

**50**  
YEARS

# Christ Church Deer Park

December 24, 2020  
Christmas Eve

**Holy Eucharist**  
at 8:00 pm



## **WELCOME!**

**We are glad that you can  
celebrate Christmas with us!**

At Christ Church Deer Park we are a growing,  
diverse, and energetic faith community  
learning to follow Jesus together.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,  
you are invited to join us – even though this  
year it'll be from home.



**Prelude**      O Magnum Mysterium

*Morten Lauridsen*

**Welcome & Gathering**

*We gather as a community, meeting God and each other.*

**Opening Hymn**      O Come All Ye Faithful

*Adeste Fideles*

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;

***Refrain:***

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created: *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God, glory in the highest: *Refrain*

**The Greeting**

Presider:      The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All**            **And also with you.**

**Gloria**        Little Jazz Mass

*Bob Chilcott*

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day

Presider: Let us pray.

**All: Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

## Listening to God

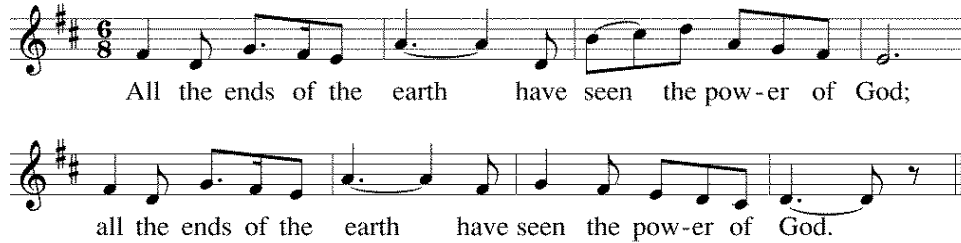
Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. *Isaiah 9:2-7*

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Refrain



All the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God.

## Verses

1. Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done wondrous deeds;  
whose right hand has won the vict'ry for us, God's holy arm.
2. The Lord has made salvation known, and justice revealed to all,  
remembering kindness and faithfulness to Israel.
3. All of the ends of earth have seen salvation by our God.  
Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth in song.
4. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, with trumpet and with horn.  
Sing in your joy before the king, the king, our Lord.

Text: Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; David Haas, Marty Haugen  
Music: David Haas, Marty Haugen  
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## The Holy Gospel

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am

bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. *Luke 2: 1-20*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Message**

**Music** Song of the Stable

*Timothy Dudley-Smith & David Haas*

Chill of the nightfall, lamps in the windows,  
Letting their light fall clear on the snow;  
Bitter December, bids us remember  
Christ in the stable, long, long ago.

Silence of midnight, voices of angels,  
Singing to bid night yield to the dawn;  
Darkness is ended, sinners befriended,  
Where in the stable Jesus is born.

Splendour of starlight high on the hillside,  
Faint is the far light burning below;  
Kneeling before him shepherds adore him,  
Christ in the stable long, long ago.

Glory of daybreak! Sorrows and shadows,  
Suddenly they break forth into morn;  
Sing out and tell now, all shall be well now;  
For in the stable Jesus is born!

## What We Believe

Presider: Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Presider: Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Presider: Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Presider: This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father,  
Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*We pray for the needs of our world, the Church, and ourselves.*

Leader: As we gather rejoicing in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus, let us confidently bring to the Lord, petitions of our hearts this Christmas night. Please respond to *Let us pray to the Lord* saying **Hear us Lord**.

## The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All And also with you.**

## Sharing What We Have

*As a community of faith, we are learning to give sacrificially and proportionately. As we do this, we live into God's abundance for us. Many of us give regularly by envelope or pre-authorized giving.*

**Offertory Music**    Silent Night

*Stille Nacht*

## Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow into him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## Celebrating the Eucharist

### The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life of the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus Little Jazz Mass

*Bob Chilcott*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Presider: Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

**All            Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider:     As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**All:            Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

Breaking of the Bread

Presider:     We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**All:            God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

Presider:     These are the gifts of God, for you the people of God.

**All:            Thanks be to God.**

**Music During Communion** O Holy Night

*Adolphe Adam*

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear saviour's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!  
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!  
O night divine, O night, O night divine!



Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand;  
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the wise men from the Orient land.  
The king of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our friend;  
He knows our need, he guardeth us from danger;  
Behold your king! Before the lowly bend!  
Behold your king! Before the lowly bend!

### **Prayer after Communion**

Presider: Let us pray.

Source of truth and joy, the child for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**All: Glory to God, whose power working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God, from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen**

### **The Blessing**

Presider: May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ Child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Priest: Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, Alleluia!

**All: Thanks be to God, Alleluia!**

**Closing Hymn**      Hark the Herald Angels Sing

*Mendelssohn*

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 heav'n 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 as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"



Presider & Preacher: The Reverend Canon Cheryl Palmer  
Assisting: The Reverend Cathy Gibbs

Reader: Elsa Jones

Musicians:

Christina Labriola – Piano & Organ

Matthew Otto – Guest Organist

Graham Smith – Bass

Phil Yetman – Drums

Soloists:

Kelsey Taylor

Julia Barber

Bradley Christensen

Live Stream Production:

James Finnerty

O Holy Night Video Production:

Danielle Yett

Flowers:

Mary van Straubenzee

Verger:

Paul Marritt

***The Light Shines in the Darkness:***  
*And the darkness did not overcome it*

At the final session of our Advent study this year, we were asked to answer this question: “What are the gifts that Jesus’ birth brings into the world?” Very quickly we heard: Hope. Love. Peace. Joy. Always these wondrous human experiences, these outstanding gifts from God, are associated with Christmas. But this year looks like no Christmas we have ever celebrated. We may not be able to identify those gifts as easily in a pandemic. And so, I am repeating my Christmas message of 2019 because it addresses this very concern.

When we look closely at Christmas, there always seem to be a tinge of sadness despite the overwhelming happiness and excitement that permeate the atmosphere. In the midst of all the joy and excitement of this season, a dreadfully wrenching sorrow can make itself an uninvited and unwelcome presence in any life.

We have all experienced tragedy, or sadness, or loss, that can put a heavy weight on our Yuletide celebrations. This year the lockdown in our city, and many other parts of the country, has people celebrating Christmas in new and strange ways. More people than usual will be by themselves. Yet, in spite of dark moments in our lives and in our world, the Church cannot help but rejoice at Christmas. Why? Because this wondrous season engenders hope in us. In fact, it defies our despairing nature and states boldly that Christian joy is available to us at all times. “When things are at the very bottom and the world is a cold and lonely place, we might, if we listen hard, hear the cry of the Christ child.” (John Andrew, former Rector of St. Thomas’ Fifth Avenue) That cry breaks through all the noise and sadness of our lives.

Bishop Kevin, in his Christmas letter to the clergy points out that “there are many reasons for hope this Christmas. The news of the distribution of multiple COVID- 19 vaccines in 2021 is encouraging as we long to see loved ones again. At the same time, our churches have shown a remarkable resilience in exploring new ways to worship, proclaim and serve. Thirdly, our reliance on one another during a time of global upset has given new resolve to our commitment to share this fragile earth, our island home.”

Christmas keeps breaking through; the sheer joy, the hope of it all keeps making itself known. As followers of Jesus, we make the bold claim that he is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end - everything in our lives have to come through him. Therefore, no matter what is sandwiched in the middle of our beginnings and our ends, it always comes together in Christ. The hope that is inherent in the Incarnation, the hope that is in our belief that God took on human flesh and lived among us, that hope keeps you and me from despair.



Our light has come, the true light which enlightens everyone is here, and it shines in the darkness of our lives, and the darkness will not overcome it. Unto us a child is born, and the cry of that babe is our sign of hope.

A joyous and blessed Christmas and a hope-filled New Year to you and all whom you love.



**24**  
DEC

**8:00pm | CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Have a **swinging Yule** with our jazz musicians during this live-streamed service.

**25**  
DEC

**9:00am | CHRISTMAS DAY**  
An Interactive **Christmas Service on Zoom**. Find all the details on our website.

**[www.christchurchdeerpark.org](http://www.christchurchdeerpark.org)**





**Comfort**  
and Joy



Continue your journey through Christmas celebrating the birth of Jesus. The Church of England offers Comfort and Joy through daily readings and reflections:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/what-we-believe/advent-and-christmas/comfort-and-joy-our-advent-and-christmas-reflections>

As always, should you want to discuss any part of your journey, please contact

**Cathy Gibbs** at [adultministries@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:adultministries@christchurchdeerpark.org)



### **Third Taizé Service**

Looking for some **contemplative peace** in your life? You are invited to our third **Taizé** service

on **Thursday January 14th at 7pm**. Taizé is a monastic community in France and it is known for its beautiful sacred music. Our own Christina Labriola will be leading the music, and we will gather together for a time of **reading, silent reflection and prayer**. There are very limited seats for this evening—so **get your spot early** on our website. We know that this evening of Taizé will be a blessing! For more information about the Taizé service, check out our website. [www.christchurchdeerpark.org](http://www.christchurchdeerpark.org)

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that the land on which we worship is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (*ho-den-oh-show-nee*), and Anishinabek (*ah-nish-nah-bek*) Nations, and most recently, the territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. This territory is part of the *Dish with One Spoon Treaty*, an agreement between the Anishinabek, Haudenosaunee, and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, Toronto is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (*North America*) and we seek to live in respect, peace, and right relations with them as we meet and worship on this territory. We are grateful for the resources we are using, and honour all the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people who have been living on this land since time immemorial.

## ! VISITOR INFORMATION



**Hearing Assistance Devices** are located on the table beside the bell-tower entrance.

**Large Print Orders of Service** are available.

## Happening for Christmas at Christ Church Deer Park:

**Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day**

9:00 am Christmas Day Service - Zoom

## Happening this week at Christ Church Deer Park:

**Saturday, December 26**

8:00 am Community Breakfast

**Sunday, December 27 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas**

9:15 am Holy Eucharist – Live Stream

**Tuesday, December 29**

10:30 am Staff Meeting

**Saturday, January 2**

8:00 am Community Breakfast



## PARKING

**Free Sunday Parking** is available on Sunday mornings (until 1:30 pm) at the public parking lot, just across from the church on Heath Street.

Stamp your parking ticket using the church address stamp found on the table at the bell-tower door. After church, go to the customer service office with your validated ticket where you will be given an exit ticket. Please park only on the lower levels.



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**Official tax receipts** are issued on an annual basis to those who give \$20 or more. If you wish to receive a receipt, please enclose your gift in an envelope with your name and address or donate online at [christchurchdeerpark.org/give](http://christchurchdeerpark.org/give).