

Welcome to . . .
The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
March 24, 2019

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” ⁶Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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***New Beginnings Next Step*** - Today, you are invited to continue the conversation on Saint David's future life and mission. **Worship at 11 a.m.** will prepare us for **lunch** and a sharing of ideas. "Voices" from the February community consultation will join with your voices as we imagine together where God is leading us. Please plan to stay and enjoy the companionship and the exploration.

**Opening Responses:** *(based on Isaiah 55:1-3)*

L> All you who are thirsty, this is the place for water.  
All you who are hungry, this is the place to be fed.

**ALL> Why spend our earnings on what is not food?  
Why pay for that which fails to satisfy?**

L> Here, without money, here, without price,  
all may enjoy the bread of heaven.

**ALL> God speaks, and all who listen will have life.**

**Hymn:** O thou, my soul, bless God the Lord 69

**Prayer:**

L> O God of life, eternity cannot hold you, nor can our little words catch the magnificence of your kindness.  
Yet in the space of our small hearts and in silence you can come close and repair us. *(Silence)*  
O God of life, grant us your forgiveness

**ALL> for our careless thoughts, for our thoughtless deeds,  
for our empty speech and the words with which we wounded.** *(Silence)*

L> O God of life, grant us your forgiveness

**ALL> for our false desires, for our hateful actions,  
for our wastefulness and for all we left untended.** *(Silence)*

L> O loving Christ, hanged on a tree yet risen in the morning,  
scatter the sin from our souls as the mist from the hills;  
begin what we do, inform what we say, redeem who we are.

**ALL> In you we place our hope, our great hope, our living hope,  
this day and evermore. Amen.** *(Silence)*

L> Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. [*Is. 55:7*]

**ALL> In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSE in Preparation for the Readings:**

L> Listen for the Word that God has spoken;

**ALL> Speak, Lord, to our speaking,  
speak, Lord, to our listening,**

Speak, Lord, to our souls' deep understanding.

**The Word of God:** *Isaiah 55:1-9*  
*Luke 13:1-9*

L> For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us.

**ALL> Thanks be to God.**

**Reflection**

**Invitation**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving & Blessing, Prayers for Others**

**Communion**

**Prayer:** (said together)

**For the bread which we have eaten,  
for the wine which we have tasted,  
for the life that you have given:**

**Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit, we praise you.**

**For the life of Christ within us,  
turning all our fears to freedom,  
helping us to live for others;  
for the strength of Christ to lead us,  
in our living and our dying,  
in the end with all your people:**

**Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit, we praise you. Amen.**

**Hymn:** All the way my Saviour leads me 699

**Closing Responses & Blessing:** [from *A Wee Worship Book*]

L> From where we are to where you need us

**ALL> Christ be beside us.**

L> From what we are to what you can make of us

**ALL> Christ be before us.**

L> From the mouthing of generalities  
to making signs of your kingdom.

**ALL> Christ be beneath us.**

L> Through the streets of this world to the gates of heaven,

**ALL> Christ be above us.**

L> The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**ALL> Amen.**

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Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.