



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service  
Thornhill Presbyterian Church  
December 24, 2023 - 11:00 p.m.

An Evening of Lessons, Carols & Holy Communion

The Prelude: Pastoral Dance on "On Christmas Night"

Robin Milford (1903-59)

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Violin: Jeffrey Wong

\*The Processional Carol: *O Come all ye faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him Born the King of angels; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.	Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God, Glory in the highest; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.
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Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be  
all glory given;  
Son of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. H Vais

\*The Call to Worship

Julian Renaud

L.: For unto us a child is born;

**P.: Unto us a Son is given.**

L.: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor,

**P.: Prince of Peace, Holy One.**

L.: Let us celebrate the birth of Christ.

**P.: Let us worship God!**

Choir Introit: Fanfare

Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

The Lighting of the Christ Candle (*see Christmas Eve insert*)

*Ivana and Naomi Atem*

Opening Prayer

Choir Anthem: O Come, Little Children

Johann Schulz (1747-1800)

**The Story of Christ's Birth** (*please remain seated*)

***The Prophets Foretold***

Isaiah 9:2-7

*Brett Vais*

Carol: "The First Nowel"

The first Nowel the angels did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay,  
In fields where they lay  
keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night  
that was so deep.  
Nowel Nowel Nowel Nowel!  
Born is the King of Israel!

***The Angel and Mary*** Luke 1:26-38

*Mia Sams*

Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie.  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

***No Room at the Inn*** Luke 2:1-7

*Marissa Whittle*

Carol: "Away in a Manger"

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky  
looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.  
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you Lord Jesus!  
Look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

**Shepherds and Angels**

Luke 2:8-14

*Auto Natthapat*

Choir Anthem: Ding Dong! Merrily on High/He is Born!

Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)

**Mary Pondered**

Luke 2:15-20

*Brody Renaud*

Carol: "Joy to the World" vs 1 & 2 (all stand)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns

Let earth receive her King

Let Men their songs employ

Let every heart

While fields and floods

Prepare Him room

Rocks, hills and plains

And Heaven and angels sing

Repeat the sounding joy

And Heaven and angels sing

Repeat the sounding joy

And Heaven and angels sing

Repeat, Repeat, the sounding joy

Invitation to the Table

Invitation to the Offering

\*Praise Time: **Christmas Offering**

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star

While angels sang to lowly shepherds

Three wise men seeking truth traveled from afar

Hoping to find the child from Heaven

Falling on their knees

They bowed before the humble Prince of Peace

*I bring an offering of worship to my King*

*No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing*

*Jesus may You receive the honour that You're due*

*Oh Lord I bring an offering to You*

*I bring an offering to You*

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love

There is no shadow in Your presence

No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne

Before the Holy One of Heaven

It's only by Your blood, it's only through Your mercy

Lord I come

*I bring an offering of worship to my King*

*No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing*

*Jesus may You receive the honour that You're due*

*Oh Lord I bring an offering to You (REPEAT CHORUS)*

*Oh Lord I bring an offering to You*

Words and music by Paul Baloche CCLI License #993446

\*Presentation of the Offering and Elements

\*Prayer of Dedication

Solo: O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam (1803-56)

Sung by Verna Nunez

The Communion Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion *(please come forward as you are able)*

Prayer after Communion

Silent Meditation

The Lighting of the Candles

*The minister will light her candle from the Christ Candle and the light will be shared with the congregation. Please tip your unlit candle into the lit flame presented to you.*

Carol:                Silent Night                *(See last page)*

Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon virgin, mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night.  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born.  
Christ the Savior is born.

Silent Night! Holy Night!  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from thy holy face.  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night.  
Wondrous star, lend thy light.  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King.  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!

The Charge

L.: This is the night!

**P.: when all the world is bathed in the Glory of God!**

L.: This is the night,

**P.: when the love of God comes shining down to dwell among us!**

L.: This is the night,

**P.: when peace, joy, hope, love and light are brought into the hearts of everyone.**

The Benediction

The Organ Postlude: God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

*\*if you are able, please stand*

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*Welcome* to all who are with us this evening to celebrate the birth of Christ. It is our sincere hope and prayer that you will find this Lord's house to be a place of worship and fellowship. If you are new or visiting, there is always a warm welcome awaiting you.

Thank you for joining us this evening.

Please join us next Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m.  
for a New Year's Eve Service of Lessons, Carols  
and Communion to prepare us to enter 2024.

Thank you to our musicians for this evening's service.

Jeffrey Wong – Violin  
Verna Nunez – Soloist  
Our TPC Church Choir

**Participating in this evening's service  
are members of TPC's Senior Youth Group  
and Senior Youth Group Alumni**

Brody Renaud

Julian Renaud

Brett Vais

Mia Sams

Marissa Whittle

Ivana Atem

Naomi Atem

Elizabeth Vais

Jeremy Low (sound sytem)

Auto Natthapat

## *Worship with us in 2024*

If you found this evening's service meaningful, why not join us for worship every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

For information about our church, please visit our Website: [www.tpchurch.net](http://www.tpchurch.net) or speak to one of our Ministers.

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Rev. Dr. Heather Vais, Minister

Nadine Calfa, Administrator



Glory  
TO THE  
newborn  
KING

The graphic features the word 'Glory' in a large, elegant cursive font, topped with a starburst. Below it, 'TO THE' is in a smaller, simple sans-serif font, flanked by two small leaf-like motifs. 'newborn' is in a cursive font, and 'KING' is in a large, bold, blocky font with a filmstrip-like texture.