements

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

### SENDING

\*Hymn: Come sing, O church, in joy! 757

\*Benediction (... *be with you all. And also with you.*)

Postlude

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### **Anthem**

Blest are the pure in heart, For they shall see our God,  
The secret of the Lord is theirs,  
Their soul is Christ's abode,  
The Lord who left the heav'ns,  
Our life and peace to bring,

To dwell in lowliness with men,  
Their pattern and their King.

## ***New Beginnings***

### **A Process of Assessment, Discernment, and Decision for The Presbyterian Church of St. David**

Today we hear in the service what we have learned so far about our congregation and community through the assessment and small group conversations.

One way to help us meet the changing community is to understand ourselves as disciples of Jesus called to share the gospel of grace and hope. We are here not simply to support an institution, but to follow Jesus into the world, to live by Jesus' example as we serve those around us. Our experience of church can be described under two models: a membership model and a discipleship model. The chart below helps to describe the difference in the models:

#### **Membership vs. Discipleship**

| Membership Model                                   | Discipleship Model                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| I give my offering therefore I should benefit      | I give my offering to bless someone else |
| The church serves its members                      | The church serves its community          |
| My minister is responsible for my spiritual growth | I am responsible for my spiritual growth |
| Worship satisfies me                               | Worship stretches me                     |
| Majority rule decides                              | Prayer decides                           |

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

#### **Announcements**

**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 Colin MacPherson. Leading the service with Iona today are the New Beginnings Small Group Facilitators: Nicole Watkins Campbell, Davida Mackay, Gary Smith, and Barbara MacKeigan, assisted by the Harris and Hope families. Our refreshments are coordinated by the Worship and Church Life Committee with convenor Phyllis Morrison.

#### **THIS WEEK – September 16-23**

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b> | 11 a.m. Worship<br>Noon Lunch       |
| Friday       | David's Place                       |
| Sunday       | 9 a.m. Communion<br>11 a.m. Worship |

**Presbyterians Sharing** (*our share of the wider mission and ministry of the church in Canada and throughout the world*) - Donations up to August 31st total \$12,467. This is 62% of our \$20,000 target. By comparison, by August 31 in 2017, donations were \$14,475, or 72% of our \$20,000 target. Brochures describing the ministries your gifts support are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

**Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D)** (*the emergency relief and development work in various parts of the world*) - Donations to PWS & D up to August 31, 2018 are \$255.

**An urgent appeal** for Africa Relief is currently inviting our support. Violent clashes in **Sudan, South Sudan** and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** have caused widespread trauma and displacement and left many thousands without the necessities for survival. In **Somalia**, families fleeing their homes because of deadly flash floods are at risk of malnutrition and disease. PWS&D is responding with partners at Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the ACT Alliance to meet the needs of the hungry and

displaced—but there is much more to be done. Please mark your donation "Africa Relief."

**Refreshments** - Please sign up with Phyllis if you can do refreshments any time this fall. Thanks.

**Bulletin announcements** - Iona is doing the bulletin (for now!) so if you have items you wish included in the announcements, please e-mail to her by Wednesday of each week. [ionamac@eastlink.ca](mailto:ionamac@eastlink.ca)

The Prayer of Confession is taken from *Present on Earth*, a publication of the Wild Goose Resource Group of The Iona Community, Scotland.

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The Scripture readings are from *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language* by Eugene H. Peterson.

### **Habakkuk 2:2-3**

2-3 And then GOD answered: "Write this.

Write what you see.

Write it out in big block letters

so that it can be read on the run.

This vision-message is a witness

pointing to what's coming.

It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait!

And it doesn't lie.

If it seems slow in coming, wait.

It's on its way. It will come right on time.

### **Philippians 1:3-11**

<sup>3-6</sup> Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.

<sup>7-8</sup> It's not at all fanciful for me to think this way about you. My prayers and hopes have deep roots in reality. You have, after all, stuck with me all the way from the time I was thrown in jail, put on trial, and came out of it in one piece. All along you have experienced with me the most generous help from God. He knows how much I love and miss you these days. Sometimes I think I feel as strongly about you as Christ does!

<sup>9-11</sup> So this is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well. Learn to love appropriately. You need to use your head and test your feelings so that your love is sincere and intelligent, not sentimental gush. Live a lover's life, circumspect and exemplary, a life Jesus will be proud of: bountiful in fruits from the soul, making Jesus Christ attractive to all, getting everyone involved in the glory and praise of God.

### **Micah 6:6-8**

How can I stand up before GOD

and show proper respect to the high God?

Should I bring an armload of offerings

topped off with yearling calves?

Would GOD be impressed with thousands of rams,

with buckets and barrels of olive oil?

Would he be moved if I sacrificed my firstborn child,

my precious baby, to cancel my sin?

<sup>8</sup> But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do,

what GOD is looking for in men and women.

It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor,

be compassionate and loyal in your love,

And don't take yourself too seriously—

take God seriously.

### **Matthew 28:18-20**

<sup>18-20</sup> Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

