



Sunday, February 23, 2025  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Epiphany  
Celebrating Black History Month

### We Prepare for Worship

Praise Band

Preparing our Hearts

*Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and  
my hope is in you all day long.* Ps. 25:5

Organ Prelude      Balm in Gilead      arr. Roger C. Wilson

\*Processional Hymn: *He's got the whole world* (see last page)

Welcome and Community Life News

### We Worship God

The Call to Worship

Mason Girard

L.: Sing to the Lord a new song!

**P.: Let us make melody before our God!**

L.: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

**P.: Let us praise God's holy name together.**

L.: How good it is to sing praises to our God;

**P.: For God is gracious and steadfast in mercy.**

L.: A song of praise is always fitting,

**P.: For God heals the broken hearted and binds up our wounds.**

L.: Let us worship God!

Choral Introit:      There's a sweet, sweet spirit      Doris Akers

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Lord's Prayer (*debts*)

The Assurance of Pardon

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

**People: And also with you.**

\*Praise Time: **Down by the Riverside**

Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,  
And study war no more.

### CHORUS

*I ain't gonna study war no more, (x3)*

*I ain't gonna study war no more (x3)*

Gonna put on my long white robe, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna put on my long white robe, down by the riverside  
And study war no more

### CHORUS

Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside  
And study war no more

### CHORUS

Gonna put on my starry crown, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna put on my starry crown, down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

### CHORUS

Gonna put on my golden shoes, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna put on my golden shoes, down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

### CHORUS

Gonna talk with the Prince of Peace, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna talk with the Prince of Peace, down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

### CHORUS

gonna shake hands around the world, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
Gonna shake hands around the world, down by the riverside  
And study war no more.

### CHORUS

Traditional spiritual      CCLI License # 993446

### We Listen for God's Word

Children's Time      A story and song from Ghana  
lead by Nana Sakyibea Asante-Sakyi and Nii Odartey Lamptey

Prayer for Illumination

Garth Low

Scripture Readings:

Responsive Reading – Psalm 37:1-11; 39-40

Alireza Taghizadeh

<sup>1</sup> Do not fret because of the wicked;  
do not be envious of wrongdoers,

<sup>2</sup> **for they will soon fade like the grass  
and wither like the green herb.**

<sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD and do good;  
live in the land and enjoy security.

<sup>4</sup> **Take delight in the LORD,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

<sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him, and he will act.

<sup>6</sup> **He will make your vindication shine like the light  
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;  
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,  
over those who carry out evil devices.

<sup>8</sup> **Refrain from anger and forsake wrath.  
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup> For the wicked shall be cut off,  
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

<sup>10</sup> **Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;  
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.**

<sup>11</sup> But the meek shall inherit the land  
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

<sup>39</sup> **The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;  
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.**

<sup>40</sup> The LORD helps them and rescues them;  
he rescues them from the wicked and saves them  
because they take refuge in him.

New Testament: John 20:19-29

NT p. 115

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: The Beatitudes

Richard Shephard

Sermon See the Lord again and open the door of your heart!

Rev. Dr. Ernest Van Eck

\*Hymn: *When Israel was in Egypt's land*

#708

**We Respond to God's Word**

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

\*Doxology

#830

\*Dedication of Offering

\*Recessional Hymn: *We are marching / Siyahamba*

#639

**We are Sent out as God's People**

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Musical 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 He 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**

Postlude His Truth is marching on

Alfred V. Fedak

*\*if you are able, please stand*

*Welcome*

We welcome everyone who is worshipping 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.

**\*\* \*\*We welcome all children in worship. If you need to take a child out during the worship service, the service can still be heard in the lobby. 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.**



**Sunday School Today**

A one-room Sunday School is available for our junior youth today after Praise Time.  
All children grades 1-6 are welcome

**Tax Receipts**

Your 2024 Tax receipts have been mailed

**Important Notice from the Office**

We are happy to introduce **Maria Loginova**  
our new church Administrator  
We welcome Maria to our TPC family  
And we pray for God's blessings on her work.



The Spring issue of "The Open Door" will be ready for March 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
**The deadline for submissions will be February 24<sup>th</sup>.**  
 Please send your submissions to garth.low@garthlow.com



### FOOD COLLECTION

Today, we are receiving items for the  
 Richmond Hill Community Food Bank.

**Thank you for your support!**



### It's a Skating Party!

**Today, right after church!**

Young and old are invited to go  
 skating at **Bestview Park**.

See Abel Pandy for information.

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**When the saints go marching in**

Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
 Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
 Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
 when the saints go marching in.

Oh, when the sun refused to shine,  
 Oh, when the sun refused to shine,  
 Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
 when the sun refused to shine.

Oh, when they crown him Lord of all,  
 Oh, when they crown him Lord of all,  
 Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
 when they crown him Lord of all.

Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
 Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
 Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number  
 when the saints go marching in.

### THORNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

271 Centre St., Thornhill L4J 1G5

(905) 889-5391

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

Minister: Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

Director of Music Ministry: Jones Peterson

Church Office Administrator: Maria Logimova

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

Custodian: Shadrack Obodai

**Duty Elders: George Huang and Sheila Gault**

### UPCOMING WEEK'S EVENTS AT A GLANCE

#### Sunday, February 23, 2025

9:40 a.m. – 10:15 am

10:20 a.m.

11:00 a.m..

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

12:45 p.m.

Children's Choir – Chapel

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Worship Service

ESL – Chapel

Skating Party – Bestview Park

#### Monday, February 24, 2025

8:00 p.m.

Stewardship Meeting

#### Tuesday, February 25, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm

ESL Class

#### Thursday, February 26, 2025

7:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir Practice – Sanctuary

#### Saturday, March 1, 2025

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Pencil Sketch Drawing Classes

#### Sunday, March 2, 2025

9:40 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

10:20 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Children's Choir – Chapel

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Worship Service – Holy Communion

ESL – Chapel

## Black History Month 2025

### February marks Black History Month in Canada.

By way of honouring the legacy of black Canadians in their  
 communities, our country, and the world,  
 we will be celebrating with music and story in worship.

Please visit our table in the lobby  
 featuring artifacts from Angola!

Today we thank Nana Sakyibea Asante-Sakyi and Nii Odartey  
 Lamptey who are sharing a story and a song from Ghana.