

# Christ Church Deer Park

February 16, 2025  
The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany  
*Black History Month*  
**Holy Eucharist**  
**at 10:30 am**

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.



For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body ... and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

*1 Corinthians 12:12-13*

**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*  
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The Rev. Cathy Gibbs – *Adult Education*  
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Denis Delisle, Rikk Scapillato – *Lead Custodians*  
Carlos Lopez – *Custodial Team*

### **Lay Leadership**

*Rector's Warden* – Stephen Clark

*Deputy Warden* – Paul Kingston

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

*People's Warden* – Katherine MacDonald

*Treasurer* – Nick Strube

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

*Community Breakfast* – Carl Wehniainen, Lead

*Congregational Care Team* – Ann Atkins, Lead

*Prayer Circle* – Jan D'Angelo, Coordinator

*Small Groups* – The Rev. Cathy Gibbs

*Coffee Hour* – Sandra Geddes, Coordinator

*Chancel Guild* – Elsa Jones, Lead

*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

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*Choir* – Stefani Bedin

*Hospitality* – Jayne Miles Simpson, 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

**Note:** During the month of February, CCDP will be celebrating Black History Month through special prayers and testimonies, and also by highlighting music of Black composers.

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**Prelude**      “Melody in D” from 3 Short Pieces for Organ      Samuel Coleridge Taylor

Samuel Coleridge Taylor (1875-1912) was a composer and conductor of Sierra Leonean and British heritage. He studied with renowned English composer C.V. Stanford. Edward Elgar also helped him launch his career. During Coleridge Taylor’s life, his music was frequently performed and acclaimed, however, after his death much of his music went out of print and was largely forgotten. It is only in recent years that his music has started to regain attention, particularly because it brings together European Classical, African and West Indian musical traditions.

**Welcome & Gathering**      *(please note all hymn numbers are from Common Praise, the blue hymnal)*

**Processional Hymn #384 v. 1-3, 6**      *(please stand as you are able)*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty      LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
All ye who hear, brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:  
hast thou not seen how thy entreaties have been  
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:  
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the Amen sound from his people again:  
gladly for aye we adore him.

Words: J. Neander, tr. Catherine Winkworth  
Music: *Stralsund Gesangbuch*

## 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 *New Plainsong*

David Hurd

Throughout Epiphanytide we are singing selections from the *New Plainsong Mass*, which is by Dr. David Hurd (b. 1950), a noted professor of sacred music, organist and composer of African-American descent.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his  
peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly, King, Al - might - y,  
God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:  
re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: *New Plainsong*, David Hurd, © 1981, GIA Publications, Inc.

## The Collect of the Day

Presider: Almighty and everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ healed the sick and restored them to wholeness of life, look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your power make whole all peoples and nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives 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 Lesson

*(please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse - who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

*Jeremiah 17:5-10*

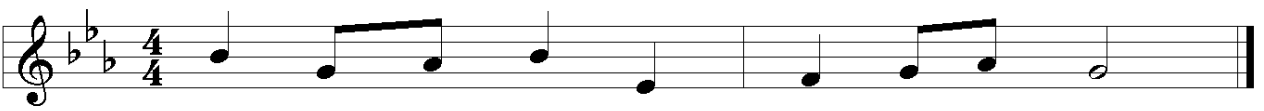
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 1

Gordon Johnston

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

Refrain:   
Hap - py are they who trust in the Lord.

Cantor: Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!  
Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on his law day and night. *Refrain*

They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.  
It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away. *Refrain*

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgement comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.  
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous  
but the way of the wicked is doomed. *Refrain*

## Gospel Acclamation #711

*(please stand as you are able)*

Alleluia

A. Gregory Murray

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

**All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Cantor: Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. *Luke 6:23*

**All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

## The Gospel

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.**

Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and

those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

*Luke 6:17-26*

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Homily** Pamela Rayment

### **Music for Reflection**

#### **The Apostle's 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)*

Leader: In peace we pray to you, O God, saying "Holy God," and answering with "hear our prayer."

For all people in their daily life and work. For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.

Holy God,

**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For this community of Christ Church Deer Park, that you would direct us, bless us, and embolden us to proclaim your good news.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For our country, in all its divisions and harmonies.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For our world, a place of such strife but also such beauty.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all who have been oppressed for the colour of their skin or their country of origin, that they would know freedom from discrimination.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all who have oppressed others for the colour of their skin or their country of origin—may you open their eyes to know the unity you call us to in Jesus Christ.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the creativity and joyfulness you showed in creating us, all different but all one through you.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For your creation, that we may use it properly and justly, as you intended.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble. For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, or the destitute.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: For our own needs and those of others.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

Leader: We thank you, loving God, for all the blessings of this life. We thank you for the richness that the heritage of our Black brothers and sisters brings to our world.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer.**



Leader: We thank you for your promise to never leave us. We thank you for knowing each of our names, and for bringing us together in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.  
Holy God,  
**All: hear our prayer. Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution** *(please continue to stand, kneel, or sit as you are able)*

Presider: Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
he welcomes sinners  
and invites them to his table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept*

Presider: Most merciful God,  
**All: we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *(please remain standing)*

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.*

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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 #293

Your Hands, O Lord, in Days of Old

ST. MICHAEL'S

Your hands, O Lord, in days of old  
were strong to heal and save;  
they triumphed over pain and death,  
o'er darkness and the grave.  
To you they went, the blind, the mute,  
the palsied and the lame,  
the leper set apart and shunned,  
the sick and those in shame.

And then your touch brought life and health,  
gave speech and strength and sight;  
and youth renewed, with health restored,  
claimed you, the Lord of light.  
And so, O Lord, be near to bless,  
almighty now as then,  
in every street, in every home,  
in every troubled friend.

O be our mighty healer still,  
O Lord of life and death;

restore and strengthen, soothe and bless  
with your almighty breath.  
On hands that work and eyes that see,  
your healing wisdom pour,  
that whole and sick and weak and strong  
may praise you evermore.

Text: Edward H. Plumptre  
Music: Attr. Franz Joseph Haydn

### Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Eternal God, you are the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers, receive all we offer you this day; turn our sickness into health and our sorrow into joy. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

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, Creator of all.

All: **It is right to give God 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 *New Plainsong*

David Hurd





Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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 children; 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

John Merbecke

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

**All:**

Our\_ Fa-ther, who art in heav-en, hal-low-ed be thy name, thy king-dom come,  
 thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav-en. Give us this day our dai-ly bread.  
 And for-give us our tres-pass-es, as we for-give them that tres-pass a-gainst us.  
 And lead us not in - to temp-ta-tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.  
 For thine is the king-dom, the pow-er, and the glo-ry, for-ev - er and ev-er. A - men.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider: "I am the bread of life," says the Lord.  
 "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;  
 whoever believes in me will never thirst."

**All: Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who trust in him.**

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*(please be seated)*

John Stainer

**Agnus Dei**

Choir: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy 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.
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## Communion Motet

Teach Me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes,  
and I will keep them unto the end.

Psalm 119, v.33

## Communion Hymn

Slaves sometimes used spirituals as a code for transmitting messages to each other. "Let Us Break Bread Together" was a code for a meeting, and a signal communicating an intent to escape when travelling through the Underground Railroad.

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

Let us break bread together on our knees;  
Let us break bread together on our knees;  
When I fall on my knees;  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees;  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees;  
When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Text and Music: African-American Traditional

### **Prayer after Communion**

*(please stand as you are able)*

Presider: God of tender care, in this eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. May we show your love in our lives and know its fulfilment in your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

**All: Amen.**

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: Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem,  
so God sends you into the world this day  
to be light and love, healing and hope.  
Go now to be light for the world!

And may the grace and peace of God the Creator,  
the Redeemer, and the Sustainer  
come upon you this day  
and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

### **Announcements**

### **Closing Hymn**

"Lift Every Voice and Sing," sometimes referred to as the "Black National Anthem," was written by James W. Johnson, an African-American writer and civil rights activist. His brother, John R. Johnson, then set it to music. It was first performed on February 12, 1900 at a commemoration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday held at the Jacksonville, Florida middle-school where James Johnson was principal. The song was published, was used as a rallying cry during the civil rights movement, and has since been performed at numerous gatherings and major public events, having especially gained prominence in 2020 after the death of George Floyd. Rich with biblical imagery, the hymn appears in numerous hymnals of various denominations and James Weldon Johnson is commemorated on the US Episcopal Church's calendar.



Lift ev - ery voice and sing  
God of our wea - ry years,

till earth and heav - en ring,  
God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Let our re - joic - ing rise  
thou who hast by thy hast might

high as the lis - tening skies;  
led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us.  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for get thee;

Fac - ing the ris - ing sun  
shad - owed be - neath thy hand



of our new day be - gun,  
may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James Weldon Johnson  
Music: John Rosamond Johnson

## Dismissal

*(please stand as you are able)*

Presider: Go in peace to serve God and each other.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Postlude

Dr. André J. Thomas (b. 1952) is an African-American choral composer and educator well-known for his arrangement of spirituals. "Joshua Fit The Battle," ("fit" being a dialect word for "fought") is based on the biblical story of how the walls of Jericho fell after the Israelites marched around them for seven days. The tune was likely composed in the early nineteenth century. For enslaved peoples the lyrics "and the walls came tumbling down" may have alluded to the hope for freedom.

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

André J. Thomas  
based on an African-American Spiritual,  
arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

*Please join us in Elliott Hall for coffee hour!*

***Assisting with the Liturgy***

Presider:  
Cathy Gibbs

Preacher:  
Pamela Rayment

Director of Music:  
Stefani Bedin

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

Reader:  
Winnie Tang

Prayers:  
Nigel Johnson

Warden on Duty:  
Elsa Jones

Sidesperson:  
Anne Welch

Livestream Technician:  
Liam McIvor

Vergers:  
Rikk Scapillato

## ----ANNOUNCEMENTS----

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GUEST PREACHERS & CELEBRANTS:** Rev. Stephen is staying on as interim-priest-in-charge until the new Incumbent begins. However, Rev. Stephen is away from February 12-March 11. In the meantime, the very wonderful Rev. Cathy Gibbs will be taking on extra duties. To support her we will welcome several guest preachers and guest celebrants:

- **Today** we welcome The Rev. Pamela Rayment, Associate Rector of St. Clement's, as our preacher.
- On **March 2<sup>nd</sup>** we will welcome one of our own to preach, Dr. Paul Gooch, who has long been a professor in the Philosophy Department at the University of Toronto.
- And, on **March 9<sup>th</sup>** we will welcome The Rev. Tim Vickery as preacher, who serves as Honorary Assistant at Epiphany & St. Mark's in Parkdale.
- On **Wednesdays** at our midweek services, Mr. Nigel Johnson and Ms. Bianca Mathews will lead us in BCP Morning Prayer with reserve sacrament on February 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>.

While Rev. Stephen is away, any concerns should be directed to Rev. Cathy ([cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org)) and Amanda, Director of Parish Operations ([ajagt@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:ajagt@christchurchdeerpark.org)). If necessary, they will be in touch with Rev. Stephen.

### **STAFFING & LEADERSHIP CHANGES:**

- It is with real regret we accept Amanda Jagt's resignation as our very able Director of Parish Operations. She is a joy to work with, greets everyone warmly and keeps a multiplicity of things humming smoothly. We will indeed miss her. She will remain with us until after Vestry (March 16<sup>th</sup>) and then she will take her new position as Parish Executive Administrator at St. Clement's. Sad for us at CCDP but very happy for Amanda. God bless you, Amanda! (Amanda's position is being reshaped. The wardens and priest-in-charge would welcome recommendations and applications for the position.)
- We announce the resignation of Su Laine Varkey as CCDP's People's Warden. Thank you, Su, for your service as People's Warden the past two years. We are fortunate and grateful that Katherine MacDonald, as duly elected Deputy People's Warden at Vestry on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, has stepped into the People's Warden position. Thank you, Katherine.

**VESTRY!** Our annual Vestry meeting will be on Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30am service (starting around noon, with lunch provided). If you consider CCDP your church home, you are

encouraged to attend, as we will discuss the year that has passed and the year that is to come!

**FUNERALS: JOHN SYMONS**—Many of us knew John, who with his wife Maggie were long-time and faithful parishioners at CCDP until this past summer, when they moved from Toronto to be closer to their family. John peacefully passed away in early January, and his memorial service will be held at CCDP on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. All are welcome to attend.

## **WORSHIP**

**JAZZ VESPERS:** Our next service is on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30pm. All are welcome!

**SERVICE CELEBRATES BLACK HERITAGE OF THE CHURCH:** The first service celebrating the Black heritage of the Church in the Diocese of Toronto was held on Feb. 25, 1996, at St. James Cathedral. To mark the 30th anniversary of this event, the cathedral is inviting Anglicans across the Diocese to a Eucharistic celebration of the life and ministry of Black Anglicans in the Diocese on Feb. 23 at 4:30 p.m. The preacher will be the Rev. Canon Dr. Stephen Fields.

**BLACK HERITAGE AT CHRIST CHURCH DEER PARK:** After consultation with some members of our community of African Heritage, we have decided to honour the contributions of Black Christians in February by:

1. Worshipping using musical selections from the Black Community. Our music director will include notes about tunes, settings, lyrics and styles when that is appropriate.
2. Being mindful of Black History Month in our prayers
3. Brief, weekly testimonies about being Black and Christian.

**CHURCH ON TAP** is on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Join us for an evening of worship and fellowship over beer and snacks! Our guest presider and preacher this month will be The Rev. Gerlyn Henry, who is currently the rector at Church of the Holy Wisdom.

**BRING LAST YEAR'S PALMS TO CHURCH:** On the Sundays from now through March 2<sup>nd</sup>, you are invited to bring your palms from last year's Palm Sunday to the church. We'll have a basket at the back of the sanctuary where you can leave your palms, and after the 10:30am service on March 2<sup>nd</sup> we will have a small liturgy in which we'll burn the palms to make ashes in preparation for Ash Wednesday on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Lent, one of the holiest seasons of the church, approaches. It begins with Ash Wednesday, when we remember our mortality, our complete dependence on God, and

when with penitence we begin the long walk with Jesus to Good Friday—and Easter. Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, with services at 12pm and 7pm. Rev. Cathy preaches. Please join us.

## **PASTORAL**

**PASTORAL CALLS:** An integral part of Christian community is to support one another through times of joy and celebration and also 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).

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE DRIVERS NEEDED:** We are very much in need of 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; any commitment would be very helpful! Please contact Ann Atkins at [communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:communitycare@christchurchdeerpark.org)

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**LITTLE LENTEN LUNCHEES WITH LUKE!** Beginning on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> after our midweek Eucharistic services, Rev. Stephen will host a 30-minute Bible Study on passages from the Gospel of Luke. Bring a bagged lunch for yourself, your bible, a pen and notebook and your questions. Eucharist begins at 11 am in the chapel and Bible Study at 11:30 in the Arthur Smith Room.

1. March 12<sup>th</sup>, Luke 15: 11-32 'The Parable of the Prodigal'
2. March 19<sup>th</sup>, Luke 16: 19-31 'The Parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus'
3. March 26<sup>th</sup>, Luke 18: 1-14 'The Parables of the Widow, the Judge, the Pharisee and the Tax Collector.'
4. April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Luke 19: 11-27 'The Parable of the Ten Pounds'
5. April 9<sup>th</sup>, Luke 19:28- 47 'The Triumphal Entry and Beyond'
6. April 16<sup>th</sup> Luke 23: 26-49 'The Death of Jesus'

**SEEING JESUS THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS:** Jesus is the focus of our Lenten Study. Using Amy Jill Levine's work, we will explore the difficult words of Jesus. And, during Holy Week, we will also look at the ways in which Jesus is portrayed in film.

### **The Difficult Words of Jesus (Amy Jill Levine)**

Dates: March 9, 23, 30, April 6 & 13

Time: 12:00pm-1:30pm (following the 10:30am service)

Location: Arthur Smith Room

RSVP: Send an email to Cathy at [cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org](mailto:cgibbs@christchurchdeerpark.org)

## **Jesus in Film**

For Holy Week, we invite the congregation to join us for a series of reflections at 7 pm for 1 hour. Come for them all or one or two.

April 13: Palm Sunday Evening, Passion Sunday, 7pm  
The Way of the Cross, Stations, Prayer and Meditation.  
*In the Church*

April 14: Monday of Holy Week, 7 pm  
Jesus on Film: The Triumphal Entry  
*Elliott Hall*

April 15: Tuesday of Holy Week, 7 pm  
Jesus on Film: The Last Supper  
*Elliott Hall*

April 16: Wednesday of Holy Week, 7 pm  
Jesus on Film: Jesus Before Pilate  
*Elliott Hall*

On Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, all are invited to our worship services, the details of which will be posted closer to April.

## **COMMUNITY BUILDING**

**PANCAKE SUPPER & MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION!** Join us for pancakes and fun as we have one last hurrah before Lent begins. Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 5:30pm, dinner is served from 6-7pm. Cost is \$8/person or \$25/family of 4. This year is also special in that we will be welcoming the St. Clement's community to celebrate with us while their kitchen is undergoing renovations. So please join us and, if you are available, sign up in Elliott Hall to help out! All are welcome!

**CCDP WALKING GROUP—A SPIRITUAL WALK TO THE TORONTO ISLANDS:** On March 22nd, we welcome interim priest Stephen Drakeford's return from his vacation with a repeat walking tour of the Toronto Islands. He and Brad Lennon will be leading our visit there and to the historic St. Andrew's-by-the-Lake Anglican Church located on Centre Island. We can either depart from the church office doors at 9:45 AM to take the TTC together to Union Station. Or you can meet up with us inside the heated waiting area of Jack Layton Ferry Terminal at the foot of Bay Street at 10:15AM to take the 10:30 AM Ferry to Ward's Island. Ferry tickets can be



purchased when you arrive or online. Ferry return fares: \$9.11 adult, \$5.86 student/senior. We will catch the 2:15 or 2:45 pm ferry to be back in the city by 3:00 pm. Bring a lunch, which we will eat at St. Andrew's Church, snacks, water, a hot beverage, and icers/microspikes if it is still icy on the road surfaces. Dress in warm layers appropriate to the weather. We will hike towards Hanlan's Point and return to Ward's Island (the only ferry destination served in the Winter) - approximately 5-6 km each way. Please let Brad know if you intend to join.

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**CLIMATE ACTION GROUP:** Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) levels in the Earth's atmosphere have reached levels not seen for millions of years, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) declared in 2022. The last time CO<sub>2</sub> levels were this high, more than four million years ago, sea levels were somewhere between five and 25 metres (16-82 feet) higher than they are now, the agency adds. There's enough glacial ice in Greenland alone to raise sea levels about twenty-five feet. Greenland lost a record 12.5 billion tons of ice in just one day in August 2019.

**TRUTH & RECONCILIATION WORKING GROUP:** For Neskantaga First Nation, 436 kilometers northeast of Thunder Bay, Feb 1st was the 30th year of a boil water advisory. Imagine we have Canadians living in places where they can not drink their water. The history of trying to get the old water plant to work is long, convoluted and expensive but the outcome is still the same. There's a lot of frustration that the Ford government prioritizes spending lots of money on roads for mining companies but not for water for people to drink. In Canada at the moment, 31 Indigenous reserves are under long-term drinking water advisories; but there is some good news: as of Nov 2024, 147 "boil water advisories" have been lifted since 2015. Sources: <https://canadiangeographic.ca/articles/thirty-years-of-neskantaga-first-nations-boil-water-advisory/>, APTN news, Government of Canada website on Ending long term water advisories: <https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1506514143353/1533317130660>

## **FUNDRAISING**

**RUMMAGE INTAKE:** Beginning Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, we will begin accepting donations for our Spring Rummage Sale. Please bring your new or gently used donations of clothing, footwear, and accessories (jewellery, hats, scarves, gloves, purses, etc.) to the Atrium doors on Saturdays between 11am-2pm. And, of course, come to the church on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm for our Spring Rummage Sale! This is one of our three main fundraising events each year, so the more you shop the more money we raise for our ministry (it's a win-win!). Interested in volunteering? Please speak to Mary or Jayne on a Sunday.

## 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, February 19**  
11am Morning Prayer

**Thursday, February 20**  
10:00am Daily Prayer

**Saturday, February 22**  
8-9:30am Community Breakfast

**Sunday, February 23**  
8:00am Holy Eucharist (BCP)  
9:15am Contemporary Worship

10:30am Holy Eucharist (BAS)  
*In person & Livestreamed*

4:30pm Jazz Vespers



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