

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.

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.

The **Advent candle stand** has been restored and enhanced in honour of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women Elders at NSJ (which we celebrated on June 23, 2024). The Planning Committee thanks Bruce Curtis for overseeing this project on behalf of the Sanctuary Memorial Fund Committee. As we honour a significant milestone in the history of NSJ, may this beautifully restored church furnishing enrich our worship, to the glory of God, for many years to come.

White Gift Sunday – a poem

On December the 7th 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 need not 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. Nonviolent toys that do not require batteries, Lego, art supplies and books or journals are some of the suggested items. The Toy Box is near the entrance of the NSJ Hall; you have until Monday, December 8 to drop off your gifts. To find out more and to see the "Wish List" look for the signs on the bulletin boards or visit <https://londoncs.ca/wishlist>.

Bursary Awarded: The Trustees of New St. James Presbyterian Church were very pleased to approve an application to the A. H. (Bert) Hare Trust Fund bursary and provide \$1500 to support the studies of a young person at McMaster Divinity College. His pursuit of a PhD in Theology while also serving as a Youth Pastor demonstrates his strong commitment to the life of the Church. A note from this individual is posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

A warm reminder from the **Worship and Music Committee**: Our worship services are livestreamed beginning about 10 minutes before the service and continuing through the Postlude. Because the equipment can be quite sensitive, it may pick up conversations happening nearby. To help protect your privacy, we encourage you to save any personal or confidential conversations for another time. At the same time, we truly value the friendly interactions that are such an important part of our congregational life. Greeting one another and preparing our hearts for worship are blessings we don't want to discourage. Please feel free to visit with one another—just keep in mind that the livestream may be active. Thank you for helping us maintain a welcoming, peaceful, and caring worship space for all.

Flu season is already here, so let's be ready! If you are feeling unwell, please consider worshipping with NSJ by livestreaming. Protect yourself and others with some simple precautions like handwashing and by covering your mouth and nose with your arm when coughing or sneezing.