

New St. James Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Canada
"Following Christ, Worshipping God, Serving Others"
Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.



Detail from *Supper at Emmaus* (1942), New St. James

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Guest Preacher: Margaret McGugan

Director of Music: Torin W. Chiles

Reader: Pat Goud

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

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude *Prelude and Fugato on "Crusader's Hymn"* G. Young (1960)

* **Processional Hymn** Unto the hills around (SANDON) 81

* **Responsive Call to Worship**

Into life's challenges and questions comes the Mystery of God,
and God's truth opens our eyes.

Into our routines and rituals walks the presence of Christ,
and God's love brings healing and hope.

Into our traditions and conclusions blows the wind of the Spirit,
and God's people are born from above.

We gather in Jesus' name to encounter God's grace and glory.
Let us worship God with open hearts and minds.

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 *How Can I Keep from Singing?* R. Lowry (1826-1899); arr. T. Chiles (2005)

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentations I hear the sweet though far off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing; it finds an echo in my soul – how can I keep from singing? What though the tempest loudly roar? The Lord, my saviour liveth. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night He giveth. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that refuge clinging; since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing? I lift mine eyes, the cloud grows thin, I see the blue above it, and day by day this pathway smooths since first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever spring. All things are mine since I am His – how can I keep from singing?

Welcome

We Hear the Word of God

* **Children's Hymn** This is a story full of love (TIMOTHY) 504

Word to the Children

Anthem *We're a Fellowship of Believers* J. Althouse (2006)

We're a fellowship of believers; we have come to God in prayers to renew the faith and Christian love we share. We are one great family. Let us join our hearts in peace and harmony. Our trust in God almighty is the rock on which we stand. We congregato to worship hand in hand. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

God of Wisdom, we turn to Scripture to listen and learn. Send your Holy Spirit to help us listen carefully so that we hear what we have not heard before and learn to follow Christ with deeper understanding and renewed commitment. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 12:1-4 p. 10 in O.T.

Responsive Psalm Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills-- from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

* **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.

Epistle Lesson Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

p. 154 in N.T.

Sermon "Embrace the Call"

Margaret McGugan

We Respond in Faith and Service

* **Hymn** With the Lord as my guide (RIDGECREST) **574**

Offering

Offertory *Children of the Heavenly Father (Tryggare Kan Ingen Vara)*

A. D. Miller (2001)

* **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 *I Will Lift up Mine Eyes*

N. Rawsthorne (1929-2019)

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh even from the Lord who hath made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved and he that keepeth thee will not sleep. Behold he that keepeth Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand. So that the sun shall not burn thee by day neither the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil yea it is even he that shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in: from this time forth for ever more.

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** There's a spirit in the air (LAUDS) **764**

* **Commission and Benediction (in unison)**

May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from the other.

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

Postlude *Have No Fear, Little Flock (Little Flock & St. Columba)*

M. Sedio (1986)

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.

Old North Community Safety Project is having a town hall meeting on Tuesday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m. in NSJ Hall to discuss how to decrease crime and increase safety in our neighbourhood.

This year, we are marking the 100th anniversary of our Casavant organ! To celebrate this milestone, there will be a special **organ concert** featuring Dr. Michael Unger, an award-winning organist who formerly played the organ here at New St. James. The concert is **this Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.** Tickets can be purchased at the door by cash or Interac at the cost of \$35 for adults and \$15 for students.

World Day of Prayer 2026 Service will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church (corner of Oxford and Colborne Streets) on Friday, March 6 at 2:00 p.m. This year's focus is on Nigeria with the theme "I Will Give You Rest: Come". Refreshments will be available after the service. The church is fully accessible and all are welcome.

From the Mission and Social Action Committee:

"Back to Basics" time is here,
(a Lenten project we do each year),
it's hygiene products and new socks we need,
and new underwear, too, would help out indeed!

This outreach mission will run until April 5th (Easter Sunday), after which donations will be distributed to various agencies in London.

The Session is pleased to share exciting news about ministry at NSJ. In September 2023, the Session began exploring the creation of a **Children & Youth Ministry Leader** position; after careful discussion and planning, it was agreed to develop a three-year pilot project funded not through the operational budget but rather through grants, pledges, and other special funding. Grant applications were submitted to the Presbytery of London and to the PCC Creative Ministries with Children and Youth Fund -- and we are excited to share that both applications were successful! NSJ was awarded a total of \$34,000 (\$18,000 from the Presbytery and \$16,000 from Creative Ministries). With these successful grants in place, the Session is continuing to move forward to create this ministry position. Stay tuned for more updates.

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 Nancy Manners (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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