



tpc

THORNHILL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
To Discover, Celebrate and Share God's Love

Sunday December 17, 2023
Third Sunday of Advent
2023 TPC Sunday School Pageant
We Prepare for Worship

Praise Band

Preparing our Hearts

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

Prelude: Carol Medley for Piano

Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

*Processional Hymn: *Angels from the realms of glory*

#146

Welcome and Community Life News

We Worship God

The Call to Worship (see PWS&D insert)

Led by members of the

Stewardship Committee – Hugh Hibbert and Abel Pandey

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.

We Listen for God's Word

The 2023 TPC Christmas Pageant

The News of Jesus – A Modern Nativity Play

TPC Senior Youth

*Interlude Hymn: To a maid whose name was Mary

#130 v.v. 1,2,6

How did you find Him?

TPC Junior Youth

*Praise Song: **Jesus Christ is Born**

Jesus Christ is born, Jesus Christ is born

Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, on this Christmas morn

Jesus Christ is born, the Saviour of the world

Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, Jesus Christ is born

The Spirit told the prophets

And the prophets spoke the word

That word was spread throughout the land

Prepare the way of the Lord

And the angels told the shepherds

And the shepherds bowed to pray
Then the angels and the shepherds and the wise men sang
This song on Christmas Day
They were singing

*Jesus Christ is born, Jesus Christ is born
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, on this Christmas morn
Jesus Christ is born, the Saviour of the world
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, Jesus Christ is born*

The disciples shared their stories
And the Bible brought the truth
That minister spoke those words to me
And I'm singing them to you, oh

*Jesus Christ is born, Jesus Christ is born
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, on this Christmas morn
'Cause He died upon the cross, and He conquered death and sin
He rose up from that grave, and He's coming back again*

*Jesus Christ is born, Jesus Christ is born
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, on this Christmas morn
Jesus Christ is born, the Saviour of the world
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, Jesus Christ is born
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, Jesus Christ is born
Let all of heaven and earth rejoice, Jesus Christ is born*

Words & music by Mac Powell CCLI License #993446

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

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

*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**

We are Sent Out as God's People

Postlude: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Peter Lutkin (1858-1931)

**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. For small children, we have a nursery in the Christian Education wing where the service can still be heard. Our ushers are available to assist you. Children must be accompanied by an adult relative.**

Please feel free to appreciate the Postlude at the end of the service!

If you do leave the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you!

Evangel Hall Christmas Dinner



Today, members of our Senior Youth Group will be accompanied by Jordan Lewis-Morden, Abel Pandya, Rev. Heather and Garth Low to prepare and serve Christmas dinner to nearly 200 homeless and underhoused men, women, and children at Evangel Hall.

Thank you to ALL who provided food and funding to make this dinner possible!

Offering Envelopes

The 2024 Offering envelopes are available in the lobby or contact the church office to arrange to get your envelopes.



The 2024 Presbyterian Wall calendars

are available and can be purchased for \$10.00 each.

Please reserve yours today by calling your Administrator Nadine or Rev. Heather.

Thank you to all who are participating in today's service.
A special thank you to Amy Girard and Abel Pandy and the members of our Church School for their leadership.

Junior Youth Christmas Pageant

How Did You Find Him?

A little girl sits reading about the birth of Jesus and wonders how everyone found Him when the story comes to life.

Cast (in order of appearance):

Grace	Thomas
Yoelle	Julian
Maya	Carter
Arshida	Isaac
Aquiline	Isabel
Hannah	Parsa
Kaleb	Chlöe (choir)
	Paige (choir)



Senior Youth Christmas Pageant

The News of Jesus: A Modern Nativity Play

Senior Youth Cast

Auto, Brody, Jeremy, Lydia, Mason, and Olivia

THORNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

271 Centre St., Thornhill L4J 1G5

(905) 889-5391

Manse: 905-889-6156

admin@tpchurch.net www.tpchurch.net

Minister: Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

Director of Music Ministry: Daniel Werning

Church Office Administrator: Nadine Calfa

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

Custodian: Delacey Graham

Duty Elder: Pascal Atem and Doug Miron

UPCOMING WEEK'S EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday December 17, 2023

9:45 – 10:30 am Sunday Morning Discovery – Paused until mid-January.
11:00 AM Worship Service – 3rd Sunday of Advent & Pageant
1:00 pm TPC Youth to Evangel Hall

Wednesday December 20, 2023

7:15 pm Longest Night – A service of remembrance and reflection for loved ones passed.

Sunday December 24, 2023

9:45 – 10:30 am Sunday Morning Discovery – Paused until mid-January.
11:00 am Worship Service – 4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve
11:00 pm A service of Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight Communion

ESL Classes

ESL classes, with Jeannette Hallworth, Laura Culley and June Graham will end after Tuesday December 5, and will resume on Tuesdays starting January 9th from 10 am to 12 pm in the Fellowship Hall and Conference Room.

You are invited to Dan's Last *Sing Session!*

January 7, 2024

Christmas carols. Classic hymn forms and spiritual song versions. Why "carols" are oftentimes a little bit different from standard hymns and Psalms. Examples of various kinds of Christmas carols.

TPC Community Pantry

The pantry is open on Sunday mornings from 10:30 am onwards, and is located directly across from the Chapel in the back hallway.

If you or someone you know has a need during these challenging times, please help yourself.

Introducing....The Sock Tree

For many years, we have collected hats, mitts, scarves, etc. for Evangel Hall Mission. Because of restrictions on the items **ehm** is able to accept, we have decided to retire the mitten tree.

Instead, this year, we will be collecting men's and women's socks on the tree located just inside the front entrance of the church.



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 foyer or visit on-line at: presbyterian.ca/pwsd/donate

Feel free to place a gift tag on the Giving Tree to acknowledge your gift.



Happy Birthday and Congratulations to June Graham!

June Graham is celebrating a very special birthday tomorrow.

June is also commemorating 50 years of singing with our church choir this Christmas.

The Longest Night



For many, Christmas is a bittersweet time of year, especially for those who are dealing with grief, significant life changes, loneliness, illness, and other challenges.

In this time of year with short days and long nights, we are reminded of the darkness and grief that surround us.

For those who seek a time for solemn worship, healing, and light you are invited

The Longest Night
Candle Lighting Service
Wednesday December 20

@ 7:30 p.m.

Please come 15 minutes early to register your loved-one's name

Hymn

Angels from the realms of glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light. **(Refrain)**

Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star. **(Refrain)**

Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear. **(Refrain)**

Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down. **(Refrain)**

Hymn

To a maid whose name was Mary

To a maid whose name was Mary, the angel Gabriel came.
"Fear not," the angel told her, "I come to bring good news;
good news I come to tell you, good news, I say, good news.

For you are highly favoured by God the Lord of all,
who even now is with you. You are on earth most blest;
you are most blest, most blessed; God chose you, you are blest!

As Mary heard the angel, she wondered at his words.
"Behold, I am your handmaid," she said unto her God.
"So be it; I am ready according to your word."

Hymn

Hark! The herald angels sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased on earth with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild, he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise the lost of earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King.