

# Christ Church Deer Park

December 24, 2024  
Christmas Eve Vigil  
**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 Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford – *Interim Priest-in-Charge* [sdrakeford@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:sdrakeford@christchurchdeerpark.org)      The Rev. Cathy Gibbs – *Adult Education* [cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org)

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Benita Black – *Rentals Coordinator*  
[rentals@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:rentals@christchurchdeerpark.org)

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

### **Lay Leadership**

*Rector's Warden* – Stephen Clark  
*Deputy Warden* – Katherine MacDonald  
*Treasurer* – Nick Strube

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

*Synod Delegates* – William Jackson, Ann Atkins, Melissa Walter, Oscar Varkey

### **Ways to Serve & Get Involved**

*Community Breakfast* – Carl Wehniainen, Lead  
*Congregational Care Team* – Ann Atkins, Lead  
*Prayer Circle* – Jan D'Angelo, Coordinator

[outreach@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:outreach@christchurchdeerpark.org)  
[communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org)  
[prayercircle@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:prayercircle@christchurchdeerpark.org)

*Small Groups* – The Rev. Cathy Gibbs  
*Coffee Hour* – Sandra Geddes, Coordinator  
*Chancel Guild* – Elsa Jones, Lead  
*Readers & Intercessors* – The Rev. Stephen Drakeford  
*Welcome Team* – Paul Kingston, Coordinator  
*Property Committee* – Andrew Harding, Chair  
*Investment Committee* – Michael Butler, Chair  
*Climate Action Group* – Brad Lennon, Lead  
*Christmas Sale* – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead

*Choir* – Stefani Bedin  
*Hospitality* – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead  
*Flower Guild* – Pat Butler, Coordinator  
*Children's Ministry* – Sharilyn Robinson  
*Refugee Committee* – Julie Scott, Chair  
*Stewardship Committee* – Stephen Clark  
*Truth and Reconciliation* – TBD, Lead  
*Rummage Re-Imagined* – Jayne Miles Simpson, Lead  
*Spiritus* – Emily Chatten, Melissa Walter & Supipi Weerasooriya, Editorial Team



## Happy Christmas to you all!

On behalf of the Wardens, the parish leaders, the Selection Committee and all the staff let me take a moment to wish you a very blessed and Merry Christmas. I hope it is a time of warmth, joy and in spite of all the busyness a time when you can reconnect with God.

In W.H. Auden's magnificent Advent poem, 'For the Time Being,' the angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she is to conceive Jesus. Gabriel says:

*What I am willed to ask, your own  
Will has to answer; child it lies  
Within your power of choosing to  
Conceive the Child who chooses you.*

Leave it to the poets to express such profound truth so beautifully. The notion that even though Mary was chosen by God, it was not destiny, she had a choice. And I think that very same choice is before all of us, how do we choose God who has chosen us?  
How do we say 'yes!' to God?

One way is to do what you are already doing. If you are reading this message in the Christmas bulletin then you have already said, 'Yes!' you have come to worship Christ the Lord.

So, God bless you! This Christmas and throughout 2025!

*Stephen+*

Stephen Drakeford  
Interim-Priest-in-Charge

*Please note all hymn numbers are from Common Praise, the blue hymnal.*

*If you are here before 9pm, please enjoy the following preludes and join us in singing the carols.  
The 9pm service begins on page 7.*

**Organ Prelude**      ***Puer Nobis Nascitur***      J.F. Dandrieu

**Welcome**

**Prelude Hymn**      **Once In Royal David's City**      IRBY

Soloist:      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.

All:      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.

And through all his wondrous childhood  
he would honour and obey,  
love and watch the lowly maiden,  
in whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern,  
day by day like us he grew,  
he was little, weak, and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feeleth for our sadness,  
and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love,  
for that child so dear and gentle

is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

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;  
where like stars his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

Text: C. F. Alexander  
Music: H. Gauntlett; arr. D. Willcocks

**Trumpet Prelude    Jesus Christ the Apple Tree**

E. Poston (arr. for trumpet)

**Prelude Hymn    O Little Town of Bethlehem (#120)**

ST LOUIS

All:            O little town of Bethlehem,  
                  how still we see thee lie!  
                  Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
                  the silent stars go by;  
                  yet in thy dark streets shineth  
                  the everlasting light;  
                  the hopes and fears of all the years  
                  are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous Gift is given  
as love imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of God's heaven!  
No ear may hear his coming  
but in this world of sin,

where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel.

Text: P. Brooks  
Music: L. H. Redner

**Organ Prelude**      *Chantons Je En Vous Prie*

J.F. Dandrieu

**Prelude Hymn**      **What Child Is This? (#137)**

GREENSLEEVES

All:            What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
                  on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
                  Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
                  while shepherds watch are keeping?

*Refrain:*

This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain*

Text: W.C. Dix  
Music: English trad

**Choir Prelude      The Sussex Carol**

English Traditional

Choir:      On Christmas night all Christians sing,  
              To hear the news the angels bring.  
              News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
              News of our merciful King's birth.

              Then why should we on earth be so sad  
              Since our Redeemer made us glad?  
              When from our sin he set us free,  
              All for to gain our liberty?

              When sin departs before His grace  
              Then life and health come in its place;  
              Angels and all with joy may sing,  
              All for to see the newborn King.

              All out of darkness we have light  
              Which made the angels sing this night:  
              "Glory to God and peace to men  
              Now and for evermore. Amen!"

Text: Traditional  
Music: Traditional, arr. R. Vaughan Williams

**Trumpet Prelude      *Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich*, "This Day is So Joyful", BuxWV 182      D. Buxtehude**

**Organ Prelude      *Noël Étranger*      J.F. Dandrieu**

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**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn #118, v. 1, 2, 3, 5**

*(please stand as you are able)*

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 comes forth from 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, in the highest: *Refrain*

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

Text and Music: John Francis Wade

## 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.**

**Gloria** Angels We Have Heard On High

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavn'ly song?  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Text: French carol; tr. James Chadwick  
Music: French Traditional



## **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.**

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 – The First Lesson**

*(please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 96**

(adapted from *Adeste Fideles*)

*The refrain is first sung by the cantor, then by all.*

Refrain: 

To - day is born our Sav - iour, Christ the Lord.

Cantor: Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.  
Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from to day. *Refrain*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.  
Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!"  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity. *Refrain*

Let the heavens rejoice,  
and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein. *Refrain*

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with his truth. *Refrain*

**Sequence Hymn #132 v. 1, 2**

*(please stand as you are able)*

Of Eternal Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of eternal love begotten,  
ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega,  
he the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been,  
and that future years shall see,  
evermore and evermore.

At his Word the worlds were framed.  
He commanded, it was done:  
heaven and earth and depths of ocean,  
in their threefold order one;  
all that grows beneath the shining,  
of the moon and burning sun,  
evermore and evermore.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius; tr. John Mason Neale

## The Gospel

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.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*John 1:1-5, 10-14*

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

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

## Sequence Hymn #132 v. 3, 4

Of Eternal Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

This is he whom seers in old time  
chanted of with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets  
promised in their faithful word;  
now he shines, the long-expected;  
let creation praise its Lord,  
evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven adore him;  
angel hosts, his praises sing;  
all dominions bow before him,  
and extol our God and king;  
let no tongue on earth be silent,  
every voice in concert ring,  
evermore and evermore.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius; tr. John Mason Neale

**Homily** "We Forgive" – Stephen Drakeford

**Music for Reflection** *In Dulci Jubilo*

J.M. Bach

**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.**

**Prayers of the People**

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

Leader: For the Church and the world, let us pray to God here among us, as we say together in response:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*We pray for the Church*

Leader: That God's people may clothe themselves in the humility and kindness of Christ, who shares with us our human condition, let us pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*We pray for the World*

Leader: We pray for a world that needs peace in the midst of so many, and so severe, conflicts: that the world may hear again the angelic message of peace on earth, let us pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*We pray for this Community*

Leader: For our friends and neighbours, and for all whom we call brother and sister in Christ here at Christ Church Deer Park: that we may know with gratitude the grace of belonging, with our incarnate Lord, to the whole family of God; let us pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*We pray for those in need*

Leader: We pray for those who are alone at this time of year; for those in any need or distress; for those who have lost loved ones this year; and for the sick. We ask that in their dark hours they may, like the shepherds of Bethlehem, be surprised by God's gracious presence in unexpected places; together with them let us pray:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

*A Prayer Attributed to Robert Louis Stevenson*

Leader: Loving God, help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and worship of the wise men.  
Close the door of hate  
and open the door of love all over the world.  
Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,  
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.  
May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children,  
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,  
forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

**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

Priest: Friends, 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.

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## 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](mailto: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: *please see warden on duty*
- E-transfer to [donations@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto: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.

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### Offertory Hymn #139 v. 1, 2, 4, 6

The First Nowell

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*

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 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*

Text: English traditional  
Music: English trad.; arr. David Willcocks

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Presider: 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

**All: Amen.**

### **Celebrating the Eucharist**

*(please remain standing)*

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: May God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to God.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**All: It is right to offer 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.

Choir:	<i>Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.</i>	(Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.
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<i>Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.</i>	Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest)
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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

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Agnus Dei** from *La Messe de Minuit*

*(please be seated)*

M.A. Charpentier

Choir: *Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*  
*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*  
*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.*

(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.)

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# 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. (Please note the dipping of bread into the wine is no longer permitted in the Anglican Diocese of Toronto.)
  - **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 Motet

What Sweeter Music

John Rutter

Choir: What sweeter music can we bring  
Than a carol, for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string!

Dark and dull night, fly hence away,  
And give the honour to this day,  
That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn  
Smile, like a field beset with corn?  
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn,  
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see  
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:  
'Tis He is born, whose quickening birth  
Gives life and luster, public mirth,  
To heaven, and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours,  
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,  
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.  
The darling of the world is come,  
And fit it is, we find a room

To welcome him. The nobler part  
Of all the house here, is the heart.

Which we will give him; and bequeath  
This holly, and this ivy wreath,  
To do him honour, who's our King,  
And Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring,  
Than a carol for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?

Text: Robert Herrick

*During the communion solo, acolytes will come down the aisles to light the tapers.*

### **Communion Solo**

O Holy Night

A. Adam

Soloist: 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 soul rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees, O 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 a distant land.  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our Friend!  
He knows our need—our weakness is no stranger.  
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend!  
Behold your King, your King, before Him bend!

## Post-Communion Hymn #119

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.

Text: Joseph Mohr  
Music: Franz Gruber

## Prayer after Communion

*(please remain standing as you are able)*

Presider: Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

*Please extinguish your tapers.*

Presider: 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.**

## Blessing

Presider: May the news of the angels fill your life and your heart with great joy. 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.**

## Announcements

### 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*

Text: C. Wesley

Music: F. Mendelssohn; adapt. W. Cummings

**Dismissal**

*(please stand as you are able)*

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

Postlude on “Mendelssohn” (Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)

D. Willcocks

*Thank you for joining us tonight! Merry Christmas!*

## ***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  
Paul Kavanagh  
Margaret and John Ireton  
Innes and Felicia van Nostrand  
Margaret Hutchison  
Mary Kearns  
Mary Robertson  
Anne Larkin  
Joan and Tony Whittingham  
Bill Rhodes  
John Ireton  
Ted Ritcey  
Mary Alice and Sandy Stuart  
Joan and Harry Scott  
John Godfrey  
Mary Godfrey  
Jack Godfrey  
Stephen Godfrey  
Jorja Gorham  
Mark Pena  
Marjorie and Richard Overbury  
Ethel and John Beedell  
John Leslie Beedell  
Graeme and Dierdre Worley  
Margaret Stephen  
Sarah Crystal Morningstar (Drakeford)  
Eric Drakeford  
Esther and Bill Harshaw

## ***Assisting with the Liturgy***

Presider:  
Cathy Gibbs

Preacher:  
Stephen Drakeford

Director of Music:  
Stefani Bedin

Section Leads:  
Sonya Harper Nyby, Julia Barber  
Peter Warren, Lucas Kuipers

Crucifer:  
Bianca Mathews

Reader:  
Pat Butler

Prayers:  
Paul Gooch

Warden on Duty:  
Nick Strube

Sidesperson:  
Supipi Weerasooriya

Livestream Technician:  
Liam McIvor

Flower Arrangement:  
Mary van Straubenzee  
Karen Lenk  
Pat Butler  
Monica Peel

Vergers:  
Rikk Scapillato



## -----ANNOUNCEMENTS-----

### WORSHIP

**THE NEXT JAZZ VESPERS** are January 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm. All are welcome!

**SING WITH OUR CHOIR:** Have you rediscovered your love of singing this Christmas? Then consider joining CCDP's choir! The parish choir (currently 18 voices) meets for weekly rehearsal from September to June on Thursday evenings from 7:00pm-9:00pm, and at 9:45am on Sunday mornings in preparation for singing at the 10:30am service and other special events. Our first rehearsal of 2025 will be on January 9<sup>th</sup> and it's a great time to come and see what we do. If you are potentially interested in joining, please contact Stefani at [sbedin@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:sbedin@christchurchdeerpark.org)

### PASTORAL

**OFFICE HOURS:** The church office will be open on Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, but closed on all other days between Christmas and the New Year.

**PASTORAL CALLS:** An integral part of Christian community is to support one another through times of joy and celebration as well as times of grief and confusion. If you or someone you know may benefit from a call or visit from one of our clergy, please reach out to our congregational care team by email at [communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org).

### COMMUNITY BUILDING

**9:15AM POTLUCK:** Our potluck has been moved to Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>!

**10:30AM RETREAT:** On Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> we'll gather after the 10:30am service in Elliott Hall for a time of reflection, prayer, and a catered lunch. Please RSVP to Rev. Stephen at [sdrakeford@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:sdrakeford@christchurchdeerpark.org)

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

**CHURCHES ON THE HILL FOOD BANK:** Make a difference for a family: a \$30 donation to the Food Bank will help feed a family this Christmas. To make a financial donation you can give through CCDP making a note/memo that it's for the foodbank or go to [cothfoodbank.ca](http://cothfoodbank.ca) to make an online donation. Tax receipts will be provided in the New Year. (ps. The COTH Food Bank is always looking for volunteers, too! Their website has more information.)





## 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

**Wednesday, December 25**

10am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

**Saturday, December 28**

8am-9:30am Community Breakfast

**Sunday, December 29**

8:00am Holy Eucharist (BCP)

9:15am Contemporary Worship

10:30am Holy Eucharist (BAS)

*In person & Livestreamed*



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