



*Forward together in Faith, Hope, and Love*

December 29, 2024  
Service of Lessons and Carols

### **We Prepare for Worship**

Preparing our hearts:

*The sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings.*

*Malachi 4:2*

Organ Prelude: *Carol of the Bells*

Mykola Leontovych, (1914)

\*Processional Hymn *Good Christians, all rejoice*

**#141**

Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Heather. Vais

Leader: For unto us a child is born

**People: to us a son is given.**

Leader: His name will be called Wonderful counsellor, mighty God,

**People: the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

Leader: Glory to God in the highest

**People: and peace to his people on earth.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

**Almighty God,**

**draw us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:**

**accept our heartfelt praise**

**as we worship you.**

**You have given us your only-begotten Son**

**to take our nature upon him**

**and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:**

**grant that we, who have been born again**

**and made your children by adoption and grace,**

**may be renewed by your Holy Spirit;**

**through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,**

**who is alive and reigns with you,**

**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.  
 God our Father,  
 you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
 forgive our failure to receive him.  
 Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
 you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
 forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
 Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of love,  
 your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
 forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
 Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Assurance of Pardon  
 The Peace

Minister: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

### ***We Listen for God's Word***

First lesson: God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

Genesis 3: 8-15, 17-19 Hugh Hibbert

Solo *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree* Carlie Goodall

Second lesson God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 22: 15-18 Zhenyi Li

Solo *The Holly and the Ivy* Carlie Goodall

Third lesson Jesus' reign of justice is prophesied

Isaiah 9:2-7 Heather-Ann Lowry

\*Hymn *On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol)* **#162**

Fourth lesson	<i>The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.</i>	
Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9		Doug Lowry
Solo	<i>I wonder as I wander</i>	Verna Nunez
Fifth lesson	The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.	
Luke 1:26-35, 38		Clare Mezes
*Hymn	<i>The angel Gabriel from heaven</i>	<b>#156</b>
Sixth lesson	St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.	
Luke 2:1, 3-7		Lorraine McBride
Solo	<i>Quem Pastores Laudavere</i>	Carlie Goodall
Seventh lesson	The shepherds go to the manger.	
Luke 2:8-16		Laura Culley
*Hymn	Infant holy, Infant lowly	<b>#143</b>
Eighth lesson	The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.	
Matthew 2:1-12		Sheila Gault
Quartet	<i>In the bleak mid-winter</i>	
Ninth lesson	St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.	
John 1:1-14		Heather Vais
*Hymn	<i>Oh come, all ye faithful</i>	<b>#159</b>

### **We Respond to God's Word**

Prayers of the People		
Offering of Tithes and Gifts		
*Doxology		<b>#830</b>
*Dedication of Offering		
*Hymn	<i>Hark! the herald angels sing</i>	<b>#139</b>
*Benediction		

Organ Postlude	From Heaven Above	<i>Wilbur Held</i>
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<i>*If you are able, please stand</i>		

**Soli Deo Gloria**

# 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.

**\*\*We welcome all children in worship. All children under the age of 5 are welcome to remain in worship or go with a parent or guardian to our pre-school and nursery room in the Christian Education wing. Please speak to an usher for assistance.**

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**Thank you to our worship leaders  
who read the scriptures this morning.**

Hugh Hibbert	Heather-Ann Lowry
Doug Lowry	Lorraine McBride
Laura Culley	Zhenyi LI
Clare Mezes	Sheila Gault

**Thank you to Carlie Goodall and Verna Nunez for singing.**

## **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 program (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.

## **THORNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

Custodian: Shadrack Obodai

**Duty Elder: Pascal Atem**