

Christ Church Deer Park

December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve
Holy Eucharist
at 9:00 pm



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*
cpalmer@christchurchdeerpark.org

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

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

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

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

Elisabeth Lunder – *Bookkeeper*
bookkeeper@christchurchdeerpark.org

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

Lay Leadership

Rector's Warden – Stephen Clark

People's Warden – Su Laine Varkey

Deputy Warden – Katherine MacDonald

Deputy Warden – Paul Kingston

Treasurer – Nick Strube

Synod Delegates – William Jackson, Ann Atkins, Melissa Walter

Ways to Serve & Get Involved

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

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

Prayer Circle – Jan D'Angelo, Coordinator

Small Groups – The Rev. Cathy Gibbs

9:15am Coffee Hour – Zara Arvini, Coordinator

10:30 Coffee Hour – Sandra Geddes, Coordinator

Choir – Edward Cockerton, Interim Director

Chancel Guild – Anne Larkin, Lead

Flower Guild – Pat Butler, Coordinator

Readers & Intercessors – The Rev. Ali McIntosh

Welcome Team – Paul Kingston, Coordinator

Children's Ministry – The Rev. Ali McIntosh

Property Committee – Andrew Harding, Chair

Stewardship Committee – Stephen Clark

Refugee Committee – Julie Scott, Chair

Investment Committee – Michael Butler, Chair

Truth and Reconciliation – Melissa Walter, Lead

Climate Action Group – Phyllis Creighton, Lead

Rummage Re-Imagined – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead

Spiritus – Emily Chatten, Melissa Walter &

Christmas Sale – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead

Supipi Weerasooriya, Editorial Team

Prelude Christmas Chorale
Adeste Fideles

*Buxtehude
Karg-Elert*

Welcome

During the hymn, the choir will walk along the aisles, lighting tapers.

Opening Hymn #119

(please stand as you are able)

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

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 Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour 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.

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.

Please extinguish your tapers.

Hymn #118 v. 1-3

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 Collect of the Day

Presider: 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 splendor 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.

All: Amen.

Listening to God

(please be seated)

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.

Psalm 96

Choir: Sing to the Lord new songs of praise,
Let all the earth sing to the Lord;
Sing to the Lord and bless his Name,
Proclaim good news with one accord.

Declare his glory far and wide,
His wondrous acts and holy law;
For he is great, and to be praised
More than all gods, and held in awe.

Let heavens rejoice, let oceans roar,
let earth be glad, fields filled with mirth;
Let all the forests shout for joy,
When God shall come to judge the earth.

(please stand as you are able)

Gradual Hymn #123 v. 1-2

One In Royal David's City

Irby

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

The Holy Gospel

(please remain standing and turn to face the gospeller)

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Gospeller: 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

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn #123 v. 3

One In Royal David's City

Irby

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high,
when, like stars, his children crowned
all in white shall gather round.

Homily

(please be seated)

The Nicene Creed

(please stand as you are able)

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

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

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

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Hear our prayer".
Gracious and loving God, on this holy day your Son our Saviour was born in human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ. God of new birth,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day your Son was born in a lowly stable. Protect with your love the poor, lonely and unhoused; protect with your love those who live in war-torn nations, especially remembering Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Yemen, and Sudan; protect with your love the 108 million refugees in our world. And, with your love, help us to bring healing to broken humanity. God of mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day Mary, in the pain of labour, brought your Son to birth. Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress. God of healing,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day your Christ came as a light shining in the world. Uphold all who suffer in mind, body or spirit and bring solace to those who live in the darkness of doubt and in the shadow of death. God of light,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day the angels sang to God's people on earth. Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the world. God of peace,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace and voice to preach the Gospel of Christ's redemption. God of faith,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day strangers found the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love. God of love,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day heaven comes down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Grant your peace to all who have died and bring them to your eternal kingdom.

God of hope,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: On this holy day Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today. God of joy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Presider: Merciful God, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now, and forever.

All: Amen.

The Peace

Presider: In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high has broken upon us, giving light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and guiding our feet into the way of peace. 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 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 #139

The First Nowell

The First Nowell

The first nowell the angel 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.

Refrain:

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

They lookèd up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *[Refrain]*

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. *[Refrain]*

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. *[Refrain]*

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *[Refrain]*

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
who has made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood salvation bought. *[Refrain]*

Prayer over the Gifts

Prsider: Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **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 mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus

Darke in E

*Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
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: 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: The gifts of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

(please be seated)
Darke in E

Agnus Dei O Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

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.

Communion Anthem

Nativity Carol

Rutter

Born in a stable so bare
Born so long ago
Born 'neath light of star
He who loved us so

Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

Cradled by mother so fair
Tender her lullaby
Over her son so dear
Angel hosts fill the sky

Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

Wise men from distant far land
Shepherds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare
Hearts with his warmth he fills

Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

Love in that stable was born
Into our hearts to flow
Innocent dreaming babe
Make me thy love to know

Far away, silent he lay
Born today, your homage pay
For Christ is born for aye
Born on Christmas Day

Communion Hymn #140

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Carol

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, to all good will
from heaven’s most gracious king!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains

they bend on hovering wing,
and even o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel-strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and we amid our wars hear not
the words of peace they bring;
O listen now, and still your strife
to hear the angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow;
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold:
when the new heaven and earth shall own
the Prince of Peace their King,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

Communion Motet

Torches

John Joubert

Torches, torches run with torches
All the way to Bethlehem
Christ is born and now lies sleeping
Come and sing your song to him!

Ah Roro, Roro my baby
Ah Roro, my love Roro
Sleep you well my heart's own darling
While we sing you our Roro

Sing my friends and make you merry
Joy and mirth and joy again
Lo he lives the King of heaven
Now and ever more. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

(please stand as you are able)

Prsider: Creator of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer & Blessing

Prsider: Glory to God,

All: 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.

Prsider: May the news of the angels fill your life and your heart with great joy. May the star that guided the Wise Men lead you to the truth of understanding. May the witness of the shepherds affirm in you the message of the Gospel. May the sound of the incarnate Word bring you peace and hope. May the presence of the Holy Child remind you of your own holiness. And may God, the Holy Trinity, bless you, comfort you, and inspire you as you journey into another year. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Prsider: Go in peace to love and serve the newborn King.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn #138

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!”

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king.”

Christ by highest heaven 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. *[Refrain]*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen 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. *[Refrain]*

Postlude Noel Suisse

Daquin

Christmas Flowers

The flowers in the church are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Richard Perry
Doris and Arthur Morrow
Herbert Morrow
Jim Agnew
Bill Rhodes
Silvia Zamfir Constantin
Ion Dragomir
Paraschiva Dragomir
Florentin-Ion Cruceanu
Philip Stanbury
George and Ruth Gooch
Dr. John Brebner
Margaret Ireton
John Ireton
Felicia van Nostrand
Henry and Grace Beute
Arend and Naantke Jagt
Eleanor Thomson

Ted Ritcey
Stephen Godfrey
John M. Godfrey
Mary Godfrey
Margaret Hutchison
Mary Kearns
Mary Robertson
Doug, Irene, Don, Ellen, and Jorja Gorham
Graham and Deirdre Worley
John L. Beedell
David Byers
Margaret and Monty Larkin
Tanner Larkin
Bill and Esther Harshaw
Howard Joy
Ted Gilling
Ian Charles Whittier Butler
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stanley McCoy

Presider & Preacher:
The Venerable Cheryl Palmer

Gospeller:
The Reverend Ali McIntosh

Interim Director of Music:
Edward Cockerton

Organist:
Dermot Muir

Soloists:
Sonya Harper Nyby, Julia Barber
Peter Warren, Grace Quinsey, Mikhail Shemet

Trumpeters:
Matisse Blundell, Aled Blundell, Maslin Blundell

Intercessor:
Danylo Dzwonyk

Reader:
Elsa Jones

Flower Arrangement:
Mary van Straubenzee
Karen Lenk
Lucia Nebesney

Livestream Technician:
Christian Crawford

Vergers:
Denis Delisle



Dear Friends,

It is an awesome love in the heart of God that inspired Christmas.

The wonder and meaning of the season is simply unfathomable: that God would choose to come among us and remain with us – stirring up a sometimes-complacent people and bringing life to all. How do we respond to this awesome event? How do we celebrate Christmas with more depth than a simple attraction to the charming story? To be true to Christmas – to be true to the Christ Child – to be like the shepherds or magi, requires us to be open to amazement, open to creativity, open to growth, development, reform – open to the new and exciting news that God is among us.

Let us therefore embrace the challenge of the Christ Child to stir things up and help us grow into his light and life. In a world where we often encounter fear, loneliness and sadness, only God's own flesh and blood can bring true peace and joy. Our very existence is therefore dependent upon the life of the Christ Child. Thus, in awe, we retell the story over and over, so that the joy and wonder of God's perfect gift may forever captivate our lives. And may God grant us the wisdom and courage to carry the good news of Christmas to all whom we encounter.

A blessed Christmas and happy New Year to you!

FROM THE STAFF OF CHRIST CHURCH

Announcements

- 1. PASTORAL CALLS:** Christmas is a season of joy for many, but it can also be a season of grief, difficulty, and hardship. At these difficult moments, someone may 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 communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org
- 2. OFFICE HOURS THE WEEK BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS:** The church office will be open on Wednesday, December 27 and Friday, December 29 between 9am-2pm.
- 3. ANNOUNCING OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** We are delighted to announce that Stefani Bedin has been appointed as our new Director of Music. Stefani is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance at the University of Toronto, majoring in organ performance. She has extensive experience as an organist, pianist, and choral conductor, and she is eager to build on CCDP's musical traditions. Stefani's first Sunday with us will be January 28th, 2024. In the meantime, Stefani has invited everyone to an organ recital she is performing on Monday, January 15th at 7:00pm at St. Basil's Church (50 St. Joseph Street). The concert will feature Charles-Marie Widor's monumental "Symphonie Romane" as well as music of J.S Bach, Nadia Boulanger and Maurice Duruflé. Admission is free and all are welcome.



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 this week at Christ Church Deer Park

Monday, December 25

9:00am Holy Eucharist
In person

Wednesday, December 27

no 11am service

Saturday, December 30

8-9am Community Breakfast

Sunday, December 31

8:00am Holy Eucharist
In person

9:15am Holy Eucharist
& Sunday School
In person

10:30am Holy Eucharist
In person & Livestreamed



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

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