



## 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*

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## MISSION MOMENTS - Human Rights Day (Dec. 10)

For Ahmad and Sarah and their daughters Reem and Rana, each day brought distress, thinking about what the future might hold. Their home in Al Raqqa, Syria had been bombed, and acts of brutal violence were taking place in their own neighbourhood. The family escaped to Kfarbo and forged a home in a cramped, unfurnished apartment. Navigating the streets of a brand-new city, in a country broken by over eight years of civil conflict, Ahmad and Sarah prayed each day for peace and relief from hunger. Their prayers were answered when the family received their first food and hygiene basket through a PWS&D-supported project with Canadian Foodgrains Bank partners. "It came at the right moment," says Ahmad.

*PWS&D responds to those living in danger or exile*

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP** - We pray for the ministry of our chaplains serving in universities across Canada and for those under their care.

**STEWARDSHIP** - I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. *Psalm 9:1*

*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.*



! 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.*

**Second Sunday of Advent - December 8, 2019**

*\*Please stand if able*

## GATHERING

Prelude: *Largo* - G. F. Handel

Introit: *Adam Lay Ybounden* - Peter Warlock

\*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 days  
when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them. (Isa. 11:6)**

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

**God of hope and peace,  
you have promised a day  
when old enemies will live as friends,**

when wolf and lamb will dwell together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
Help us get ready for this day by imagining your good future  
and changing our ways to fit with yours.  
So may we greet with joy  
the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer  
when he comes to rule the earth in peace.  
We offer our worship in Jesus' name. Amen.

\*Hymn: Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel 122 verses 1,2,5,6,7

Lighting the Candle of Peace (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 11:1-10

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

#### **Responsive Reading:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to a king's son.
  - <sup>2</sup> **May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice.**
  - <sup>3</sup> **May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness.**
  - <sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy,  
and crush the oppressor.
  - <sup>5</sup> **May he live while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.**
  - <sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth.
  - <sup>7</sup> **In his days may righteousness flourish  
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.**
- <sup>18</sup> Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,

who alone does wondrous things.  
<sup>19</sup> **Blessed be his glorious name forever;  
may his glory fill the whole earth.  
Amen and Amen.**

\*Hymn: Hope is a star 119  
Community Conversation

The Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

*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: "God surprises earth with heaven"

\*Hymn: Joy to the world 153

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: *The Call* - Vaughan Williams

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

\*Offertory Prayer

Announcements

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

### SENDING

\*Hymn: On Jordan's bank 126

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

Postlude: *Sonata in D major, Hob. XVI:24* - F. Haydn

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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 Johannah Roberts. Our Scripture reader is Mac Mackay. Our Advent liturgy reader is Amanda Saoud. Our refreshment hosts are David and Nancy Tindall.

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

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

hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

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**Introit:** *Adam Lay Ybounden* - Peter Warlock

Adam lay ybounden,  
Bounden in a bond:  
Four thousand winter  
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,  
An apple that he took,  
As clerkès finden  
Written in their book.

Nè had the apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady  
Abeen heavenè queen.

Blessèd be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen,  
Deo gracias!

**Anthem:** *The Call* - Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
Such a Way, as gives us breath:  
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:  
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, My Light, my Feast, my Strength:

Such a Light, as shows a feast:  
Such a Feast, as mends in length:  
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:

Such a Joy, as none can move:  
Such a Love, as none can part:  
Such a Heart, as joys in love.

## Announcements cont'd

### THIS WEEK – December 8 to 15

Today	11 a.m. Worship & <b>Food Bank Sunday</b> Gathering re young families Christmas plans after church
Monday	7:30 p.m. Christmas at Saint David's concert
Tuesday	12:15 p.m. 20 minute Advent service
Friday	David's Place
Sunday	<b>No 9 a.m. service in December</b> 11 a.m. Worship - 3rd Sunday of Advent

**Today** - Following the service, parents and others interested in **ministry with young families** will gather to continue to make plans for the Christmas Season.

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).

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

\$5.00 each. See Davida Mackay to purchase.

**Today 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.

**Tuesdays at Saint David's - 12 noon - 2 pm** Doors are open to visitors, 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. **Dec. 10 & 17, there will a 20-minute service at 12:15 p.m.** to which all are invited.

**This Christmas we are adopting 7 Families to give a hand up.** Our elves have been very busy checking with the parents to determine what is needed or a special wish. We have 130 tags with various requests for gifts, for both children and parents. Please consider taking one or more tags. As usual, you keep one part of the tag and put the other with your name and contact info in the box provided so that our elves know who will be providing the gift. **All gifts are to be returned by mid December** so that any outstanding shopping can be done before wrapping day on December 21. Help the congregation pull together to make Christmas a joyful time for our families. If you have questions please contact Paula Minnikin. You may obtain a tax credit for gifts purchased or money donated by giving the receipts to Davida Mackay or your financial donation to Mac Fyfe by year's end.

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.

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### **Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the  
nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

### **Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his