

New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada
"Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others"
Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.



Detail from *The Ascension* (1933), New St. James

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Guest Minister: The Rev. Linda Robinson

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Pat Goud

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

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude *Hail the Day That Sees Christ Rise (Llanfair)*

R. J. Powell (1995)

* **Processional Hymn** For all the love (STARS)

440

* **Responsive Call to Worship**

Since we have a great high priest
who has passed through the heaven,
Jesus, the Son of God.
let us approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy
and find grace to help in time of need.

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 *O Clap Your Hands*

J. Rutter (1973)

O clap your hands together all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody. For the Lord is high and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth!

Welcome

We Hear the Word of God

* **Children's Hymn** Let all the world in every corner sing (LUCKINGTON)

271

Word to the Children

Anthem *Antiphonal Praise*

H. Hopson (1980)

Clap your hands for joy! Shout unto God with triumph! Praise him with a loud song! He leads us forth to Victory – tell his mighty power with the sound of the trumpet, with shouts of great joy! God is our ruler; praise him! Praise him – Alleluia!

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

O God, by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do, to obey Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

p. 118 in N.T.

Responsive Psalm Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.
He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.
He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah
God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.
The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

* **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 24:44-53

p. 91 in N.T.

Sermon "Jesus opened their minds to understand the scripture concerning the Messiah"

The Rev. Linda Robinson

We Respond in Faith and Service
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* **Hymn** Hail the day that sees Christ rise (LLANFAIR) **265**

Offering and Offertory *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth* D. A. White (1994)

* **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 *Ascended Is Our God and Lord* M. Franck (1580-1639); arr. H. Willan (1880-1968)
Cosette Holliday, soprano

Ascended is our God and Lord, Alleluia! As was foretold in sacred word. Alleluia! He sits with
power at God's right hand, Alleluia! And rules in heaven o'er every land. Alleluia!

**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** In the bulb there is a flower (PROMISE) **674**

* **Commission and Benediction**

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

Postlude *Gaudete* J. Marsh (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 Mary Howson. Anne Griffin wishes to lovingly remember her mother Mary Howson on this mothers day. Mary was married to Fred Howson and the family were long time members of New St James. Granddaughter Kathleen Scott is attending service today to bring the flowers in remembrance of her grandmother on her mother's behalf. Thank you for helping us remember today, what a wonderful person Mary was.

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.

Highland Group The Highland ladies will meet in the lower hall this Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m. for a worship service, a business meeting and to hear Julie Ryan from Indwell speak about supportive housing in our community. Refreshments will complete the evening. Guests are welcome. Indwell has the following needs if you should wish to bring a donation to the meeting: toilet paper, laundry pods, feminine hygiene products, jams and jellies, bread, pasta and sauce. For further information, please contact Karen Buchwald (at 519.641.6742 or karenbuchwald@hotmail.com).

Next Sunday (May 19) is Pentecost Sunday, as we celebrate the gift and presence of the Holy Spirit. At New St. James, we will share in the **Sacrament of Holy Communion**.

The 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women Elders at New St. James! The year 1974 marked many important events:

- the Best Picture to win an Oscar was The Godfather Part 2
- Ontario's Pauline McGibbon became the first female Lieutenant Governor of a Canadian province
- The annual inflation rate reached 11.0%

And at New St. James we saw the First Ordination of Women Elders in 1974! You won't want to miss this important celebration in the life of our church on Sunday June 23, 2024!

From the Mission and Social Action Committee: please note that St. Paul's Cathedral is once again collecting **egg cartons** for its Social Services program.

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)
- Cheques may be mailed to NSJ: 280 Oxford St. E., London, ON N6A 1V4
- 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 (Office Administrator) at admin@newstjames.ca

Income Tax statements are issued by New St. James each year by the end of February.

Thank you for supporting the life and mission of New St. James!

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