

Welcome to
The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
Reign of Christ Sunday - November 24, 2019

Opening Responses: [*Col. 1:15, 17, 18*]

Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation; . . .
He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.

**Christ is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might have first place in everything.**

A Prayer for the Reign of Christ: (said together)

**Mighty and tender God,
voice of the voiceless, power of the powerless,
we praise you for your vision of a community of wholeness,
a realm of peace,
in which all who hunger and thirst are nourished,
in which the stranger is welcomed,
the hurting are healed, and the captives set free.
Guide us by your truth and love,
until we and all your people
live by your reign of justice and compassion.
We pray in the name of your Anointed One,
our Servant-King,
to whom with you and the Spirit, one Holy God,
be honour, glory, and blessing
this day and forever. Amen.**

Hymn: Blest be the God of Israel 752

RESPONSE in Preparation for the Readings:

L> Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God
as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.
ALL> Our hearts and minds are open.

The Word of God: *Jeremiah 21:1-6*
Luke 23:33-43

One> *This is the word of the Lord.* **ALL> Thanks be to God.**

Reflection

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Blessing, Prayers for Others

Communion

Prayer: *(said together)*

**Eternal God, we thank you for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn: Jesus shall reign where'er the sun 275

Blessing:

L> God sends us into the world, to accept the cost
and discover the joy of discipleship.
Therefore go--- carrying with you the peace of Christ,
the love of God, and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit,
in trial and rejoicing.

All> Amen

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**Jeremiah 23:1-6**

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

<sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and

shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

**Luke 23:33-43**

<sup>33</sup>When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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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 saintdavids.ca.