

# New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada  
"Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others"  
Sunday, September 15, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.



## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Clark

Music Leader: Ariel Harwood-Jones

Reader: Sonya Malone

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

## We Gather to Worship God

### Prelude

\* **Processional Hymn**    O God beyond all praising (THAXTED) 448

\* **Responsive Call to Worship** Psalm 116:8-9

For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I walk before the LORD  
in the land of the living.

### 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**    *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People* Hasidic Melody; harm. R. Proulx (1985)

Open your ears, O faithful people, open your ears and hear God's word. Open your hearts, O faithful people, God now speaks to you. *God has spoken to the people, hallelujah! And those words are words of wisdom, hallelujah!* They who have ears to hear the message, they who have ears, now let them hear. *God has spoken...*

### Welcome

## We Hear the Word of God

\* **Children's Hymn**    This is my Father's world (TERRA BEATA) 328

### Word to the Children

**Anthem**    *Sweet Are the Prayers of a Friend* P. Choplin (2018)

Sweet are the prayers of a friend. How sweet are the prayers that are offered up by a friend who calls, calling up to heaven, calling "Lord, come down and bless again." Friends pray for healing, they pray revealing the heavy burdens of our souls. They pray for courage, unfailing courage, asking God to make us whole. Friends pray through troubles, pray through struggles when life seems to fall apart. They pray through grieving, always believing, our God can heal the broken heart. *How sweet are the prayers...*

### Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Old Testament Lesson**    Isaiah 50:4-9 p. 681 in O.T.

**Responsive Psalm**    Psalm 116:1-9

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the LORD:

'O LORD, I pray, save my life!'

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.  
The LORD protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.  
Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.  
For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.  
I walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

\* **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** Mark 8:27-38

p. 43 in N.T.

**Sermon** "I Walk Before the LORD"

The Rev. Dr. David Clark

**We Respond in Faith and Service**

\* **Hymn** I love the Lord (ST. PAUL)

76

**Offering and Offertory**

\* **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** *You're Always There*  
Janaki Butterworth, mezzo-soprano

P. Choplin (2010)

Sometimes we stumble and sometimes we fly, sometimes we're sinking and sometimes we climb. Wherever we travel, it doesn't matter where, God, you are there. You're always there. We may have plenty or may be in want, sometimes we'll flourish, sometimes we will not. If we find great riches or if all our coffers are bare. God, you are there. When we are vital, our bodies are strong, through times of sickness when we struggle on, whatever condition, we rest in your faithful care. Through all our days on this earth and beyond, when life is fading and our breath is gone, even in death we will rest in your faithful care. *You're always there...*

**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** I waited for the Lord my God (BALERMA)

23

\* **Commission and Benediction**

\* **Threefold Amen** (DANISH)

780

**Postlude**

## Announcements

Welcome to today's worship service. We are grateful that you have joined us! If you are worshipping here for the first time, please sign the **Guest Book** in the Narthex, located at the back of the Sanctuary. An Usher would be pleased to offer you directions.

This morning, 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.

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.

**Sunday Coffee Hours** Women's Council has posted a list on the bulletin board in New St. James Hall where you can offer to help prepare, serve, and clean up for coffee hours on Sunday mornings. You will work with Karen Buchwald to help her get the refreshments ready before the start of the service. Thank you to those who signed up for the first 2 weeks. As you know your own schedules, please consider signing up to help.

**MARKETPLACE 2024, Saturday, November 9.** Thanks you to all who have prepared items for the Marketplace. There are still preserves that can be made—chilli sauce, pickled beets, red pepper jelly, chutneys, and other preserves that may be your favourite. It is almost time to make cabbage rolls, meat pies, and fruit pies. There will be opportunities for you to help with these. If anyone would like to donate a turkey, let me know please. Also, if you can cook a turkey, let me know. Donations are needed for our very popular Christmas table. Help will be needed on November 7 and 8 to set up and on the 9th to help at the sale. To ask a question or to volunteer, please contact Karen Buchwald at karenbuchwald@hotmail.com or 519.641.6742.

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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. To sign up for PAR, call the Church Office or visit [www.newstjames.ca/donate-2](http://www.newstjames.ca/donate-2)
- To make an offering through e-transfer, please email Judi Le Blanc (Office Administrator) at [admin@newstjames.ca](mailto: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!

To protect people who are sensitive or allergic to scent, we want to make New St. James scent-free. Please keep this in mind when applying perfume, cologne, or aftershave.

As the church building has become a busy place again, a reminder to all NSJ groups and committees: please remember to **book your meeting space** in advance by contacting Judi Le Blanc in the Church Office.

**Announcements** are an important way to keep the congregation informed about the ministry of NSJ. The weekly deadline for submitting a requested announcement is Wednesday at noon. Announcements are reserved for information regarding the ministry of New St. James and the Presbyterian Church in Canada.