



PASTORAL CARE

Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact
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Our Vision

A Worshipping, Sharing, Welcoming Community

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MISSION MOMENTS - Serving. Leading. Connecting.

Gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the mission and ministry we do together in Canada and around the world. Together as a church we equip, support and encourage leaders—lay and clergy—to do effective ministry. We send mission staff, short-term volunteers and grants to accompany international and Canadian mission partners. We assist new church developments and support, encourage and enrich congregations as they renew and grow their ministries. Together we speak on issues of justice and support healing and reconciliation ministries between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. As we encourage and equip one another and teach about love, faith and hope, we are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel. *Presbyterians Sharing* supports a wide range of ministry and mission

PRAYER PARTNERSHIP - Sunday, March 31 On this day 70 years ago, Newfoundland and Labrador joined Confederation. Pray God's blessing on the congregations in the Presbytery of Newfoundland.

STEWARDSHIP - Many people take no care of their money till they come nearly to the end of it, and others do just the same with their time.
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1739-1842), writer, statesman

Saint David's is on Facebook and Twitter. Search in the platform for "Saint David's Presbyterian Church Halifax." If you click on "follow" on the church's page in either Facebook or Twitter, you will get updates from the church in your feeds.



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

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.

The Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 31, 2019

**Please stand if able*

GATHERING



Prelude

Introit: *Gently Lord, O gently lead us* - anon. Appalachian

*The Entry of the Scriptures

*Call to Worship: [adapted from *Isaiah 55:3,6*]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice,
 shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Prayer of Adoration: (*said together*)

**Merciful God, you reach out to us with the arms of love,
 embracing us despite our rebellion and ingratitude.**

You welcome us and surround us with your grace.

We praise you. We are glad in you.

**We rejoice and shout for joy with all that we are and have;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Hymn: Just as I am, without one plea 682

Prayer of Confession

Spoken Response: L> Holy God,

ALL> Holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Sung Prayer: (Sung twice)

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Assurance of Pardon

PWS&D Lenten Liturgy

EQUIPPING

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

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

Responsive Reading: Psalm 32

¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**²Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

**⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

⁶ Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

**⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.**

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.**

¹⁰ Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

**¹¹Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

*Hymn: God of the sparrow, God of the whale 307

Community Conversation

The Letters: II Corinthians 5:16-21

The Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

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

Sermon: "On the art of sewing"

*Hymn: Lord Jesus, you shall be my song 665

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: *The King of Love my Shepherd is* - Edward Bairstow

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

*Offertory Prayer

Announcements

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

SENDING

*Hymn: Lord, speak to me 767

*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 Colin MacPherson. Our PWS&D Lenten Liturgy and Scripture reader is Andrew Rutenberg. Our refreshment host is Dorothy Jackson.

**THIS WEEK – March 31 to April 7**

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| Today  | 11 a.m. Worship   |
|        | Noon Refreshments |
| Friday | David's Place     |
| Sunday | 9 a.m. Communion  |

## 11 a.m. Worship

would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.<sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!<sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;<sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’<sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.<sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’<sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.<sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;<sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.<sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.<sup>27</sup> He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’<sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.<sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.<sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’<sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.<sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

### Announcements cont'd

**Today**, the Saint David's & Friends **Sunday Suppers** group will prepare 16 casseroles that will provide hot meals to between 250 and 300 people. Give thanks for those participating in this ministry including coordinator, Nicole Watkins Campbell, and pray for those who will be fed.

**Tuesday, April 16, 2 p.m. - ‘A Celebration of the Life of Winifred (Peggy) Corkum’ at The Presbyterian Church of Saint David.**

Members of Symphony Nova Scotia and Musique Royale, as well as members of Saint David's, will share in the service led by Iona MacLean. Musicians include Christine Feierabend, *flute*; Suzanne Lemieux, *oboe*; Max Kasper, *double bass*; Ian Bent, *piano*; Janelle Lucyk, *soprano*; and Simon Blake leading Saint David's Choir. Pianist Peter Allen performs Chopin's *Barcarolle* on the Yamaha grand piano which Peggy so generously donated to Saint David's. Everyone is welcome.

**The Organ** - Work is under way again on the organ upgrade. Currently the new main console is being built. You can help by with a donation of any size to **The Organ Upgrade Fund**. Thank you for your generosity.

### Holy Week Morning Services with Breakfast

Everyone is welcome to ecumenical services during Holy Week hosted by different South End churches. All services will begin at 7:30 am followed by a continental breakfast at 8 am.

**Monday, April 15** - All Saints Cathedral (1330 Cathedral Lane)

**Tuesday, April 16** - First Baptist Church Halifax (1300 Oxford Street)

**Wednesday, April 17** - St. Mary's Basilica (5221 Spring Garden Road)

### Holy Week Services continued:

**Maundy Thursday, April 18** - 7 p.m. **Communion** at Saint David's in partnership with Calvin Church

**Good Friday, April 19** - 10:30 a.m. **Joint Service** at St. John's United Church, Maritime Conservatory on Chebucto St., with First Baptist, St. Andrew's United, and Saint David's.

The **2019 KAIROS Atlantic Gathering**, May 2-5 at Mount Allison: public Mass Blanket Exercise with hundreds of people, a daily sunrise service & continuous Sacred Fire, elder care by Andrea Cofler, opening keynote & theological workshops by Executive Director Jennifer Henry, a Latin American feast with global partner Kelly Campo, opportunity to delve deeper into a Stream of KAIROS' work (acknowledged with a certificate of completion) helped by regional elders & guest speakers, advocacy workshops and more! Children's program available. 40 subsidies left. Details & registration: [www.kairoscanada.org/atlanticgathering](http://www.kairoscanada.org/atlanticgathering)

### **PWS&D Responds to Cyclone Idai**

Hundreds of thousands are in need of immediate humanitarian assistance after Cyclone Idai made landfall in southern Africa on March 14.

Widespread damage in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe has left many displaced and in need of food, shelter, and water and sanitation services. The number of people in need continues to rise. Please continue to keep the people and communities affected in your prayers.

PWS&D is in close contact with partners in the affected area who are coordinating a response to meet the most immediate needs. PCC International Ministries staff, the Rev. Dr. Blair and Vivian Bertrand, are serving in southern Malawi and providing updates on the situation. PWS&D is accepting donations to help bring relief to those suffering in the wake of the cyclone. You can donate through your offering envelopes. **Please mark donations as “Cyclone Idai”.**

**Rainbow Communion** is the special LGBTQI Listening Committee of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Its mandate is to offer a safe and respectful, confidential environment in order to encourage people

- \*\*to tell stories of harm done to them within and by the church because of homophobia, heterosexism and transphobia; and
- \*\*to share stories of God's grace experienced by them and through them in Christian ministry, even in the midst of challenges they have faced.

Two members of the Listening Committee will be in Atlantic Canada **May 10, 11, 12** to meet with any who wish to tell their story. The local member is the Rev. Michael Veenema of Canning NS. You may contact him at [veenema.m@gmail.com](mailto:veenema.m@gmail.com) to arrange a time. Rainbow Communion also has a dedicated extension at church offices for confidential voicemail 1-800-619-7301 ext. 300, and an e-mail address not associated in any way with The PCC's communication infrastructure at [rainbowcommunion@gmail.com](mailto:rainbowcommunion@gmail.com)

First Presbyterian, Pictou is hosting a **Leading with Care Workshop** on **Saturday, May 25**, 10 am to noon with David Phillips, Leading With Care Administrator, from our National Office. (Gathering over coffee & tea at 9:30 am.) If you are interested in attending, please contact Chris MacDonald at 902.485.4011 or [g.macdonald@eastlink.ca](mailto:g.macdonald@eastlink.ca) by May 22nd.

### **Joshua 5:9-12**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

### **II Corinthians 5:16-21**

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

<sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

### **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

<sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He