# Christ Church Deer Park

December 17, 2023
The Third Sunday in Advent
Holy Eucharist
at 10:30 am



# WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH DEER PARK

We are glad to have you worship with us!

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.

**Hello!** Whether this is your first time through our doors or your one thousandth, we are glad you are here! At our church you are welcome to participate as much or as little as you are comfortable doing.

**So, what is our community like**? Well, we are a church community from different generations and different walks of life. We are here because we want to follow Jesus and live in community with one another and our neighbours in this little corner of Toronto. We care deeply about feeding the hungry and welcoming refugees; we affirm that all people, including our LGBTQ2SI+ siblings, are made in the image of God and should be included in all the practices of our life of faith; and, no matter where we are on our spiritual journeys, we strive to lament together, rejoice together, and hold each other up on this journey of faith and life.

#### Staff

The Venerable Cheryl Palmer – *Rector* <u>cpalmer@christchurchdeerpark.org</u>

The Rev. Ali McIntosh – Assistant Curate amcintosh@christchurchdeerpark.org

Amanda Jagt – *Director of Parish Operations* ajagt@christchurchdeerpark.org

Denis Delisle, Rikk Scapillato – *Lead Custodians* Carlos Lopez, Eugene Velasco – *Custodial Team* 

The Rev. Cathy Gibbs – *Adult Education* cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org

Edward Cockerton – *Interim Director of Music* ecockerton@christchurchdeerpark.org

Elisabeth Lunder - Bookkeeper bookkeeper@christchurchdeerpark.org

#### Lay Leadership

Rector's Warden – Stephen Clark

Deputy Warden – Katherine MacDonald

Treasurer – Nick Strube

Synod Delegates – William Jackson, Ann

Synod Delegates – William Jackson, Ann Atkins, Melissa Walter

# People's Warden – Su Laine Varkey Deputy Warden – Paul Kingston

#### Ways to Serve & Get Involved

Community Care Team - Carl Wehniainen, Lead communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org

Prayer Circle – Jan D'Angelo, Coordinator
9:15am Coffee Hour – Zara Arvini, Coordinator
Choir – Edward Cockerton, Interim Director
Flower Guild – Pat Butler, Coordinator
Welcome Team – Paul Kingston, Coordinator
Property Committee – Andrew Harding, Chair
Refugee Committee – Julie Scott, Chair
Truth and Reconciliation – Melissa Walter, Lead
Rummage Re-Imagined – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead
Christmas Sale – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead

Community Breakfast – Anne Larkin, Lead outreach@christchurchdeerpark.org

Small Groups – The Rev. Cathy Gibbs

10:30 Coffee Hour – Sandra Geddes, Coordinator
Chancel Guild – Anne Larkin, Lead
Readers & Intercessors – The Rev. Ali McIntosh
Children's Ministry – The Rev. Ali McIntosh
Stewardship Committee – Stephen Clark
Investment Committee – Michael Butler, Chair
Climate Action Group – Phyllis Creighton, Lead
Spiritus – Emily Chatten, Melissa Walter &
Supipi Weerasooriya, Editorial Team

#### **Prelude**

#### Welcome

# Opening Hymn #106

(please stand as you are able)

Ascension

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our God may go!

O Zion, give voice to good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.

The works of pride all perish, like flowers they shall decay; the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

But your word, O God, is faithful, your arm, O Lord, is strong; you stand in the midst of nations, and you will right the wrong. You will feed your flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to your breast; in pastures of peace you'll lead them, and give to the weary rest.

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!

The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our God may go!

## **Advent Candle Lighting**

Leader:

Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us: you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. We watch, wait and witness the mystery of your incarnation among us.

(The candle is lit)

All: We are waiting.

We are watching. We are witnessing.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

**Gathering** (please remain standing)

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.

**Kyrie** Jubilation Mass Chepponis

Cantor: Kyrie, elesion. **All: Kyrie, elesion.** 

Cantor: Christe, elesion.

All: Christe, elesion.

Cantor: Kyrie, elesion. **All: Kyrie**, elesion.

### The Collect of the Day

Presider: God of light, who sent the Baptist to offer hope and to face the world's scorn: open

our ears to hear the cries from the margins, exposing our fears, sharpening our

vision and calling us to faith; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come.

All: Amen.

Presider: Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of

Holy Scripture.

All: Our hearts and minds are open.

**Listening to God** (please be seated)

Reader: A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126 Munson

When God restored our common life, our hope, our liberty, at first it seemed a passing dream, a waking fantasy.

A shock of joy swept over us, for we had wept so long; the seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.

We went forth weeping, sowing seeds in hard, unyielding soil; with laughing hearts we carry home the fruit of all our toil. We praise the One who gave the growth, with voices full and strong. The seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.

Great liberating God, we pray for all who are oppressed. May those who long for what is right with justice now be blessed. We pray for those who mourn this day, and all who suffer wrong; may seeds they water now with tears spring up into a song.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

(please remain standing)

Jubilation Mass Chepponis

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel (please remain standing)

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for

those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Homily** (please be seated)

#### Musical Interlude

The Apostles' Creed (please stand as you are able)

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus

Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and

the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of the People** 

(please stand, kneel, or sit as you are able)

#### **Confession and Absolution**

All: We fill the streets as consumers

Bright lights and tempting offers Christmas songs and shopping

You lead us along a different path

To a desert river and a prophetic voice

A call to repentance

A call to service

A call to immerse ourselves

In living water that will never run dry

A call to prepare a way in our own lives For the Saviour of the world to enter in To know the touch of tender mercy And rest in your forgiving love. Forgive us, Breath of Salvation.

Presider: This is the good news:

you are forgiven of your sins;

you will be swept away in the waters of mercy, salvation carrying you home to God's heart.

Peace, serenity, healing, hope—these gifts, and more, are yours

in this Advent season of watching and waiting.

Thanks be to God. **Amen.** 

**The Peace** (please stand as you are able)

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

All: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to remain standing for the offertory.

# **Sharing What We Have**

Presider: We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us.

In the upside down world of the gospel,

we measure our wealth not by what we have,

but by what we can give away.

Let us give away generously, in this offering,

to bless God's church, God's people, and God's creation. Amen.

# **Sharing What We Have**

We give as an expression of gratitude for all that God has done for us and because God has designed us to be givers.

#### Ways to Give Financially

- Through automatic monthly credit card or pre-authorized debit donations
  please contact bookkeeper@christchurchdeerpark.org if you are interested in setting up a monthly offering
- · Cash or cheque made out to Christ Church Deer Park
- Debit/credit via the mobile credit machine at the back of the church
- E-transfer to donations@christchurchdeerpark.org
- Online via Canada Helps (scan the QR code to the right to be brought to the website)

We are thankful for all your gifts as they sustain the life and work of this parish.



### Offertory Hymn #98 v. 1-4

Hark the Glad Sound! The Saviour Comes

Richmond

Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long: let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.

Christ comes, the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held; the gates of brass before him burst; the iron fetters yield.

Christ comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and from the treasuries of grace to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim; and heaven's eternal arches ring with thy beloved name.

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Presider: God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to

you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

# **Celebrating the Eucharist**

(please remain standing)

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: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and

praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for

ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus Chepponis

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Presider: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made

known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out

of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: we remember his death,

we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Presider:

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer Robinson

All:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Presider: The gifts of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

# All are welcome to receive communion with us

As the sidespeople pass your pew, please line up in the centre aisle.

- **To receive a blessing,** as you reach the priest with the bread, cross your arms over your chest. Return to your seat after receiving the blessing.
- To receive the bread, hold your hands in front of you, palms up.
- To receive the wine from the cup, take the bottom of the cup and the base and guide it to your mouth.
- If you prefer to take only the bread, you may indicate this to the cup bearer by crossing your arms over your chest, or simply walking past them.

(please be seated) Chepponis

# Agnus Dei O Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace, grant us peace.

#### **Communion Anthem**

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

# **Communion Hymn #94**

Wait for the Lord, Whose Day is Near

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

### **Prayer after Communion**

(please stand as you are able)

Presider: Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and

prepare us for the birth of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who

is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

# **Closing Prayer & Blessing**

Presider: May the star guide your steps towards the place of wonder;

May angels sing their news as you travel to the manger;

May promise fill these days as we watch at the edge of birth.

And may the blessing of God, the Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, clothe you in light, teach you their ways, and keep you alert and prepared for the coming of Christ.

All: Amen.

#### **Announcements**

# **Closing Hymn** #109 v. 1, 2, 4

When the King Shall Come Again

Good King Wenceslas

When the King shall come again, all his power revealing, splendour shall announce his reign, life and joy and healing; earth no longer in decay, hope no more frustrated, this is God's redemption day longingly awaited.

In the desert, trees take root, fresh from God's creation; plants and flowers and sweetest fruit join the celebration; rivers spring up from the earth, barren lands adoring.

Valleys, this is your new birth; mountains, greet the morning!

There God's highway shall be seen where no roaring lion, nothing evil or unclean,

walks the road to Zion: ransomed people homeward bound all your praises voicing, see your Lord with glory crowned, share in his rejoicing!

#### **Dismissal**

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### **Postlude**

Please join us upstairs in Elliott Hall for Coffee Hour.

## **Memorial Flowers**

The flowers in the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joan and Stephen Fox-Revett, and Audrey Reid and Sydney Wedd.

Presider: The Reverend Cathy Gibbs

Preacher: The Reverend Ali McIntosh

Gospeller: The Venerable Cheryl Palmer

Interim Director of Music: Edward Cockerton

Intercessor: Andrew Harding

> Reader: Anne Welch

Warden on Duty: Nick Strube

Sidesperson: John Goodwin

Flower Arrangement: Nina Overbury

Livestream Production Manager: James Harding MacDonald

> Verger: Rikk Scapillato



- **1. HOPE IS A VERB (ADVENT STUDY):** Advent is the time we set aside to prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus and it is always easier to do this in community. So please join us as we actively hope for change and newness in our lives anticipating the birth of our redeemer. *Dates:* December 5, 12, 19 *Time:* 7-8pm *Place:* Zoom *Registration:* Email Cathy (cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org) to be put on the list.
- **2. UPCOMING JAZZ VESPERS:** Join us on TODAY at 4:30pm for a festive Jazz Vespers as The Brian Barlow Big Band perform Ellington's *Nutcracker*!
- **3. SATURDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST** is in need of winter socks, sweaters, hoodies, winter coats, shoes, boots, slippers, gloves, hats, scarves for our guests. We are also looking for toiletries (soap, body wash, lip care, lotion, shampoo). Please leave in the bins at the Bell tower door or Yonge street door. Our guests are very appreciative thank you!
- **4. CONGREGATIONAL CARE DRIVERS NEEDED:** We are looking for a few more "drivers" we can add to our list, who upon occasion, can assist with providing a ride to church for fellow parishioners. This does not have to be an every week commitment, as we currently have a "pool" of drivers, but it would be very helpful having additional help when the need arises. Please contact Carl Wehniainen at <a href="mailto:communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org">communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org</a> or 647-808-5631.
- **5. PASTORAL CALLS:** From time to time, depending upon what is happening in our lives, we could benefit from a call or visit from one of our clergy. If you or anyone you know might be in need, please contact our congregational care team at <a href="mailto:communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org">communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org</a>
- **6. CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS & GREENERY:** If you would like to contribute towards the purchasing of poinsettias and greenery for our Christmas Services in memory of a loved one, please designate 'Christmas flowers' on your envelope and include with your gift the name(s) you'd like printed in the Christmas bulletins. Donations for flowers & greenery will be accepted until December 17<sup>th</sup>. You may include a donation for flowers & greenery with your normal offering; simply indicate the amount that is to go towards Christmas flowers. Thank you!
- **7. CHURCHES ON THE HILL FOOD BANK:** In the last year we have provided over 100,000 meals to our 720 families. In 2020 we were serving over 200 families a week and are now serving over 400 families. We will spend \$300,000 on food this year. Approx 40% of our food is

provided by Daily Bread and 10% from the affiliated churches and community. To make a financial donation you can give through CCDP making a note/ memo for foodbank or go to cothfoodbank.ca to make an online donation. For more info you can speak with Anne Larkin.

- **8. TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION WORKING GROUP:** Looking to support Indigenous artists and makers as you shop for Christmas presents? Toronto has a number of shops featuring authentic Indigenous art, home goods, and other gifts. Some options include: Pacha Indigenous Art Collection (789 Dundas St. W), the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto's Cedar Basket Gift Shop (16 Spadina Rd.), and Mino Bimaadiziwin Indigenous Art Market (1107 Queen St. E).
- 9. CLIMATE ACTION GROUP: Canada is home to several herds of caribou (in Canada, reindeer refers to caribou that have been domesticated). Some of these herds make the lengthiest migratory circuit of any land mammal more than 800 miles when measured in a straight line. However, these hardy animals are not immune to the affects of climate change: an increase in storms and rain can coat the ground in ice, preventing caribou from pawing through the snow to reach lichen and moss, their primary winter food. Increased development, including mining roads, also disrupt caribou herds' migration routes. Over the last 30 years, a herd that migrates between the Northwest Territories and Nunavut has declined from 480,000 animals to 7,000. [Source: "Where Have All the Caribou Gone?" National Geographic Magazine, December 2023]



For updates, visit 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.

# **UVISITOR INFORMATION**



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

Large Print Orders of Service are available.

# Christ Church Deer Park

1570 Yonge Street at Heath St. Toronto, ON M4T 1Z8 Phone: 416-920-5211 www.christchurchdeerpark.org

# Happening this week at Christ Church Deer Park

Wednesday, December 20 11:00am Holy Eucharist In person, followed by lunch

2:00pm Peter Curzon's Funeral

**Saturday, December 23** 8-9am Community Breakfast

Sunday, December 24

9:00am Holy Eucharist – Advent IV In person & Livestreamed

> 4:00pm Holy Eucharist Casual Christmas for Families In person

7:00pm Holy Eucharist Contemporary Christmas Celebration In person

9:00pm Holy Eucharist Traditional Christmas Celebration In person & Livestreamed

> Monday, December 25 9:00am Holy Eucharist In person & Livestreamed

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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.