



Sunday, February 9, 2025
5th Sunday in Epiphany
Celebrating Black History Month

We Prepare for Worship

Praise Band

Preparing our Hearts

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Luke 9:23

Organ Prelude His eye is on the Sparrow arr. Charles H. Gabriel
*Processional Hymn: *Lift ev'ry voice and sing* (See back pages)

Welcome and Community Life News

We Worship God

The Call to Worship Grace Girard

L.: To the fisherman Jesus said:

P.: "Follow me and I will make you fish for people.

L.: To the tax collector Jesus said:

P.: "Follow me."

L.: To the rich man Jesus said:

**P.: "Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor,
and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."**

L.: At the last supper Jesus said:

P.: "Follow me."

L.: To you and to me and to all of us Jesus says:

P.: Follow me!

L.: Let us worship God!

Introit: Halle, Halle, Halle (Trad. Caribbean Tune) arr. Hal H. Hopson

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 **Swing Low Sweet Chariot (spiritual)**

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home
Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

I looked over Jordan and what did I see

Comin' for to carry me home

A band of angels comin' after me

Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

If you get to heaven before I do

Comin' for to carry me home

Tell all my friends I'm comin' there too

Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

I'm sometimes up and sometimes down

Comin' for to carry me home

But still I know I'm heavenly bound

Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

Swing low, sweet Chariot, Comin' for to carry me home

Spiritual CCLI License #993446

We Listen for God's Word

Junior Youth Choir

Be Strong in the Lord (Words & Music by Dennis & Nan Allen)

God cares for you (Words & Music by Ann Laurence)

Children's Time "Prayer is the Key!" (A song from Ghana)
song and story lead by Shadrack Obodai and Juliet Oku

Prayer for Illumination

Judy Chen

Scripture Readings:

Responsive Reading – Psalm 138

Michelle Francis

¹I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**2 I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast
love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.**

**3 On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength of soul.**

**4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

**5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.**

**6 For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

**7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.**

**8 The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

Old Testament: Jeremiah 1:4-8

OT p. 698

New Testament: Luke 5:1-11

NT p. 61

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: Come and follow me

arr. Robert S. Cohen

Sermon: Essential Services

Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

*Hymn: *Just a closer walk with Thee* (see back pages)

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

*Doxology

#830

*Dedication of Offering

*Recessional Hymn: *This little light of mine* (see back page)

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 We've a story to tell to the nations arr. Humphrey Turner

*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.

**** **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 preschool and nursery room in the Christian Education Wing.**

Please speak to an usher for assistance.



Sunday School Today

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

Tax Receipts

Your 2024 Tax receipts are ready for pick-up in the Lobby.
Please pick up your offering envelopes as well.



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

ESL Classes

We now have two ESL classes at TPC!

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to noon
English Conversation Level

Sundays after church – 12:30 – 1:30 (in the Chapel)
Pre-Intermediate and Intermediate Level
PLEASE sign-up for the Sunday class in the Lobby.

THORNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

271 Centre St., Thornhill L4J 1G5

(905) 889-5391

admin@tpchurch.net www.tpchurch.net

Minister: Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

Director of Music Ministry: Jones Peterson

Church Office Administrator: Vacant

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

Custodian: Shadrack Obodai

Duty Elders: George Huang and Jessica Chapman

UPCOMING WEEK'S EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday February 9, 2025

9:40 am – 10:15 am Children's Choir – Chapel
10:20 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am Worship Service

Tuesday February 11, 2025

10:00 am – 12:00 pm ESL Class
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Session Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday February 12, 2025

6:00 – 7:00 Ecumenical Lenten Cttee (Baptist church)

Thursday February 13, 2025

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice – Sanctuary

Sunday February 16, 2025

9:40 am – 10:15 am Children's Choir – Chapel
10:20 am Chancel Choir
11:00 am Worship Service

Fun in February!

Ballroom Dancing Classes

Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Please register singles or couples on the table in the lobby.



Pencil Sketch Drawing Classes

Learn to create and draw through pencil sketching, watercolour, and pencil crayon techniques.

Saturdays in February and March

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The class is for children over grade 6 and adults

Register in the Lobby

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 Shadrack Obodai and Juliet Oku who will be sharing a special part of their life in Ghana and a beautiful song called *Prayer is the Key*.



A Valentine's Day Mission of Love

Today, the Mission and Outreach Committee will be selling beautiful, donated Palm Pals to help raise funds to support the work of the Blue Door and Coldest Night of the Year initiative to assist those experiencing homelessness.

Attention Committee Chairs & Groups Leaders!

The Annual Congregational Meeting is approaching!

Please Submit Your REPORTS
in a Word Document (or compatible) NO PDF please!
by email to admin@tpchurch.net
by or before
Midnight TODAY!

Important Notice from the Office

We are presently without a church Administrator.

The office phones will be monitored, however, for urgent matters please contact Rev. Heather directly 416-949-3465. All bulletin announcements should go to Rev. Heather too.



The Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY)
Out of the Cold Walk
Saturday, February 22, 2025

CNOY Richmond Hill is a fundraising walk that supports Blue Door and the Mosaic Interfaith **Out of the Cold** program to continue providing essential supports and services for people experiencing homelessness. CNOY is an event when thousands of Canadians step outside the warmth and comfort of their own homes to help others experiencing homelessness.

TPC's team for this year's CNOY walk is called:

Walking with a Mission and we invite you to join us, either by walking or by donating to our team.

For those interested in walking there are three options:

- 1) Walk with our TPC team followed by a light dinner and a time of fellowship at Heather Ann and Doug Lowry's home; or
- 2) Join the Main Event walk starting at Lauremont School just north of Highway 7; or
- 3) Create your own walking route.

To join the TPC team or donate visit cnoy.org/location/richmondhill and choose the team **Walking with a Mission**.

Donation envelopes are also available.

\$6.50 provides a warm meal

\$25.00 provides a toiletry kit

\$50.00 provides a warm winter coat

\$125.00 provides a night of safety and supports



**JOIN US AS WE WALK IN THE COLD
TO HELP THOSE LIVING IN THE COLD.**

For more information, see members of our Mission and Outreach Committee at a table in the Lobby.

HYMNS

Lift ev'ry voice and sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the
slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met thee;
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world,
we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Just a closer walk with Thee

I am weak but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain:

*Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

Thro' this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

*Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.

*Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

This little light of mine

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine;
Ev'rywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine;
Ev'ry where I go,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Building up a world,
I'm gonna let it shine;
Building up a world,
I'm gonna let it shine;
Building up a world,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

*This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
(Repeat)*