



Forward together in Faith, Hope, and Love

Sunday February 18, 2024

First Sunday in Lent

We Prepare for Worship

Praise Band

Preparing our Hearts

Jesus said, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." *Matt. 16:24*

Prelude: Fantasia in G Minor Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
The Garden of Eden when Satan entered it and tempted humans into sin and despair (listen for the snake)

*Processional Hymn: *Out of my bondage, sorrow and night* **#193**

Welcome and Community Life News

We Worship God

The Call to Worship Kaleb Nogueron

L.: We are beginning our journey through Lent.

P: God is with us on the way.

L.: We come to find light in the shadows and strength in our weakness.

P: We will remember God's faithfulness.

L.: We seek God's mercy and truth step by step, day by day.

P: We trust in God's steadfast love, so we worship with grateful hearts!

L: Let us worship God!

Choir Introit: O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days David Ashley White
(b. 1944)

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: **O Praise the Name (Anástasis)**

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me

I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree
His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

Chorus:

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

(Chorus)

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

(REPEAT CHORUS 2X)

*Oh Lord, oh Lord our God
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

*Words and music by Marty Sampson, Benjamin Hastings, & Dean Ussher
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We Listen for God's Word

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Edmond Lee

Scripture Readings:

Choral Psalm Sentence

Responsive Reading: Psalm: 25:1-10

Sam Nogueron

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² **O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ **Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

6 Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

New Testament: Mark 12:20-36

NT p. 49

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: Kyrie Eleison ("Lord have mercy") Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Sermon: Encounters on the Way – Philip & Andrew Rev. Dr. H. Vais

*Hymn: *Take up your cross*

#211

(tune 314)

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

*Doxology

#830

Dedication of Offering

*Closing Hymn: *Throughout these Lenten days and nights*

#196

(tune 642)

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: Fugue in G Minor Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The joy of grace and forgiveness freely granted through the cross and suffering of Christ (listen for the four nails and two crosses in each fugal theme)

-----*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. Alternatively for children 5 years old and under, 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.**

Thank you to those who are assisting in today's service.

*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!*

There is no Sunday School today.

Children will remain in church with their families.

**BLACK HISTORY
MONTH IN CANADA**



February marks Black History month in Canada. By way of honouring the legacy of black Canadians in their communities and in our country, we will be featuring some books and artifacts on the table beside the library.

TPC Community Pantry

Today will be the **final** Sunday for our in-house Community Pantry. Going forward, we will be partnering with the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank, which serves both Thornhill and Richmond Hill, by collecting and delivering non-perishable food and household items on a regular basis. Items remaining in our pantry will be delivered to the Food Bank this week. The Mission and Outreach Committee extends its thanks for your continued support.

Weekly Offerings and Gifts

To continue to support the church through your regular offerings there are several options available to do so.

Offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the entry to the sanctuary as you enter church.

Offerings can be mailed (address below) or dropped off at the church mail slot in the old wooden doors to the right of the entryway any time.

You may also donate on-line at Canada Helps through our web site at www.tpchurch.net or directly to Canada Helps.Org at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/thornhill-presbyterian-church/>

As an alternative to regular offering envelopes, this is a perfect time to join our **PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)** program. In doing so you don't have to worry about picking up your envelopes or mailing/dropping off cheques. Here is the information you need to know about the PAR program.

Under this arrangement, a monthly debit is made to your account on the 20th of each month and credited the same day to TPC's account. You can allocate funds the same way you do with your regular offering envelopes. You can also make changes, (increasing, decreasing, or cancelling) your pre-authorized amount at any time.

If you have any questions about the PAR program, please contact Nadine Calfa at 905-889-5391 or admin@tpchurch.net.

Thank you for your Support.

2024 Offering Envelopes

Please don't forget to pick up your offering envelopes in the lobby to save on mailing costs.

2023 TAX RECEIPTS

Don't forget to pick up your Tax receipts in the lobby to save on mailing costs. Alternatively, please call the church office to arrange pick-up or drop-off.

Receipts have been mailed for those living out of town.

Actors Needed!

We are in need of actors for a Good Friday drama. If you are interested, please speak to Rev. Heather.



LITTLE HANDS BIG HEARTS!

Dear Sunday School kids, families, and TPC members,
Jesus turned water into wine,
and last Sunday you turned some popcorn, cereal, and raisins
into just over \$2,100!

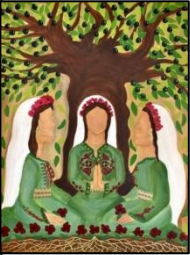
The Sunday School goal to reach \$300 in support of
Gifts of Change, was multiplied by 7 times.

The money raised last week will support
15 school kids and 22 farmers!

We speak a lot in Sunday School about how little things
can turn into big things, and you proved it last Sunday!
You are all change agents for good and can truly change the world.

World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 1, 2024 is the **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**.
The theme for this year is "*I Beg You...Bear With One
Another In Love*" based on Ephesians 4: 1-3. The worship
service has been written by the women of Palestine.



The artwork, "Praying Palestinian Women", was created
by Halima Aziz and depicts three women praying together
in nature in a peaceful place. There is much symbolism
included in the artwork.

A version of the service is available on-line at wicc.org or
it may be viewed on YESTV on Sunday March 3rd
at 3:30 pm.



We are in need of volunteers to help run the **sound
system on Sunday mornings**.

It is not complicated.

Speak to Abel.

If Abel is able, you can be able too!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The ACM will take place on **Sunday February 25**
right after worship. (Info to follow)
Please plan to attend.



Saturday, February 24, 2024

The Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) Richmond Hill is a fun, family-friendly fundraising walk that supports Blue Door and the Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold – A Program of Blue Door to continue providing essential supports and service for people experiencing homelessness, hurt, and hunger. CNOY is a day each year when tens of thousands of Canadians step outside the warmth and comfort of their home to shine a light of welcome and compassion in their communities.

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) Heather Ann and Doug Lowry will be leading a team through their neighbourhood in Richmond Hill, followed by a light dinner and a time of fellowship at their home; or
- 2) You may choose to join the Main Event at the Toronto Montessori School on Bayview, just north of Highway 7; or
- 3) Create your own walking route.

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

If you would like to support our team but don't wish to make an on-line donation, there are donation envelopes available at the Welcome Desk.

For more information, please contact Lorraine McBride at (416) 738-9799 or by email at lorrainemcb@gmail.com.

Please contact Heather Ann Lowry at (905) 884-4764 or lowryhann@gmail.com if you're joining us at her home – 115 Mill Street, Richmond Hill ON L4C 4A6

Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Worship at TPC

Worship With Us!

Lent 1 to Palm Sunday

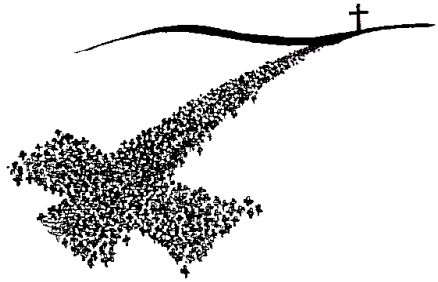
February 18 – March 24

A Lenten Sermon Series

Encounters on the Way

**Who does Jesus meet on the way to the cross,
and what can we learn from the encounters?**

Philip and Andrew
Bartimaeus
A Sinful Woman
Matthew
Simon the Cyrene
The Crowd



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday March 28 – 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Breakfast

Friday March 29 – 8:00 a.m.

Good Friday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

A Lenten Drama

Easter Sunday Worship

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday March 31 – 11:00 a.m.

Thornhill Ministerial Ecumenical Lenten Series 2024

Being Faithful Christians in Today's World

Sundays at 4:00 p.m.
February 18, March 3, March 17

Worship Schedule

February 18

The Struggle to be Faithful Christians

Thornhill Baptist Church
8018 Yonge Street
Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

March 3

The Importance of Being Faithful Christians

The Importance of Being Faithful Christians
Holy Trinity Anglican
140 Brook Street
Speaker: John Humphries

March 17

The Joys of Being Faithful Christians

St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church
39 Green Lane
Speaker: The Rev. Leigh Olsen

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: Norine Thomason and Julie Meek

UPCOMING WEEK'S EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday February 18, 2024

9:45 – 10:30 am Sunday Morning Discovery – Conference Room
11:00 am Worship Service – First Sunday in Lent
4:00 pm Ecumenical Lenten Series - The Struggle to be Faithful
Christians at Thornhill Baptist Church, 8018 Yonge
Street. Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Heather Vais

Tuesday February 20, 2024

10:00 am ESL Classes – Fellowship Hall and Conference Room
1:00 pm WMS meeting – Zoom

Sunday February 25, 2024

9:45 – 10:30 am Sunday Morning Discovery – Conference Room
11:00 am Worship Service – Second Sunday in Lent
Followed by the ACM - Sanctuary



The deadline for the next issue of our congregational newsletter,
“The Open Door” is **Sunday February 25th**.

We Need You!

*to contribute your thoughts to the **Open Door Newsletter**.*

Just email a short paragraph (or longer) telling us how being at TPC
has helped you in your journey of faith.

Was it a Sunday School class? A Bible Study group? A worship
experience? Fellowship? A relationship that formed?

Why do you call TPC home?

You can email Garth Low at garth.low@garthlow.com or email the
church office.

Hymn

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;
into thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to thee;
out of my sickness into thy health,
out of my want and into thy wealth,
out of my sin and into thyself,
Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;
into the glorious gain of thy cross,
Jesus, I come to thee.
out of earth's sorrows into thy balm,
out of life's storms and into thy calm,
out of distress to jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;
into thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to thee;
out of myself to dwell in thy love,
out of despair into raptures above,
upward for aye on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;
into the joy and light of thy home,
Jesus, I come to thee;
out of the depths of ruin untold,
into the peace of thy sheltering fold,
ever thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to thee.

Hymn

Take up your cross

Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
if my disciple you would be;
deny yourself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill frightened spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let your foolish pride rebel:
for you the Saviour bore the cross,
to save your soul from death and hell.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,
and every danger calmly brave;
'twill guide you to a heavenly home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down,
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Hymn

Throughout these Lenten days and nights

Throughout these Lenten days and nights
we turn to walk the inward way,
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,
we live in hope till Easter day.

The pilgrim Christ, the Lamb of God,
who found in weakness greater power
embraces us, though lost and flawed,
and leads us to his rising hour.

We bear the silence, cross and pain
of human burdens, human strife,
while sisters, brothers help sustain
our courage till the feast of life.

And though the road is hard and steep,
the Spirit ever calls us on
through Calvary's dying, dark and deep,
until we see the coming dawn.

So let us choose the path of one
who wore, for us, the crown of thorn
and slept in death that we might wake
to life on Resurrection Morn!

Rejoice, O sons and daughters! Sing
and shout hosannas! Raise the strain
For Christ, whose death Good Friday brings,
on Easter day will live again!