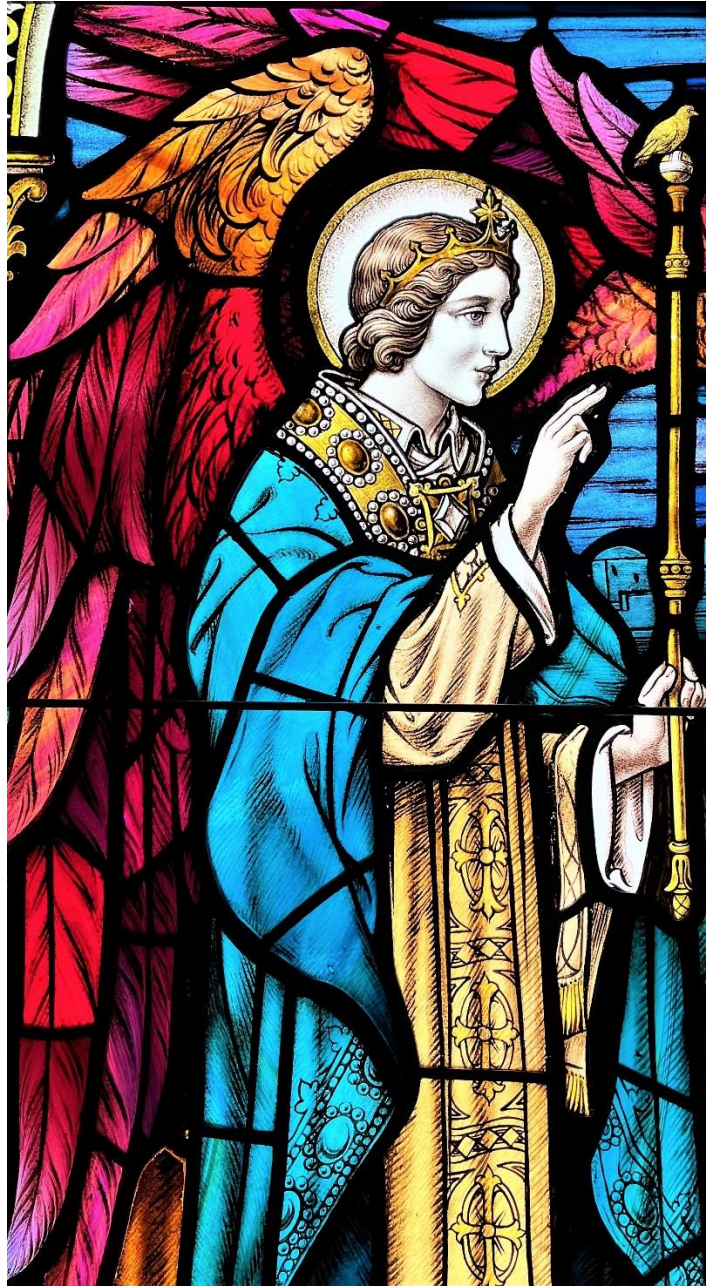


New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada
"Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others"
Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.



Detail from *The Annunciation to Mary* (1933), New St. James

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Clark

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Theresa Walsh

Advent Candle: Meredith, Iver, Florence, and Elsie Clark

Choristers: Janaki Butterworth, Nathan Dyck, Ariel Harwood-Jones,
Robert Hutson, Angela Myshkowsky

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (Helmsley)* K. Osterland (1998)

* **Processional Hymn** *Lo! Christ comes with clouds (HELMSLEY)* 120

* **Responsive Call to Worship** Romans 13:11-12

For salvation is nearer to us now
than when we first believed;
the night is far gone,
the day is near.

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Word of Assurance for Advent (sung in unison) Titus 3:4-6 (RICHMOND) 118

The kindness of our God appears
to pour out richest grace;
as we are saved from sin and fears,
we see the Saviour's face!

Introit *Came He Not in Fire* W. F. Smith (1992)

Came he not in fire, onward came the Lord. Not in wind or rain, onward came the Lord. Hail nor sleet or snow, onward came the Lord. In a still small voice came he, onward came the Lord.

Welcome

We Hear the Word of God

* **Children's Hymn** *Hope is a star (MOON BEAMS)* 119

Word to the Children

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Hope

Sung Response *Hope is a star (MOON BEAMS)* 119, verse 1

Solo *Waiting* P. Choplin (2010)

Janaki Butterworth, mezzo-soprano

Waiting, we are waiting, Lord. Fill the mind 'til we find your light, your truth. Now let us know your presence, Lord, Emanuel, God be with us. Listening, we are listening, Lord. Draw near, let us hear your Word for us. Patience, give us patience, Lord. When we pray, give us faith that you hear every prayer. As we're waiting...

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

God of mercy, amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Epistle Lesson 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

p. 204 in N.T.

Responsive Psalm Psalm 25:1-9

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.
 Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
 for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!
 Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

* **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-36

p. 85 in N.T.

Sermon "Love for One Another and for All"

The Rev. Dr. David Clark

We Respond in Faith and Service

Offertory *Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness*
(Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele)

J. G. Walther (1684-1748)

* **Doxology for Advent** (WINCHESTER OLD)

138, verse 6

"All glory be to God on high,
 and to the earth be peace;
 good will henceforth from heaven to earth
 begin, and never cease!"

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Announcements

* **Communion Hymn** Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life (THE CALL)

565

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(see insert)

Communion Anthem *Thou Shalt Know Him*

M. Sirett (1995)

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor his manners, nor his airs, not by anything he wears. Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by crown or by his gown, but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

* **Recessional Hymn** Hail to the Lord's Anointed (ST. THEODULPH)

115

* **Commission and Benediction**

* **Threefold Amen** (DANISH)

780

Postlude *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* (Helmsley)

K. Osterland (1956)

Announcements

Highland Group welcomes young children into **the nursery**, outside the west doors of the Sanctuary.

Please join us following worship for **refreshments and fellowship** in New St. James Hall.

News from the HR Committee: As NSJ prepares to honour and celebrate Judi Le Blanc on her upcoming retirement (Mark your calendars for January 19, 2025), we are very pleased to welcome Felicia Pereira as our next Office Administrator. Felicia started her orientation on November 25, and the orientation will continue until December 5. We look forward to Felicia starting her new role on January 2. Please join the HR Committee in extending a very warm NSJ welcome to Felicia.

An **Advent Study** continues on Tuesday, December 3, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Parlour. For information, contact Linda Robinson by phone (519.474.4986) or email (robinson516@sympatico.ca)

WMS Christmas Luncheon will take place on Friday, December 6 at noon. A buffet lunch will be served at a cost of \$15. Everyone is welcome but we need to know numbers for catering. Please let Ann McClatchey (519.673.3733) or Cathy Reid (519.204.7406) know by December 2.

2024 Salvation Army Kettle Campaign New St. James will be supporting the Salvation Army by 'hosting' the Christmas kettle in the Independent at Oxford and Richmond on December 7. The funds that are raised help make a difference to the thousands of families and individuals in our community that look for help at Christmas and throughout the year. All timeslots have been filled for that day, and you can show your support by visiting us in the store that day, and helping to fill the kettle.

One of the most enjoyable things we can do during this time of year is to gather together to sing Christmas Carols. On Sunday, December 8 we will enjoy a **Carol Sing** at 10:10 a.m. just before the service begins. Join us as we do our best to spread Christmas cheer as we minister in song.

White Gift Sunday – a poem!

On December the 8th let's bring a "white gift"; Its contents surely will give someone a lift. Suggestions are juice, cranberry sauce and some dates, Stuffing, fruit cups and, of course, chocolates! They'll go to Ark Aid, to Rotholme and St. Paul's To ensure a Merry Christmas for one and for all! Gifts do not need to be in white plastic bags or wrapped in white paper. If you'd like to participate in this project but can't get out to shop, please see Lyn Hill for a special donation envelope.

The Salvation Army **Christmas Toy Drive:** your donation of a new, unopened, unwrapped gift will help provide a Merry Christmas to many children in our community. Big stuffed toys can be problematic so smaller stuffed toys are the best, a nonviolent toy that does not require batteries is preferable, and please do not wrap the toy. Please drop off your toy in the large toy box outside NSJ Hall by Tuesday, December 10. To learn more, see <https://londoncfs.ca/christmas-hamper-donations>

There are now several options for you to provide regular **financial support** to New St. James:

- For Offering Envelopes, please call the Church Office (519.434.1127)
 - Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) it is a convenient way to give—and the church benefits from your steady contributions. Contributions are automatically debited from your bank account on the 20th of each month. To sign up for PAR, call the Church Office or visit www.newstjames.ca/donate-2
 - To make an offering through e-transfer, please email Judi Le Blanc at admin@newstjames.ca
- Income Tax statements are issued by New St. James each year by the end of February.

Did you know that if, on average, each member of NSJ increased their givings by only \$1.73 per week, that would add up to more than \$20,000 more for the ministry of our church? Together our givings make a big difference--and a little extra goes a long way!

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The Sacrament of Holy Communion

* The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Grace

Narrative of the Institution and Taking of the Bread and Wine

Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...and sing your praise in the angels' song:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...dedicated and fit for your acceptance;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours,

almighty Father, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of Bread

The Communion

The Peace

Prayers after Communion