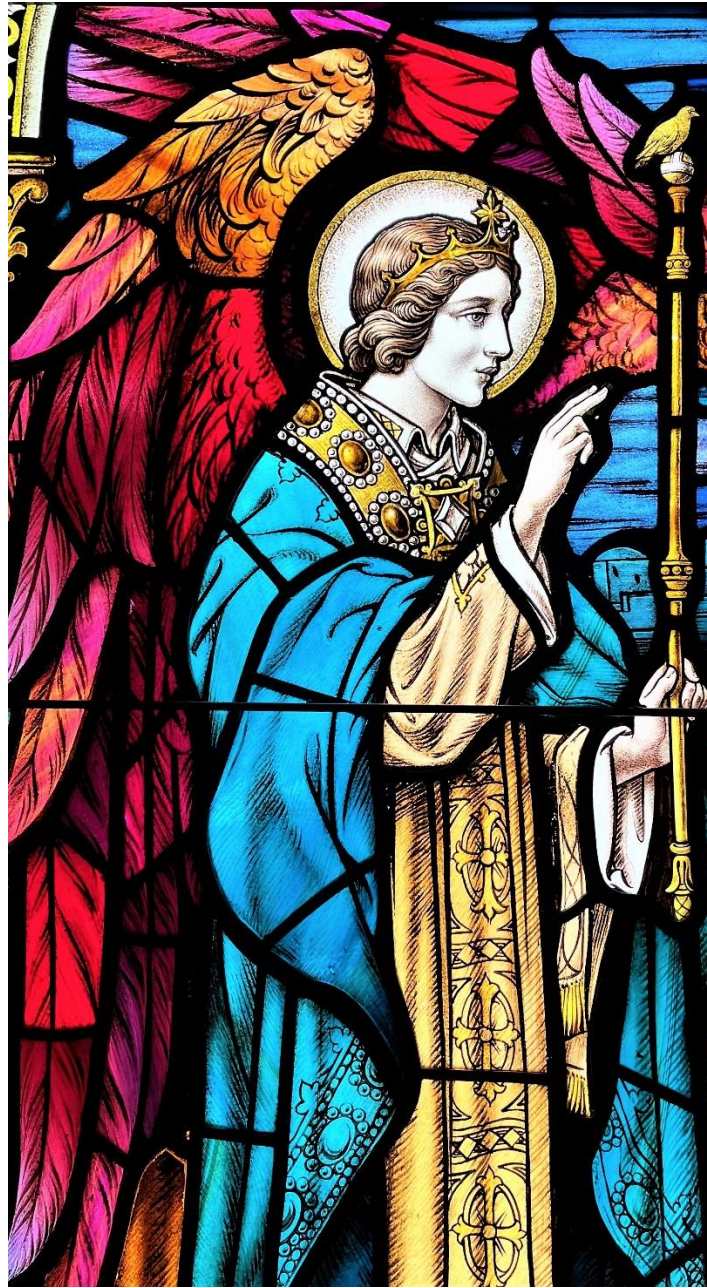


New St. James Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church in Canada
“Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others”
December 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.



Detail from *The Annunciation to Mary* (1933), New St. James

NATIVITY OF THE LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE

Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Clark

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Alison Curtis

The Christ Candle: Maddison Fysh, Nancy Giles-McIntosh,
and Paul McIntosh

Choristers: Janaki Butterworth, Ariel Harwood-Jones, Robert Hutson,
Angela Myshkowsky, and Anthony Rodrigues

Gathering

Prelude *Once in Royal David's City (Irby)*

R. Farlee (2001)

Welcome

* **Processional Carol** Oh come, all ye faithful (ADESTE FIDELES)

159

* **Responsive Call to Worship** Isaiah 60:1 and Titus 2:11

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you!
 The grace of God has dawned upon the world
with healing for all humankind.

Opening Prayer

Prayer in Unison

God of grace, tonight we celebrate your gift of love,
 Christ the Saviour, born to redeem us and uplift us.
 May herald angels calm our fears, renew our faith,
 and lead us together the way to Bethlehem. Amen.

Introit *Gloria!*

T. Chiles (2000)

Gloria in excelsis Deo! (Glory to God in the highest!)

The Word

* **Children's Carol** Away in a manger (CRADLE SONG)

149

Word to the Children

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Sung Response (MOON BEAMS)

119

Christ is now here; the newborn King cries;
 and angels rejoicing now fill the night skies!
 When God is a child there's joy in our song.
 The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
 and none shall be afraid.

Anthem *Where Shepherds Lately Knelt*

C. Schalk (1987)

Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word, I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred; but there is room and welcome there for me. In that unlikely place I find him as they said: sweet, newborn babe, how frail, and in a manger bed: a still small voice to cry one day for me. How should I not have known Isaiah would be there, his prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart, I stare: a Child, a Son, the Prince of Peace for me. Can I forget how love was born and burned its way into my heart: unasked, unforced, unearned, to live and die, and not alone for me.

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 is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us this night. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

p. 638 in O.T.

Gospel Lesson Luke 2:1-20

p. 58 in N.T.

Sermon "Shepherds Living in the Fields"

The Rev. Dr. David Clark

Thanksgiving

- * **Carol** See amid the winter's snow (HUMILITY) **168**
- Offering**
- Offertory** *Meditation on "Divinum Mysterium"* J. Southbridge (1971)
- * **Doxology for Christmas** (WINCHESTER OLD) **138, verse 6**
 "All glory be to God on high,
 and to the earth be peace;
 good will henceforth from heaven to earth
 begin, and never cease!"
- * **Prayer of Dedication**
- * **Carol** Silent night (STILLE NACHT) **154**
- Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Commemoration**
- Anthem** *Night of the Father's Love (Divinum Mysterium)* 11th c., arr. P. Choplin (2010)
 Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He, the
 source, the ending, He. Of the things that are, that have been and the future years shall see,
 evermore and evermore. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright. 'Round yon virgin mother
 and child, holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace.
- * **Christmas Greetings**
- * **Recessional Carol** Hark! the herald angels sing (MENDELSSOHN) **139**
- * **Benediction**
- * **Sung Response** (SUSSEX CAROL) **162, verse 4**
 All out of darkness we have light
 which made the angels sing this night;
 all out of darkness we have light,
 which made the angels sing this night;
 "Glory to God," we sing again
 now and forevermore, amen!
- Postlude** *In Dulci Jubilo* H. Schroeder (1904-1984)

The Session, Congregation, and Staff of New St. James wish you a **Merry Christmas** and all the very best in 2026!

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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New St. James Presbyterian Church • 280 Oxford St. East • London, ON • N6A 1V4
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