

WELCOME TO  
YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 22, 2024  
FESTIVAL OF  
NINE LESSONS  
AND CAROLS



**Sunday, December 22nd, 2024, 4:30 p.m.**

**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

\*All who are able are invited to stand

**Carillon Prelude** - The First Nowell

**Naoko Tsujita, Carillonneur**

**Preludes** - Es ist ein ros' entsprungen  
Choral orné: Rorate coeli de super

*Johannes Brahms  
Jeanne Demessieux*

**\*Processional Hymn 81** - Once in royal David's city  
vs. 1 soloist; vs. 2 Choir; vs. 3 Congregation stands to join Choir

*Irby*

**The Bidding Prayer**

**The Rev. Paula Willis**

**The Lord's Prayer** (sung Amen)

***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, forever and ever. Amen.***

**First Lesson (Genesis 3: 8-15)**

**The Rev. Dr. Will Ingram**  
Minister, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

**Choir** - Adam lay y bounden

*Boris Ord*

**Second Lesson (Genesis 22: 15-18)**

**The Rev. Dr. Deborah Hart**  
Minister, Deer Park United Church

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

**\*Congregational Hymn 45** - O come, o come, Emmanuel

*Veni Emmanuel*

**Third Lesson (Isaiah 9:2, 6-7)**

**Pastor Peter Noteboom**  
General Secretary, Canadian Council of Churches

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

**Choir** - Christmas song of the 14th century

*Healey Willan*

**Fourth Lesson (Micah 5: 2-4)**

**Captain Erin Metcalf**  
Salvation Army North Toronto Community Church

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.*

**\*Hymn 79** - O little town of Bethlehem

*Forest Green*

**Fifth Lesson (Luke 1: 26-35, 38)**

**Father John Boutros**  
Pastor, St. Moses and St. Catherine Coptic Orthodox Church

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

**Choir** - Myn lyking

*R. R. Terry*

**Sixth Lesson (Luke 2: 1-7)**

**Protopresbyter Father Peter J. Avgeropoulos**  
Annunciation of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Cathedral

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

**Choir** - Past three o'clock

*Charles Wood*

**Seventh Lesson (Luke 2: 8-16)**

**The Venerable Cheryl Palmer**  
Anglican Diocese of Toronto

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

**Choir** - Make we joy

*William Walton*

**Eighth Lesson (Matthew 2: 1-11)**

**The Rev. Dr. Luis Melo**  
Office for Promoting Christian Unity  
and Religious Relations with Judaism,  
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

**Choir** - Bethlehem down

*Peter Warlock*

***(The congregation stands for the Ninth Lesson)***

**\*Ninth Lesson (John 1:1-14)**

**The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes**

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

**\*Hymn 66** - Hark! The herald angels sing

*Mendelssohn*

**Announcements**

**The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes**

**During the Offering** - In dulci, jubilo

*Flor Peeters*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**The Rev. Paula Willis**

**\*Recessional Hymn 83** - See amidst the winter's snow

*Humility*

**\*Benediction**

**The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes**

**\*Choral Amen** - Maddox in G

**Postlude** - Toccata (Symphony V)

*Charles-Marie Widor*

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**Jessica Willingham, Emily Lapin, Loren Graziano, sopranos**  
**Margaret Terry, Cassandra Amorim, altos**  
**Adam Wicks, Ronald Tapawan, tenors**  
**Stephen King, Joseph Ernst, basses**

**Sharon L. Beckstead, Associate Musician**

**The CITY CAROL SING will be broadcast in Toronto on CITY TV  
on Christmas Eve at 11 p.m. and Christmas Day at 11 p.m.**

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Welcome to A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS, which follows closely the great tradition established at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England in 1918.

Throughout 2024, the Toronto Council of Churches in partnership with the Toronto Archdiocese of the Roman Catholic Church has been marking the 60th anniversary of the modern ecumenical movement by highlighting a service in a church of a different denomination each month. Yorkminster Park Baptist Church is honoured that this service was chosen for the month of December to mark this important ecumenical milestone. We are grateful to our readers who represent a number of traditions of the Christian faith. We welcome them and all who have come as ecumenical visitors on this important occasion.

It is our hope that visitors will feel welcome and at home in our church, and aided in their spiritual search and devotion through the worship which we offer unto God. As well as providing weekly services of worship and prayer, the ministry of our church includes educational programs and Bible studies, recitals and concerts, pastoral services, children's programs, youth ministries, Meals on Wheels delivered five days a week, and meals for the homeless through our Out of the Cold program.

For more information on any of these programs, please complete one of the visitor's cards in the pew and place it on the offering plate. Offerings received this evening will support the ongoing ministries of our church. Income tax receipts will be given for all donations of \$20 or more.

We wish one and all a very **Merry Christmas!**



# CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

**THESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 11:00 P.M.**

This beautiful service with the choir concludes with sharing the flame from the Christ candle a few minutes after midnight.

The legendary actor, R.H. Thomson, will be our reader.



# WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

**NEW YEAR'S EVE  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 11:15 P.M.**

The Watchnight Service provides the opportunity to review the year that has passed, make confession and prepare for the year ahead by making new commitments.

The service ends shortly after midnight.

## CELEBRATE WITH US

# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

*at Yorkminster Park*

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**Sunday, December 22**  
**Advent IV**

**11:00 a.m. Worship Service**  
Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes  
preaching / Family Christmas  
Sunday Service

**4:30 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons  
and Carols**

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**Tuesday, December 24**  
**Christmas Eve**

**4:00 p.m. Bethlehem on Yonge**  
The Christmas Story  
re-enacted in the park

**11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service**  
With guest reader  
RH Thomson

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**Wednesday, December 25**  
**Christmas Day**

**11:00 a.m. Worship Service**  
Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes  
preaching  
Sacrament of Communion

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**Tuesday, December 31**  
**New Years Eve**

**11:15 p.m. Watchnight Service**  
Rev. Paula Willis preaching

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BUNDLE UP FOR  
**Bethlehem**  
**on** Tuesday December 24  
4:00 p.m.  
**Yonge**

**The Christmas Story  
re-enacted in the park!**

Carol Singing, Cookies and  
Hot Chocolate in Cameron Hall.

**Dress warmly!**



BELONGING **TO CHRIST**

**YPBC WOMEN'S RETREAT**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**



**FACILITATOR: Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis**  
**REGISTRATION FEE: \$55**

Registration forms are available on tables in the YPBC Centre Hall and Narthex, or register online by visiting Eventbrite at [bit.ly/4fOPViW](https://bit.ly/4fOPViW)





Thank you to everyone who has continued to keep our church family in your prayers and to all who have responded to the end of the year financial challenge we face.

December is a key month for giving at Yorkminster Park, but the Postal Strike has made it more challenging to reach our entire congregation and difficult for some to have their offering delivered to the church. The Christmas letter we normally mail to the congregation with an envelope for a special offering was inserted in the calendar Sunday, December 8th. If you did not receive one, there are additional copies available at the church on tables in the Narthex and centre hall. You can view the letter at [yorkminsterpark.com](http://yorkminsterpark.com) > [Peter's Blog](#).

**For those wishing to drop donations off at the church on a weekday, please be aware the church office will be open on December 19, 20, 23, 30 and 31 from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m.**

You can also make a donation by placing it on the offering plate on Sunday, donate online by visit [yorkminsterpark.com](http://yorkminsterpark.com) or scan the QR code to the right which will take you directly to Yorkminster Park's online donation page, or use a credit card by contacting our [Director of Operations](#).



Scan QR Code

Go into all the world  
and preach  
the Good News  
to everyone.

**YPBC NEWS NOW AVAILABLE**  
Get your copy [online](#) or tables in the Narthex and centre hall.

# We are delighted to have you worshipping with us!

Thank you for joining us in person and online via our webcasts.

**Stay Connected:** Please [share your email address](#) to receive emails about life at Yorkminster Park and to notify you of any special upcoming services and events. Your information is confidential and will not be shared with others.

**Accessibility:** Large-print Bibles and calendars, hearing assistance and a limited number of wheelchairs are available upon request. If you require assistance, please ask an usher.

## Offerings and Gifts

There are a number of ways to make offerings or gifts to the church.

**In Person:** Place your gifts in the collection plate during services or events.

**By Mail:** Send your offering to the church by mail (please send cheques, if possible).

**PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance):** Regular monthly offering directly from your bank.

**Online:** Visit [yorkminsterpark.com](http://yorkminsterpark.com) > Give Tap to Give using our TipTap display *OR*

**Use the camera on your phone to scan the QR Code:**

It will take you directly to our Canada Helps page. ▶



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## Indigenous Land Acknowledgment

*In the prayerful hope of true reconciliation and healing, we acknowledge the land we are meeting on has been the site of human activity for over 15,000 years. This land is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to live, work and worship on this land.*

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### The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Minister of the Congregation

#### The Rev. Paula Willis

Minister of Pastoral Care  
and Discipleship

#### Mr. William Maddox

BMus, FTCL, FCAM  
Organist and Director of Music

#### Ms. Heather Mackey

Director of  
Family Ministries

#### The Rev. John Torrance

Minister Emeritus,  
Pastoral Care



## **Nine Lessons and Carols Hymns – December 22 2024**

### **Hymn 81 - Once in royal David's city**

1 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.

2 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.

\* 3 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.

\* 4 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.

5 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.

6 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.

**Hymn 79 - O little town of Bethlehem,**

- 1 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.
- 2 O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.
- 3 How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
so God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his 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.
- 4 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.

**Hymn 66** – Hark! The herald angels sing

1 Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies ;  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

*Hark, the herald angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

2 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 man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

3 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 man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.

**Hymn 83** – See, amid the winter's snow

1 See, amid the winter's snow,  
born for us on earth below,  
see, the Lamb of God appears,  
promised from eternal years!

*Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn!*  
*Hail, redemption's happy dawn!*  
*Sing through all Jerusalem:*  
*Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

2 Lo, within a manger lies  
he who built the starry skies,  
he who, throned in height sublime,  
sits amid the cherubim!

\* 3 Say, ye holy shepherds, say,  
what your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep?

\* 4 'As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels, singing "Peace on earth,"  
told us of a Saviour's birth.'

5 Sacred Infant, all divine,  
what a tender love was thine,  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this!