

## February 1st: Grounded in Scripture



The Exodus from Egypt

We live in a world of constant change, bombarded by news from the television and the Internet. Many families no longer live close enough to one another to offer companionship and support. So little in life is stable and firm. With lifestyles like this, how can we feel grounded in something that will be

trustworthy in good times and in bad? Scripture and faith are designed to form and shape us – to make it possible for us to trust in God. The Bible does this as it explores the nature of God and the ways in which God has been active in the history of the world and individual human lives. As scripture explores universal themes, we may find ourselves reassured of God's benevolent purposes towards us, and God's desire for each person to grow in confidence, faith and hope.

*Please note:*

January 18th: The Reverend Stephen Kendall (Principal Clerk of Assembly, The Presbyterian Church in Canada) will be preaching.

### CONTACTS



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# Rosedale Presbyterian Church

A Member of the St. James Town Ecumenical Coalition



## Exploring Sacred Scripture

Sermons Series

Sundays, January 4th to February 1st, 2015 – 10:30 AM

**I**N 2015 THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY begins on Sunday, January 4th. In this season, we remember the journey of the magi who saw a star, the meaning of which they considered in the context of their understanding and traditions. We read the story of setting out on a long and difficult journey of discovery and wonder in search of truth.

During Epiphany, I invite you to consider a journey of discovery in search of truth: exploring scripture in the context of our own lives and culture in a meaningful way.

- Why we read it
- How we read it
- How it comes alive
- Understanding what scripture calls us to do and be as disciples of Christ living in the 21st century

*Let's share that journey together!*

## January 4th: The Stories of our People



On a trip to Israel in 1996, I listened to an Israeli tank commander tell the story of an ancient battle of the Hebrew people as though he were there. It was his story! The stories of scripture can become our stories as we read them, as we explore and argue with them, immersing ourselves in the foundational words of Christian faith.

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## January 11th: It's Not that Far Away



King Saul Consults a Psychic

Sometimes it may be challenging to connect with the stories of scripture thousands of years old. What could those stories have to say about life in 2015? Is it possible when we discover the heart of a scriptural story – staying with it long

enough so that 'deep speaks to deep' – that we may find it's not as far away as we thought? In this sermon we will explore sacred stories that may be just as relevant today as when they were first written.

## January 25th: Language of the Heart

The left side of the human brain is logical, factual, sequential and judicious. The right side of the brain is intuitive, artistic and emotional. As far back as the Greek and Roman Empires, these differences were apparent. They said, "When Cicero finished his speech all Rome went about saying, 'What a fine speech Cicero gave today!' When Demosthenes spoke, the Greeks said, 'Let us march!'" Cicero spoke to the head.

Demosthenes spoke to the heart. In this sermon, we will explore the different ways in which scripture speaks to us, with a particular emphasis on the way the parables of Jesus speak to the heart.



The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Maidens