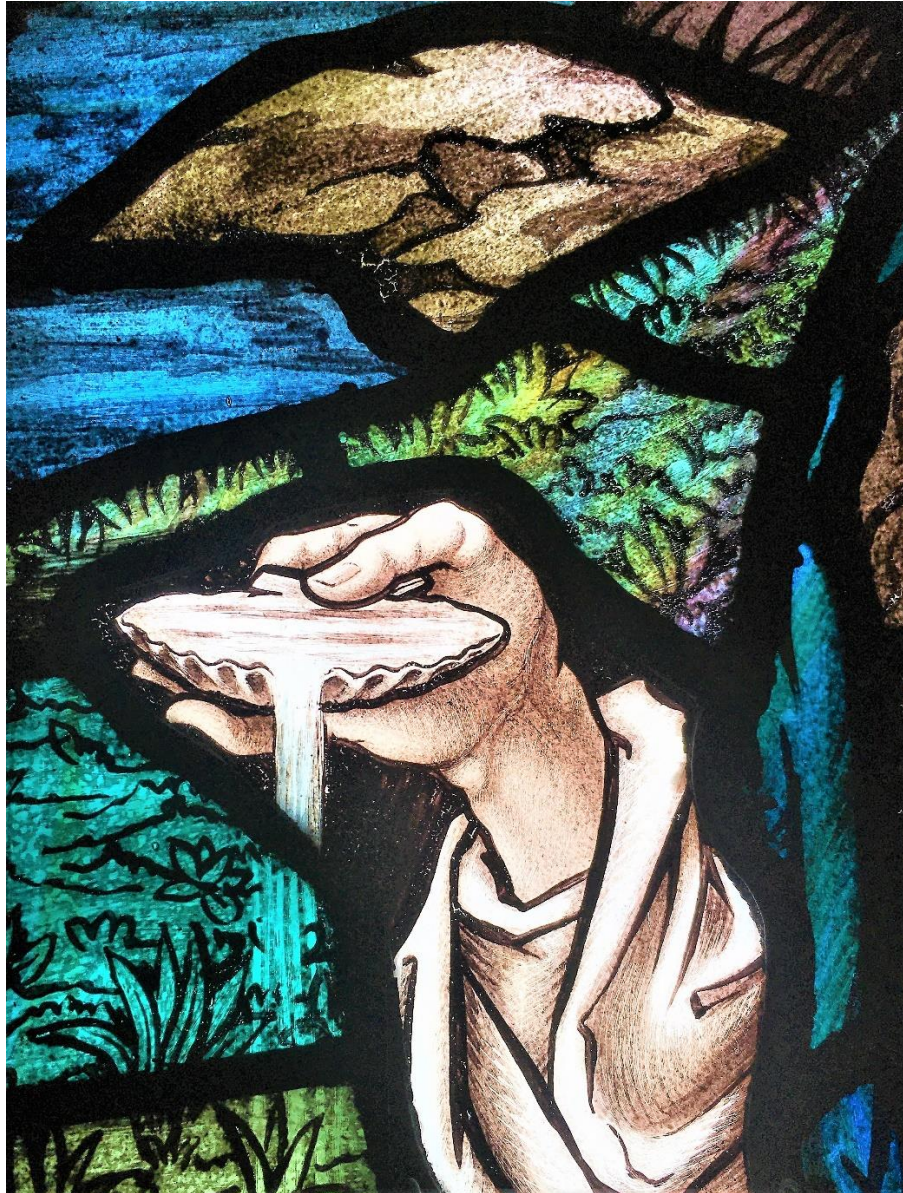


New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada
"Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others"
Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.



Detail from *Christ's Baptism in the River Jordan* (1933), New St. James

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Clark

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Pat Goud

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

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude *Word of God Come Down to Earth (Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier)* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

* **Processional Hymn** What was your vow and vision (GENEVAN) **182**

* **Responsive Call to Worship** Psalm 29:2-3

Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;

worship the LORD in holy splendour.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;

the God of glory thunders,

the LORD, over mighty waters.

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 *When Jesus Came to Jordan* F. A. Mehrtens (1922-1975)

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John, he did not come for pardon, but as God's Holy one. So when the dove descended on him, the Holy One, the hidden years had ended, the age of grace begun.

Welcome

We Hear the Word of God

* **Children's Hymn** Spirit, Spirit of gentleness (SPIRIT, SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS) **399**

Word to the Children

Anthem *Lord, For Thy Tender Mercies' Sake* R. Farrant (1525-1580)

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives, to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk with a perfect heart before thee now and evermore.

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.

Epistle Lesson Romans 6:1-11 **p. 156 in N.T.**

Responsive Psalm Psalm 29

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;

worship the LORD in holy splendour.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;

the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;

the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;

the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
 The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
 the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
 May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

* **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 3:15-17, 21-22

p. 60 in N.T.

Sermon "Walk in Newness of Life"

The Rev. Dr. David Clark

| |
|----------------------------------------|
| We Respond in Faith and Service |
|----------------------------------------|

* **Hymn** What king would wade through murky streams (STANTON) **184**

Offertory *Word of God Come Down to Earth (Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier)* J. Walther (1684-1748)

* **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 *Sing of God Made Manifest* B. Neswick (1994)

Sing, sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, "I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do." Then, then from heaven a double sign dove-like Spirit, voice divine – hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."

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** Christ, when for us you were baptized (JACKSON) **183**

* **Commission and Benediction**

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

Postlude *Word of God Come Down to Earth (Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier)* F. Frahm (2021)

Announcements

Welcome to today's worship service. We are grateful that you have joined us!

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.

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.

The **Highland** ladies will meet in the lower hall at 1:00 on Tuesday, January 14, for our first adventure into afternoon meetings. We are very pleased to have Karen Simpson, daughter of Mary Anne and Jim Simpson, as our speaker. She will make a presentation that focuses on providing education about sexual violence and the paths to justice for victims as well as the impact that sexual violence has on its victims. New members and guests are always welcome. For further information, please contact Karen Buchwald at 519.641.6742 or karenbuchwald@hotmail.com.

We will be taking **photos** next Sunday. Photos may be posted on our website, social media, or in other print publications. If you prefer that your picture or that of your child (less than 18) not be taken, contact the Church Office admin@newstjames.ca to be added to the "Do Not Photo List."

Celebrate Judi Le Blanc's Retirement on January 19 during the worship service with a special reception to follow in NSJ Hall. Please bring your cards and best wishes. If you would like to contribute to a retirement gift, please submit a cheque payable to New St. James in an envelope marked "Judi Le Blanc's Retirement" or you may wish to make a donation through e-transfer, by emailing Felicia Pereira (Office Administrator) at admin@newstjames.ca. Please submit your donation by January 13. Income tax receipts will not be issued. For further information, please contact Charlene Beynon (cbeynon@newstjames.ca or 519.473.1743).

New St. James Women's Missionary Society and London Presbyterian WMS invite men and women to our Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 16, at New St. James Presbyterian Church. Our speaker will be Cathy Reid who will share her adventures on her recent trip to Nepal. Registration and Refreshments at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at a cost of \$15 per person. RSVP to Marg McGugan (me5mcgugan@gmail.com or 226.235.3153) by January 13. Kindly advise of any dietary restrictions when replying.

New St. James, through the blessings of **Thomas Kent's Trust** (1912), was able, in 2024, to support numerous agencies which help less fortunate members of our community:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| London Food Bank | \$5,000 |
| Anova Women's Shelter | \$3,000 |
| Ark Aid | \$3,000 |
| Mission Services of London | \$2,000 |
| My Sister's Place (bus tickets) | \$1,000 |
| YOU (Joan's Place) | \$2,000 |
| London Pregnancy and Family Centre | \$1,000 |
| Arise Ministry | <u>\$2,000</u> |
| | \$19,000 |

An example of the gratitude expressed by these agencies is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.

Prayer for Illumination reprinted by permission from *Book of Common Worship*, © 1993 Westminster John Knox Press.

New St. James Presbyterian Church • 280 Oxford St. East • London, ON • N6A 1V4
519.434.1127 • www.newstjames.ca • admin@newstjames.ca