



Forward together in Faith, Hope, and Love

Sunday December 22, 2024
The Forth Sunday in Advent
Christmas Cantata

We Prepare for Worship

Organ Prelude: *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* arr. Wayne Kerr
Preparing our Hearts:

Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, "God is with us." Mt. 1:23

Entry of the Choir

Opening Hymn: O come, all ye faithful #159

Welcome and Community Life News

We Worship God

The Call to Worship Arshida Taghizadeh

L: God, who spoke through the prophets,

P: speak your Word to us now.

L: God, who gave Joseph and Mary a promise,

P: give us hope today.

L: God, who delivered good news through the angels,

P: fill our hearts with joy and receive our joyful praise.

L: Let us worship God!

Advent Candle Liturgy: **Advent 4 Insert** The Lewis-Morden Family

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

The Lord's Prayer (*debts*)

The Assurance of Pardon

Minister: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination Abel Pandy

We Listen for God's Word

Voices of Hope

The Story of Christmas

Directed by Jones Peterson
Drama written by Heather Vais
Narrated by Edmond Lee

In a world filled with conflict and the unpredictable comes the promise of hope. What a blessing to receive the hope of salvation that was given at the beginning of time; was revealed through the prophets; was given to Mary and Joseph; was seen and heard by the shepherds; and was promised to the world through the birth of our Saviour Christ Jesus.

Isaiah's Prophecy

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-9 (paraphrase) Edmond Lee
Isaiah 11:1-6

The Prophet Isaiah speaks

Choir: *A shoot shall come forth* Doug Lowry
Richard Horn

Mary and the Angel Gabriel

Scripture: Luke 1:26-28
Mary speaks Jessica Chapman
Duet: *The Annunciation and Magnificat* Marty Haugen
Heather Ann Lowry and Heather Vais

Joseph and the Angel of the Lord

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-21
Joseph speaks Jordan Lewis-Morden
The census is called (paraphrase of Luke 2:1-3)
Junior Choir *Christmas Cradle Song* Terry. D. Taylor
Who is this Child? Jill Galina

The Shepherds and the Heavenly Host

Scripture: Luke 2:8-9
The Shepherd speaks Doug Miron
Choir: *And there were shepherds* Walter A. Shawker

The Shepherd Boy and the Baby

Scripture Luke 2:16
The Shepherd Boy speaks Mason Girard
Choir: *Were you there?* Natalie Sleeth / Lloyd Larson

Soli Deo Gloria!

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

*Doxology

#830

*Dedication of Offering

*Closing Hymn *Hark, the herald angels sing*

#139

We are Sent Out as God's People

*Charge and Benediction

*Sung Benediction

**Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen**

Organ Postlude: *In Dulci Jubilo*

arr. Gilbert Martin

***if you are able, please stand**

Welcome

We welcome everyone who is worshiping here with us today. We hope that you feel comforted in our fellowship and that you leave here refreshed and inspired in your personal life. You are invited to fill out a pew card or sign the guest book in the lobby.

**All children are invited to stay in worship for the cantata.
Pre-school and infants may go to the Nursery in the CE Wing.**

Administrator Office Hours

Nadine is away sick for the month. In case of emergency contact Rev. Heather by cell phone 416-949-3465.

**The office will be closed from December 23 to January 2, 2025.
Phone messages will be checked regularly.**



Upcoming Food Bank Collection

Next Sunday, December 29th we will be receiving items for the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank.

Please see the display at the church entrance for a complete list of urgently needed items. Thank you for your continued support!

2025 Offering Envelopes

Your 2025 envelopes are ready for pick-up in the lobby.

PLEASE take your envelopes home even if you are part of the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) Program.

2024 DONATION DEADLINE

Donations must be received at TPC no later than midnight on Monday, December 30 to qualify for an official 2024 receipt for income tax purposes. If you are delivering a donation to the church when the office is closed, please drop your envelope into the mail slot in the wooden door west of the main entrance.

Evangel Hall Christmas Dinner

TODAY several of our TPC Senior Youth Group, parents, and the minister will be going to Evangel Hall to prepare and serve Christmas dinner to more than 100 homeless and underhoused individuals. Because of the generosity of our congregation, we will also be bringing a large financial donation to support their ministry.

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!

The Sock Tree



Throughout the Advent and Christmas season, we will be collecting warm men's and women's socks to be distributed to those in need through Evangel Hall Mission. This oft-overlooked item offers both physical and psychological benefits.



PWS&D Giving Tree

The Presbyterian World Service & Development Gifts of Change catalogue provides a unique opportunity to buy a gift that matters for those "impossible to buy for" people on your gift list. Pick up a copy of the catalogue on the table in the lobby. Feel free to place a gift tag on the Giving Tree to acknowledge your gift.

TPC 175 Anniversary Cookbooks

Don't forget to pick up your cookbook in the lobby for \$20.

2025 Wall Calendars

For sale for \$10 – see Rev. Heather or call the office. All proceeds support our TPC Youth Ministries.

THORNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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admin@tpchurch.net [www\(tpchurch.net](http://www(tpchurch.net)

Minister: Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

Director of Music Ministry: Jones Peterson

Church Office Administrator: Nadine Calfa

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Custodian: Shadrack Obodai

Duty Elders: Carolyn Adamson and Sheila Gault**UPCOMING WEEK'S EVENTS AT A GLANCE****Sunday December 22, 2024**

9:30 am – 10:45 am	Cantata Rehearsal
10:20 am	Chancel Choir Practice – Chapel
11:00 am	Worship Service – Christmas Cantata

Tuesday December 24, 2024 – Christmas Eve

7:00 pm	Intergenerational Christmas Eve Service
11:00 pm	Candlelight Communion Lessons & Carols

Sunday December 29, 2024

11:00 am	Worship Service – Lessons and Carols
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**Please join us for worship on Christmas Eve****Intergenerational Christmas Eve Service****7:00 p.m.****Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service**

A Service of Lessons, Carols, & Candlelight

Communion

11:00 p.m.

Voices of Hope

THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS**Chancel Choir**

Soprano	Alto	Tenor
Diana Cooper	Verna Nunez	Garth Low
Clare Mezes	Heather Ann Lowry	Joseph Long Nguyen
Carol Howes	Heather Vais	Brian Solheim
Julie Meek	Emma Hewson	
June Graham		Bass
Marg Daddamio		Percy Cooper
Nana Asante-Sakyi		Ken Wu
Zhenyi Li		Artiom Loginov
Tina Shih		Abel Pandy

Junior Choir

Yoelle Cho	Grace Girard	
Hanna Hibbert	Rose Hibbert	
Arshida Taghizadeh	Ethan Peterson	Jayden Peterson

Piano Accompanist

Garth Low

Cast & Crew

Narrator.....	Edmond Lee
Isaiah.....	Doug Lowry
Mary.....	Jessica Chapman
Joseph.....	Jordan Lewis-Morden
Shepherd.....	Doug Miron
Shepherd Boy.....	Mason Girard
Costumes.....	Jeanette Hallworth
PowerPoint.....	Amy Girard
Stage Assistant/lights.....	Deborah Lee
Written by / poster design	Heather Vais
Conducted by.....	Jones Peterson