



PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact

Valerie Macdonald 455-1893

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Our Vision

A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community

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

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MISSION MOMENTS - Human Rights Day (December 10)

In many parts of the world, girls face barriers to education and other opportunities to earn a living. In Afghanistan, Zarmina felt frustrated by her community's belief that a girl's place is in the home and not in the classroom. In an effort to make life better for her daughters, Zarmina participated in gender equality training with PWS&D partners. Zarmina shared what she learned about a child's right to an education with other mothers, fathers and village leaders. As a result of her advocacy, the community now enthusiastically supports girls' education. "We hope that one day there will be no child out of school, not only in our community, but in the entire country." *PWS&D is making a difference for girls around the world*

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP - Pray for courageous individuals and organizations defending human rights around the world.

STEWARDSHIP - Asking people for money is giving them the opportunity to put their resources at the disposal of advancing the Reign of God. *Henri Nouwen, theologian (1932-1996)*



! 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.



*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; **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.

Second Sunday of Advent - December 9, 2018

**Please stand if able*

GATHERING



Prelude

Introit: *Adam lay y Bounden* - Peter Warlock

*The Entry of the Scriptures

*Call to Worship:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The voice in the wilderness cries out:

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The crooked shall be made straight, and the
rough ways made smooth.

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

*Prayer of Approach

*Hymn: On Jordan's bank

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Lighting the Candle of Peace (See Insert)

EQUIPPING

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

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

Responsive Reading: Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.

**He has raised up a mighty saviour for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets
from of old, that we would be saved
from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.**

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

**to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our
enemies, might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

**By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."**

*Hymn: Prepare the way, O Zion 129

Community Conversation

The Letters: Philippians 1:3-11

The Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

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

*Hymn: Blest be the God of Israel 752

Sermon: "The way of peace"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: *Alma Redemptoris* -Palestrina

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

*Offertory Prayer

Announcements

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

SENDING

*Hymn: It came upon the midnight clear 148

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

Postlude

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

**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 Scripture reader is Nancy Tindall. Our Advent liturgy readers are the McLeod/Reardon family. Our refreshment host is Phyllis Morrison.

**Today:** 1 p.m. **Session meeting** in the gathering area.

**THIS WEEK – December 9 to 16**

|              |                                                                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b> | 11 a.m. Worship & Food Bank Sunday<br>Noon Refreshments                               |
| Thursday     | 7 p.m. Property Committee will meet at Barbara MacKeigan's                            |
| Friday       | David's Place                                                                         |
| Sunday       | 9 a.m. Communion<br>11 a.m. Worship - 3rd Sunday of Advent - <b>White Gift Sunday</b> |

**Christmas Families** - The Angel Tags for gifts are available on the table in the entry--fill in and place part with your name in the box. All new and unwrapped gifts to be delivered **by December 18** to Saint David's or 543 Tower Rd. All cash donations sent by cash or cheque **by December 19** to Mac Fyfe or via e-mail transfer to SaintDavidChristmas@minnikin.ca **December 22, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.** is wrapping, delivery and fellowship day. Our focus this year continues to be offering a *hand up* along with the *hand out* of Christmas groceries and gifts. Thank you for your support.

## Announcements cont'd

**Christmas Carol Sing - Saturday, December 15 at 7 p.m.** at Saint David's. An opportunity for you and your friends to sing out the familiar carols earlier in the season than we normally do on Sundays during Advent. (In the church year, the Christmas season begins at sundown on Christmas Eve and lasts until Epiphany, January 6. That is why we sing mostly Advent hymns at least until the fourth Sunday in Advent.) Brogan Cameron will be our accompanist. A donation to David's Place would be appreciated --either money, food or a small article of clothing. **Come and join us!**

**We need people to read** the Advent liturgies and light the candle of Joy and the Christ Candle. Please speak to Phyllis if you would take part. This would be for Dec. 16, and 24. Thank you.

**Presbyterians Sharing** (*our share of the wider mission and ministry of the church in Canada and throughout the world*) - Donations up to December 2 are **\$16,334** or **82%** of our \$20,000 target. Please give generously as able.

**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 December 2nd, 2018:

General donations total **\$901**. African Relief donations total **\$350**.

*Thank you for your ongoing support of these important funds toward Christ's work in the world.*

Each year **Coverdale Courtwork Society** provides women and girls in our community with gift bags that bring a little bit of joy to their holiday season. In some cases this is the only gift these women will receive. Many of these women and girls spend this time of year alone, without experiencing the warmth and joy of family and friends. . . all the things that make this time of year so very special. If you would like to help the staff collect items to fill the bags, here is a list of suggestions: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, body lotion, deodorant, face soap, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, candy, gift cards -grocery stores, fast food restaurants, Tim Hortons. Any donations are welcome and can be dropped off at Coverdale's office: Suite 203, 6169 Quinpool Road (above Wendy's) or given to Valerie Macdonald. Any items should be in hand **by December 13th** so that the gift bags can be assembled.

On **Tuesday, December 18** 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.

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Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

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**Anthem: *Alma Redemptoris* -Palestrina**

*Latin:* Alma redemptoris

quae pervia caeli porta manes,

et stella maris, succurre cadenti surgere qui curat populo:

Tu quae genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem:

Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.

*English:* Loving Mother of the Redeemer,

who remains the gate by which we mortals enter heaven,  
and star of the sea, help your fallen people who strive to rise:

You who gave birth, amazing nature, to your sacred Creator:

Virgin prior and following, taking from the mouth of Gabriel that Hail  
have mercy on our sins.