



**tpc**

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

Sunday December 24, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve  
**We Prepare for Worship**

Praise Band

Preparing our Hearts

*Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called  
Emmanuel.* *Isaiah 7:14*

Prelude: What Child is This?

Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

\*Processional Hymn:

*O come, all ye faithful*

**#159**

Welcome and Community Life News

Choir Introit: Let Our Gladness Never End

Stan Pethel (b. 1950)

**We Worship God**

The Call to Worship (see PWS&D insert)

*Led by members of the*

*Worship and Music Committee – Jane Easton and Garth Low*

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**

\*Hymn: Away in a Manger

**#149**

Children's Time

\*Praise Song: **What A Glorious Night**

*The shepherds came to see the baby  
Stood by His mother's side  
Here laid the Saviour, inside a manger  
Oh what a glorious night, Oh what a glorious night*

***I hear the angels singin' Hallelujah***

***Let the earth receive her King***

***I know that love has come, sing it out***

***Jesus Christ is born, Jesus Christ is born***

*The shepherds wondered, they couldn't hide it*

*They told ev'ryone in sight*

*All were amazed when, they heard how God came*

*Down on the glorious night  
God came down on this glorious night  
I hear the angels singin' Hallelujah  
Let the earth receive her King  
I know that love has come, sing it out  
Jesus Christ is born, Jesus Christ is born  
Glorious glorious what a glorious night (2X)*

*I hear the angels singin' Hallelujah  
Let the earth receive her King  
I know that love has come sing it out  
Jesus Christ is born*

*I hear the angels singin' Hallelujah  
Let the earth receive her King  
I know that love has come, sing it out  
Jesus Christ is born, I heard that Jesus Christ is born*

*All is calm now all is quiet  
A star shining in the sky  
Below in Bethlehem the King is sleeping  
Oh what a glorious night, Oh what a glorious night*

Words & Music by B McDonald, C Brown, D. Frey, J. Smith CCLI License #993446

Prayer for Illumination Garth Low

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 NT p. 56

\*Choir Anthem: The Angel Gabriel/What Child Is This?  
David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:46-55 NT p. 57

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Singing Like Mary Rev. Dr. H. Vais

Solo: O Holy Night Adolphe Adam (1803-56)  
Sung by Daniel Lagover, accomp. Lada Lagover

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

Prayers of the People

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

\*\*The Doxology (tune: O Christmas Tree)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in every generation.

Praise God all creatures, here below, who gives to us salvation.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.

Prayer of Dedication

The Charge

L: You have heard the stories of old, the stories of God's salvation.

**P: With Mary, we have pondered these things in our hearts.**

L: Go out into the world to love and do as Christ would have you do.

**P: With Joseph, we realize that our work has just begun.**

L: As you depart, know that the love of God goes with you wherever you go.

**P: We are strengthened by Christ's presence with us. Alleluia!**

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: A Renaissance Christmas Dance Anon. (c. 1400-1500)

*\* 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!*

**Thank you to all who participated in today's service.**

**A special thank you to our singers and musicians:**

Lada Lagover – Organist

Daniel Lagover – Soloist

Our TPC Church Choir



Thank you for worshiping with us today.

Please join us tonight at 11:00 p.m.

for our Christmas Eve Service of Lessons, Carols,  
and Candlelight Communion.

We will gather again for worship on

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.

## **2023 Donations and Tax Receipts**

A reminder as we come close to the end of 2023 that for donations to be counted and eligible for a 2023 tax year receipt, they must be received through the offering by Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup> or delivered to the Church's mailbox to the right of the main entrance prior to Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Donations received after that time will be part of your 2024 donations.

## Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your offering envelopes in the lobby when you can.

If you prefer to make donations through **PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)**, please contact our church administrator, Nadine, who will set you up.

## PAR Program – Pre-Authorized Remittance

Streamline your giving to TPC with automatic debits from your bank account monthly. This simplifies your giving and ensures regular donations to TPC throughout the year. Donations can be distributed exactly the same way as with a physical envelope. To take advantage of this simple and easy donation approach or to adjust your existing contributions please contact Nadine Calfa, our Envelope Secretary, in the office. Questions about the PAR program can be directed to Nadine or to Bob Gargano of the Finance Committee.



**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.

### **THORNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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[admin@tpchurch.net](mailto:admin@tpchurch.net)   [www.tpchurch.net](http://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 Elders: Russell Morden and Jessica Chapman**

## **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.

It is not too late to add socks to our tree. Donated socks will be delivered in the new year.

### **Room to Rent**

Do you or someone you know have a room to rent  
for 6 to 12 months for a single woman?

We have a member of our church who is  
trying to obtain a job and secure housing.

Please contact Rev. Heather or the church office.

Thank you to those who have already responded.

We are getting close.



# Hymn

## *O come, all ye faithful*

Oh come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant;  
oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him,  
born the King of angels:

### ***(Refrain)***

Oh come, let us adore him;  
oh come, let us adore him;  
oh come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

God of God,  
Light of light,  
born unto Mary, the virgin blest,  
very God,  
begotten, not created:

### ***(Refrain)***

See how the shepherds,  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks  
draw nigh with holy fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:

### ***(Refrain)***

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
'Glory to God  
in the highest!'

### ***(Refrain)***

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:

### ***(Refrain)***

# Hymn

## *Away in a manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.



# Hymn

## ***Angels we have heard on high***

Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains.

### ***(Refrain)***

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heavenly song?

### ***(Refrain)***

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

### ***(Refrain)***

See him in a manger laid,  
whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while our hearts in love we raise.

### ***(Refrain)***