

# New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada  
"Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others"  
Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.



## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Guest Minister: The Rev. Linda Robinson

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Karen Buchwald

Choristers: Nathan Dyck, Ariel Harwood-Jones, Robert Hutson,  
Briana Sutherland, Patricia Wrigglesworth

## We Gather to Worship God

**Prelude**    *Sent Forth by God's Blessing (Ash Grove)* arr. L. Larson (2008)

\* **Processional Hymn**    Praise, I will praise (JE LOUERAIS L'ETERNEL) 420

\* **Responsive Call to Worship**    John 13:34  
Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another  
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

### Prayers of Adoration and Confession

**Word of Assurance (sung in unison)**    Psalm 103:12, 22 (DUNLAP'S CREEK) 702

As far as east is from the west,  
so far God bears away  
our sins and all our brokenness;  
bless God, my soul, this day!

**Introit**    *As a Fire is Meant for Burning* M. Haugen (1987)

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame, so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care, we join hands across the nations, finding neighbours everywhere. As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed, so may we be signs of oneness mid earth's peoples, many-hued. As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone, may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn. [text: Ruth Duck (1983)]

### Welcome

## We Hear the Word of God

\* **Children's Hymn**    God bless your church with strength (ICH HALTE TREULICH STILL) 491

### Word to the Children

**Anthem**    *Our Mission Bold and Blest* C. Jennings (2015)

To be your presence is our mission here, to show compassion's face and list'ning ear, to be your heart of mercy ever near. To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold, to be your hands of justice, right uphold. To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all broken and oppressed, to be your voice of hope, to be your love expressed. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your people is our call and choice, and in this mission we, the church, rejoice!

### Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Lord open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**First Reading**                      Acts 8:26-40 p. 127 in N.T.

**Responsive Psalm**                Psalm 22:25-31

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.  
Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

\* **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** John 15:1-8

p. 109 in N.T.

**Sermon** "Mission, God's love, understanding"

The Rev. Linda Robinson

<b>We Respond in Faith and Service</b>
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\* **Hymn** In loving partnership (RIVAULX) **759**

**Offering and Offertory** *My Inmost Heart* (*Aus meines Herzens Grunde*) J. C. Bach (1735-1782)

\* **Doxology** (OLD 100TH) **830**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

**Announcements**

**Solo** *Lord, Make me an Instrument*

J. Willcocks (2010)

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, may there be union, where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, let there be hope, where there is darkness, light, where there is sadness, may there be joy! May we all be in peace, and only in peace, and may that peace come unto each of us.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, Commemoration,  
and 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.

\* **Recessional Hymn** Sent forth by your blessing (ASHGROVE) **775**

\* **Commission and Benediction**

\* **Threefold Amen** (DANISH) **780**

**Postlude** *Toccatino*

A. Moore (1995)

## Announcements

New St. James is a mask-friendly environment. If you are feeling unwell, please consider joining Worship online, avoiding in-person attendance, and wearing a mask.

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

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

The **flowers** on the Communion Table are placed in loving memory of Shirley McNair (2006) and Kenneth McNair (1974) and are placed by their children Susan and John McNair and families.

Rev. David will be **away** until May 13. Should a pastoral need arise during this time, please reach out first to your district elder. You may also contact The Rev. Keith McKee, who is providing pastoral coverage: he may be reached at 519.455.5760.

**NSJ Gardens** - Do you love to work in the garden? Well, we can use your help at NSJ. Do you have plants in your garden at home that you would be willing to share with NSJ? Well, NSJ has a spot for them. Please let Deb Noble-Van Hees know (at 519.471.6857 or [denvh@hotmail.com](mailto:denvh@hotmail.com)) if you can help with either of these items.

**Garage and Rummage Sale, Saturday, May 4, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon** The volunteer sheet to help at our sale is back on the cookie table again today! If you are able to help and haven't signed up, please do so. Helpers can come to sort anytime during the day in May 2 and May 3. Helpers on Saturday should be there by 8:00. It would help if you could come earlier! The coffee will be ready! Donations will be welcomed until Friday, May 3. For any further information please contact Karen Buchwald (at 519.641.6742 or [karenbuchwald@hotmail.com](mailto:karenbuchwald@hotmail.com)) or Deb Noble-Van Hees (at 519.471.6857 or [denvh1@hotmail.com](mailto:denvh1@hotmail.com)) Please be sure to tell your friends and family about our sale - there are some amazing bargains to be had!

**Women's Missionary Society** On Friday, May 10, help us welcome to New St. James our guests from India: Dr. Priya John (Director of the Christian Medical Association of India) and Shimy Mathew (Secretary, Nurses League CMAI). There will be lunch (at 12:00 p.m.), with worship and program to follow (at 1:00 p.m.) Register by Friday, April 26. The cost for lunch is \$10. For more information, contact Cathy Reid (at 519.204.7406 or [reidc@rogers.com](mailto:reidc@rogers.com)) or Marg McGugan (at 226.235.3153 or [me5mcgugan@gmail.com](mailto:me5mcgugan@gmail.com)). In addition, please see the posters on the bulletin boards.

**Mark Your Calendar!** On June 23, 2024, we will be celebrating the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ordination of Women Elders at New St. James!** Please join us that Sunday as we recognize this important event in the life of our church, both during the service and in celebration after the service at coffee hour. See you here!

### Financial Update, end of March 31, 2024:

	Jan – Mar 2024	Jan – Mar 2023	\$ Change	% Change
Total Income	\$66,722	\$66,249	\$473	0.7 %
Total Expenses	\$97,407	\$95,516	\$1,891	2.0 %
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$30,685</b>	<b>-\$29,267</b>	<b>-\$1,418</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>

Did you know that if, on average, each member of NSJ increased their givings by just 90 cents per week, that would add up to more than \$10,000 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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