



## PASTORAL CARE

*Those seeking pastoral care are requested to contact*

Valerie Macdonald 455-1893

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.veltmeier@gmail.com](mailto:nick.veltmeier@gmail.com)

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

Web site: [www.saintdavids.ca](http://www.saintdavids.ca)

## MISSION MOMENTS - World AIDS Day

Sheila was just a few months old when her mother died, and she went to live with her grandmother, Elube, in Malawi. Two years later, Sheila's health began to sharply decline. Elube brought her granddaughter to the PWS&D-supported Mulanje Mission Hospital where Sheila was diagnosed as HIV positive and acutely malnourished. Elube's grief weighed a little less heavily when she learned that Sheila could receive treatment at a nearby orphan care centre. Supported by PWS&D, these centres provide vulnerable children with free medical care, school support and nutrition assistance. With a place to receive antiretroviral treatment and highly nutritious food, Sheila's health is improving and Elube is better equipped to meet her granddaughter's needs.

*PWS&D cares for orphans and vulnerable children*

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** - We pray for children in Malawi made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, as they find hope, education and healing with support from Presbyterian World Service & Development.

**STEWARDSHIP** - If you can't reward, then you should thank.

*Arabic proverb*

***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.



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.**



*The  
Presbyterian  
Church of  
Saint  
David*

1544 Grafton Street at Blowers, Halifax, N.S.

**Interim Moderator:** Iona MacLean

**Clerk of Session:** Valerie Macdonald

**Accompanist:** Brogan Cameron; **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.*

**First Sunday of Advent - December 1, 2019**

*\*Please stand if able*

## GATHERING

Prelude: *Jesus, Joy of Man's Desiring* - J. S. Bach

Introit: *Advent Prose*

\*The Entry of the Scriptures

\*Call to Worship:

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Advent means "coming."

In Advent we celebrate the coming of Christ.

**We prepare ourselves for the day  
when nations shall beat their swords into  
ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more. (Isa. 2:4)**

\*Advent Prayer: *(said together)*:

**God of grace, you are ever faithful to your promises.**

**The earth rejoices in hope of our Saviour's coming**

and looks forward with longing  
to his return at the end of time.  
Renew us in faith and hope  
that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts  
and claim our love,  
as Lord of lords and King of kings,  
to whom be glory always. Amen.

\*Hymn: Christ is coming 795

Lighting the Candle of Hope (See Insert)

### EQUIPPING

#### **Responsive Prayer for Illumination:**

O God of the weak, O God of the lowly,  
O God of the righteous, O shield of your people,  
**Speak now through your Word.**

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

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

Reception of New Members

\*Hymn: People in darkness 124

Community Conversation

The Letters: Romans 13:11-14

The Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

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

*Sung Response: 812 in Book of Praise*

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!**  
**Glory to God, glory to God, Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Sermon: "Certain hope in uncertain times"

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Announcements

#### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation

\*Hymn: Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour 541

The Offering

Anthem: *We Gather Together* - arr. Matthew J. Poole

\*Doxology (830), Apostle's Creed (539), Prayer of Dedication

The Peace: (Response - ***And also with you.***)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving: 564

including The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical Version)

Breaking the Bread, Lifting The Cup

Communion

The Grace (Response - ***And also with you.***), Prayer

### SENDING

\*Hymn: Come, thou long-expected Jesus 110

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

Postlude: *Invention No. 13 in A minor* - J. S. Bach

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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 Scripture reader is Mac Mackay. Our Advent liturgy readers are Jillian, Erin and Alison Hope. Our refreshment hosts are Margo and Don Knox.

### **THIS WEEK – December 1 to 8**

|              |                                                                  |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b> | 11 a.m. Worship                                                  |
| Tuesday      | 12:15 p.m. 20 minute Advent service                              |
|              | 2:15 p.m. New Beginnings leaders meeting at the church           |
| Friday       | David's Place                                                    |
| Sunday       | <b>No 9 a.m. service in December</b>                             |
|              | 11 a.m. Worship - 2nd Sunday of Advent - <b>Food Bank Sunday</b> |
|              | Gathering re young families Christmas plans after church         |

### **PWS&D Advent & Candle-lighting Liturgies - Readers needed!**

Please speak to Phyllis Morrison to sign up for an Advent Sunday or Christmas Eve.

Prepare your spirit for Christmas with ***Christmas at Saint David's***, a concert by **Saint David's Choir** of songs and music by Bach, Healey Willan and other favourites. **December 9, at 7:30 p.m.** at Saint David's Presbyterian Church in Halifax. Tickets are \$20 and \$10 for students and seniors, available at the door. Details on Facebook and at [saintdavid.ca](http://saintdavid.ca).

Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,  
and we all do fade as a leaf;  
and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away;  
thou hast hid thy face from us:  
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,  
and my servant whom I have chosen;  
that ye may know me and believe me: I even I, am the Lord,  
and beside me there is no Saviour:  
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,  
my salvation shall not tarry:  
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:  
Fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God,  
the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

**Anthem:** *We Gather Together* - arr. Matthew J. Poole

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
He chastens and hastens His will to make known.  
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;  
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;  
Thou, Lord, were at our side, all glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant,  
And pray that Thou still our Defender will be.  
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;  
Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

## Announcements cont'd

### **The Presbyterian Church in Canada calendars for 2020.**

\$5.00 each. Davida Mackay would be pleased to accept the money from any purchasers.

**Next Sunday, December 8, is Food Bank Sunday.** As winter sets in with difficult weather and higher prices, our guests at David's Place become ever more appreciative of all that we do. Our Food Bank Table is in operation each week and your donations are supplemented with fresh fruits and vegetables from Feed NS. Toilet Paper is needed particularly during the winter months, as it is often used instead of Kleenex, Nonperishable food items such as canned fruits, vegetables, pasta sauce, beans, soups, meats, juice boxes, single size puddings and oatmeal, pasta, broth for making soup, jam, peanut butter and salad dressings would be particularly appreciated. Men's and women's deodorant are currently on our wish list as well. Thank you for your support of our guests at David's Place.

### **Your Mission Gifts to October 31 - Thank you!**

*Presbyterians Sharing* (supporting theological education, congregational resources, mission in Canada and overseas): **\$13,669** (68.3% of our \$20,000 target. At same date 2018, \$14,885 or 74% of target received.)

*Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D)* (supporting emergency relief and community development globally): **\$5,893** received

**Tuesdays at Saint David's - Every Tuesday from 12:00 noon until 2:00 pm**, we welcome visitors, whether they be residents of Halifax or tourists visiting our city, to enjoy the sanctuary, and to stay for a time of rest, relaxation or prayer. Thanks very much to the volunteers who make this happen. During the first three weeks of **Advent, Dec. 3, 10 & 17**, **there will be a 20-minute service at 12:15 p.m.** to which all are invited.

### **The Presbyterian Church in Canada calendars for 2020.**

We have 12 calendars at a low, low price of \$5.00 each. Davida Mackay would be pleased to accept the money from any purchasers.

Each year **Coverdale** provides women and girls in our community with **gift bags** to bring some joy to their Christmas Season. In some cases this

will be the only gift these women will receive. The gift bags include personal care items, some clothing, and gift cards. If you would like to help Coverdale fill the bags, there is a list of suggested donations on the post at the back of the church. They would like to have all donations on hand **by Dec. 10** if possible. You can give any items to Valerie Macdonald or drop them off at the Coverdale office at 6169 Quinpool Road, Suite 203. Call Ashley 902-422-6417 to make sure someone will be in the office.

**Tuesday, December 17 - The Nova New Horizons band** will present its annual Metro based Christmas Concert at the Sea King Club on CFB Shearwater in Dartmouth starting at 7:30 p.m. Admission \$10.

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### Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

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

### Romans 13:11-14

<sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup> let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

### Matthew 24:6-44

<sup>36</sup> "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

<sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

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

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### **Introit:** *Advent Prose*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,  
neither remember iniquity forever:  
Thy holy cities are a wilderness,  
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: