

DECEMBER 15, 2013

ADVENT III



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# Yorkminster Park

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## BAPTIST CHURCH

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**The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes**  
*Minister of the Congregation*

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The Rev. Dale Rose  
Minister of Pastoral Care

Mr. William Maddox B.Mus, FTCL  
Organist and Director of Music

Mrs. Cathy Newman RN BScN  
Parish Nurse

The Rev. Sam Lee  
Minister of Youth

Mrs. Miriam Little  
Director of Children's Ministries

The Rev. Dr. William A. Sturgess  
Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care

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**MORNING WORSHIP – DECEMBER 15, 2013 - ADVENT III**

*The service of worship begins with the music of the preludes*

**Preludes** Noël (Esquisses Byzantines)  
Hymnus

*Henri Mulet  
Nicolas-Jacques Lemmens*

**Processional Hymn 89 – Angels from the realms of glory** (Regent Square 377)

**Responsive Call to Worship** (Isaiah 35:1-10) **Rev. Sam Lee & Luke**

Minister: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus.

*Youth: It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.*

**People: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.**

*Youth: Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."*

**People: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;**

*Youth: Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;*

**People: The burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.**

*Youth: A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.*

**People: No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.**

Minister: And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Let us worship God!

**Introit – (congregation seated) Thou shalt know Him**

*Mark Sirett*

Thou shalt know Him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor his manners, nor his airs, nor by anything he wears. Thou shalt know Him when he comes, not by his crown or by his gown; but his coming known shall be, by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee. Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

**Lighting of the Advent Candle of Joy**

**Karen Letsche-Biemiller, Matthew Biemiller,  
Bryn, Hannah and Calen**

**Invocation and Lord's Prayer** (*sung Amen*)

**Rev. Sam Lee**

(Please see inside front cover of the hymn book.)

**Hymn 92 – Child in a manger** (Bunessan)

**Prayer with the Children & Children's Atlas**

**Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes & Vaughn**

**Announcements**

**Scripture** James 5:7-10 (NT p.249)  
Matthew 11:2-11 (NT p.11)

**Julia**

**Pastoral Prayer** (*seated*)

**Rev. Dale Rose & Sabrina**

**Choral Response** - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Amen. *G. Thalben Ball*

**Offering** - *For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)*

**Anthem – O Thou, that tellest good tidings to Zion** G. F. Handel

Oh Thou that tellest good tidings to Zion  
Get thee up to the high mountains  
Arise, shine, for Thy light is come.  
And the glory of the Lord, Is Risen upon Thee.

**Margaret Terry**, mezzo soprano

**Doxology** Hymn 766

**Hymn \*SHB 80 – People, look east** (Besancon)

**Sermon –**

**READY FOR CHRISTMAS? GREAT EXPECTATIONS** Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

**Hymn 78 – Come, Thou long expected Jesus** (Hyfrydol 173)

**Benediction**

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

**Choral Amen** (Maddox in the Dorian mode)

**Postlude** Fugue in G (The 'Gigue'), BWV 577

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

*The Memorial Bells will peal for five minutes following the Postlude.*

*\*SHB - Supplementary Hymn Book "Sing to God's Glory"*

*Soloists: **Jessica Willingham**, soprano; **Dawn King**, soprano;*

***Margaret Terry**, mezzo soprano;*

***Martin Houtman**, tenor; **Stephen King**, baritone.*

***Christel Wiens**, Associate Musician*

# CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 4:30PM

A traditional candlelight choral presentation featuring choirs and musicians of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Doors open at 3:30pm.

Child care for children 5 years and under.



Broadcast on CTS Ontario:  
Tuesday December 24th  
11:00pm-Midnight  
Wednesday December 25th  
2:30pm-3:30pm;  
Friday December 27th  
11:00pm-Midnight  
*Please note that there will be  
no 7pm evening service  
on December 15.*

## **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

*The poinsettias in the Sanctuary are placed to the glory of God by the  
**YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH WOMEN**  
to celebrate the advent of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

**2014 offering envelopes are in the Centre Hall today. Please pick up your set.**

**The 2014 YP Women's Envelopes are in the Centre Hall.**

## **2013 Donations**

All donations to be receipted for 2013 must be received by December 31, 2013. This means that they must be either on the offering plate on December 30 or hand-delivered to the church/finance office or postmarked on or before December 31, 2013.

ANGELS, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

2 Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant-light:

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great desire of nations;  
Ye have seen His natal star:

4 Saints, before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord descending  
In His temple shall appear:


CHILD in the manger,  
 Infant of Mary;  
 Outcast and stranger,  
 Lord of all;  
 Child who inherits  
 All our transgressions,  
 All our demerits  
 On Him fall.

2 Once the most holy  
 Child of salvation  
 Gently and lowly  
 Lived below;  
 Now as our glorious  
 Mighty Redeemer,  
 See Him victorious  
 O'er each foe.

3 Prophets foretold Him,  
 Infant of wonder;  
 Angels behold Him  
 On His throne;  
 Worthy our Saviour  
 Of all their praises;  
 Happy for ever  
 Are His own.

*Mary Macdonald, 1789–1872,  
 tr. Lachlan Macbean, 1853–1931.*

## 80

1. People, look East, the time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house glad as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look East and sing today,  
Love the guest is on the way.
2. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as moon and stars together.  
People, look East and sing today,  
Love the star is on the way.
3. Angels, announce  to man and beast  
He who cometh from the East,  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look East and sing today,  
Love the Lord is on the way.

## 78

COME, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.

- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.
- 3 Born Thy people to deliver;  
Born a child, and yet a King;  
Born to reign in us for ever;  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4 By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone:  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Doug Purdon "Christmas Eve" Christmas Cards are available from the YP Women for \$15 per box. One option is blank and the other option has a Christmas greeting inside. Please contact the Church Office if you would like more information.

## VISITORS

*Whatever your religious background, and however you have come to be with us, we welcome you to Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. We hope that you will feel comforted and fulfilled, and that you will be strengthened to meet the challenges of your daily lives. Please fill out the Welcome card you find in the pew. Place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister.*

- City Parking at Alvin Ave. (one street east of Yonge & St. Clair) provides free parking Sunday morning until 12:45 pm. Have your ticket stamped in the Narthex.
- The morning service is webcast live and archived on our website.
- All morning and evening worship services are recorded on CDs, which may be obtained from the Audio Desk in the Narthex.
- Hearing assistance available. Please speak with our volunteer at the Narthex Information table.
- A limited number of large-print Bibles and calendars are available for use in worship on the Narthex information table. If you would like one, please ask an usher.
- Please find our quarterly newsletter on the Centre Hall, Narthex and South tables.
- **For children:** Nursery for newborn to 2 years old from 10:50 am and classes for toddlers to grade 5 after the Children's Prayer.
- Following each morning worship service, we serve coffee and refreshments in the Narthex, reached through the Sanctuary. We invite you to participate with us.
- If you have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other need we can respond to, please speak with the one of the ministers after the service or call the Church Office, 416-922-1167. And if you wish to know more about Yorkminster Park Baptist Church or to be included on our mailing list, please fill out the card you will find in the pew and give it to an usher or mail it to us.
- Downstairs in the lower level, there are bulletin boards where we hang some church-related and community-related events. Next time you are in the lower level, take a moment and browse all of the events that are happening in our community.

## PRAYERS

Immediately following the morning worship service, **Prayers for Healing and Blessing** will be offered in the Centennial Chapel, which is located in the south transept beneath the south balcony, for all who wish a lay leader to pray with them. If you (or someone you know) are going through a difficult time, members of the Pastoral Care Committee are present in the Chapel to offer PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND BLESSING each Sunday, following the morning worship service. Your prayers are confidential unless you request they be shared with our Pastoral Care staff. You may also submit a request for prayer on the Welcome card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister.

**Prayers in the Chapel.** Each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m., you are invited to join the Ministerial Staff as prayers are lifted to God for individuals, groups, ministry and mission organizations affiliated with Yorkminster Park. If you have a prayer request, please contact Rev. Dale Rose at 416-922- 1240. A printed Prayer List is provided, and available upon request. "But with prayer, that blessed medicine, we are sustained."

The Sanctuary is open for prayer and meditation on  
Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 3pm and Wednesday 10am to 12:30pm.



**YOUTH and YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**  
**slee@yorkminsterpark.com**

Sunday Morning Schedule for Youth Group  
 10:00am - Youth Bible Study in Youth Zone Room 508  
 11:00am - Youth in Service  
 11:15am - Youth go to Cameron Hall for Doxa after  
 the Children's Moment

The 3rd Sunday of the month is  
 Serve Sunday where youth are  
 encouraged to use their gifts to  
 serve the church. Please speak  
 with Sam for details.

**ART GALLERY**  
**WATER + STONE – Kawartha Paintings**  
 By Randall Speller

An exhibition of new landscape paintings by Randall Speller at the Yorkminster Park Gallery in Toronto. Focusing on his most recent work, the exhibition continues Randall's exploration of the landscape in the Kawartha region of Ontario.

The exhibition will continue until Sunday **December 22**. We look forward to seeing you.

**THANK YOU**

A big "Thank You" to all the members of the congregation who made this year's Christmas Cake Sale an outstanding success. Our cakes for 2013 were sold out last Sunday.

The proceeds from this sale will be forwarded to the House of Compassion.

*Yorkminster Baking Group*

**"In Our Own Backyard" Mission Project**



If you were here last Sunday, on December 8<sup>th</sup> you will have seen the incredible number of gifts that were brought to share with people with needs in our city. Thank you for your generosity in helping Youth Unlimited as they help families in Shoreham Court. Thank you for the abundance of white gifts that went to Yonge Street Mission for their outreach ministries. And thank you for the generous gifts brought to give to our Out of the Cold visitors! Your generosity is a blessing to many.

**THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday**

12:30pm Prime Timers, Friendship Room  
 7:00pm Board of Mission, Youth Zone Room 508  
 7:00pm "Welcome Christmas" Orpheus Choir Concert, Sanctuary

**Wednesday**

12:30pm Noonday Organ Recital – Karen Rymal

**Thursday**

5:30pm Health and Wellness Group, Friendship Room  
 7:30pm Senior Choir Rehearsal, Cameron Hall

**Saturday**

11:00pm Service of Comfort and Hope, Sanctuary and Friendship Room

**Next Sunday – ADVENT IV**

11:00am The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes  
 4:30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

## MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES: BEETHOVEN AND BEYOND

There is a new senior's group in the church called the **Prime Timers** which meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Friendship Room. Everyone brings their own sandwich and then there is an engaging speaker. The next meeting is **Tuesday, December 17 at 12:30** p.m. and the speaker is none other than Peter and Janet's eldest daughter, **Jessica Holmes**. Jessica will be giving an illustrated and inspiring talk on **MUSIC AND DISABILITY: Beethoven and Beyond**. This is the subject of Jessica's PhD thesis at McGill, and she speaks of it with great passion in a way that everyone can understand. Men and women of all ages are welcome. Captivating and thought provoking. With Christmas Treats and Singalong.



The Orpheus Choir of Toronto and the Hannaford Street Silver Band present Welcome Christmas with guest narration by Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes at YP, **Tuesday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.** Tickets \$15 - \$40 416-420-9660  
<http://www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com/>



### SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE - Saturday, December 21, 11:00 am

If at this Christmas season you are experiencing feelings of loss or loneliness, or you would just like a break from the upcoming stress and busyness of the holiday season, please join us for a Christmas Service of Comfort and Hope in the Chapel. This is a quiet, contemplative service to help validate our feelings and draw us closer to God. A light lunch will follow in the Friendship Room.

### Sunday, December 22, 4:30pm – Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Following the historic traditions of King's College, Cambridge. Doors open at 3:30pm.  
Childcare for children 5 years and under.

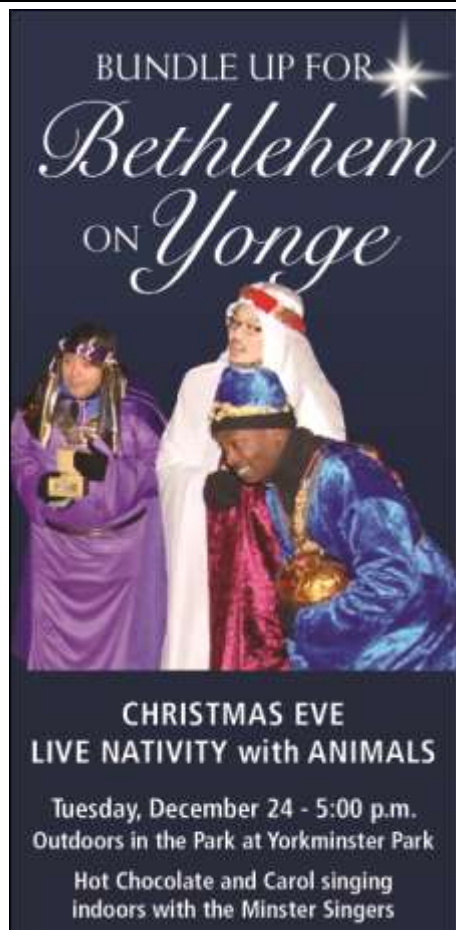
### Out of the Cold Christmas Treat

Once again we are asking you to help us bring Christmas joy to others less fortunate by providing some nut-free goodies for the Out of the Cold Christmas dinner planned for December 25. Please bring your baked goods to the Heritage Room kitchen between **December 22nd and 25th**. Please mark the baked good 'Out of the Cold'. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

### PHILIPPINES TYPHOON RELIEF

As a people we are responding to the recent disaster in the Philippines through both our prayers and our gifts. The Sharing Way, our denomination's relief and development arm, is working closely with partners in the Philippines. To give to the relief effort through the Sharing Way, **please make your cheque payable to Yorkminster Park Baptist Church**, indicating that it is for the typhoon relief on the "memo" line, and place your gifts in your church envelope and designate the amount you wish to give to the Sharing Way, or do so directly through the Canadian Baptist Ministries website <https://www.cbmin.org/cbm/donate>. When you go to the page you will be asked to choose a category to donate to – choose emergency relief. You will then be given the option of donating to Philippines Typhoon Relief. All gifts so designated and received before **December 23** will be matched by the Canadian government. For a prayer to guide you as you pray for the Philippines, go to Peter's blog at <http://peter.yorkminsterpark.com/2013/11/support-prayer-for-the-philippines.php>

Canadians are being generous in their giving to the disaster fund, so please pray that as our government honours its commitment to match funds dollar for dollar, those dollars will be quickly and appropriately dispersed to those in the most need. Pray too that the generosity of their neighbours around the world, will bring hope and encouragement to those who have suffered the greatest loss.



### Bethlehem on Yonge

Bethlehem on Yonge is an outdoor nativity with people acting out the roles of the Biblical characters: angels, shepherds, soldiers, inn keeper, Magi and Mary and Joseph. Our shepherds and Magi have live sheep and camels to complete the scene.

We need your help in making the evening a welcoming success. Especially we need volunteers to act out the parts of Guides to Bethlehem, Angels and Soldiers. The lines are very simple. Orientation will take place Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 - 10:15 or Sunday, Dec 22nd from 10 - 10:45 a.m. in the Friendship room.

Please note: this year there will be two short carol services in Cameron Hall, not in the sanctuary. One will run at approximately 5:30 and the other at 6:15.

For more information and to sign up please contact Miriam Little ([mlittle@yorkminsterpark.com](mailto:mlittle@yorkminsterpark.com); 416-922-1361) or Sally Roy ([sallyroy@rogers.com](mailto:sallyroy@rogers.com); 416-218-8806).

The City Carol Sing will be Broadcast on City TV  
December 24 at 8pm; December 25, 5pm and 8pm; December 26, 5pm

#### **Tuesday, December 24, 11pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Our community of faith gathers together to recognize the light of Christ delivered as a little baby so long ago, and to share the light of Christ with each other and then take it into the world. It is a wonderful metaphor of the Christian walk that is incredibly renewing and unifying.

#### **Wednesday, December 25, 11am – Christmas Day Communion**

A quiet service with the Sacrament of Holy Communion

#### **Tuesday, December 31, 11pm – Watchnight Service**

A **watchnight service** is a late-night Christian church service. It is held late on New Year's Eve, and ends after midnight. This provides the opportunity for Christians to review the year that has passed and make confession, and then prepare for the year ahead by making new commitments. There is a deep sense of blessing for many that they have begun a new year with their sisters and brothers of the Christian family in God's house.

Women's Ministries ....Looking for the ideal Christmas gift for a special woman in your life?

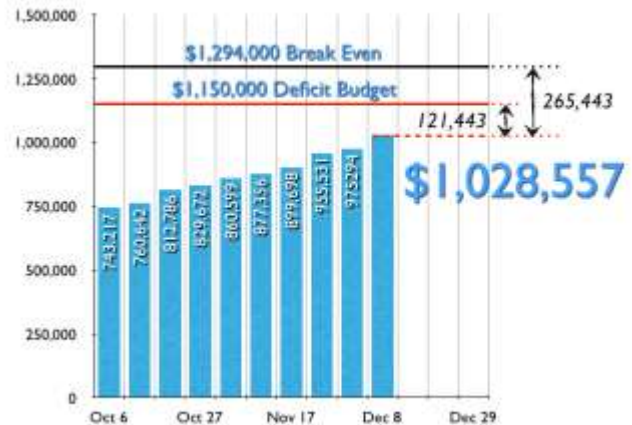
Consider giving her a day apart at the YPBC women's retreat, **Saturday, February 8, 2014**. The cost is \$45 for the day with a hot lunch included. Cindy Mosey, our leader, will be speaking on "Living Life With Abundant Joy" and together we will explore how to live life to the fullest so that we may truly feel happiness, joy and abundance. The retreat will be held at North York Novotel from 9 am-3:30 pm. Registration forms and details will be available in January. Cheques are to be made out to YPBC Women.

### An Update on 2013 Offerings

This chart shows, in weekly increments from October 6, the progress toward accomplishing the level of general offerings and contributions needed in 2013 to meet the Budget (leaving a deficit of \$144,000) or better still, to break even.

Historically, offerings during the last few months of the year have contributed significantly to the financing of the ministries of the church. Similarly generous commitments are needed again in 2013.

As of December 8th, the general offerings year-to-date were 79% of the amount needed for the church to break even for the year.



## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### *Chronic Pain Series*

If you, a family member, or friend would like to learn more about managing joint pain, back pain, headaches, or any pain caused by a health problem, please consider joining us in the Friendship Room for the **Chronic Pain Self - Management Group** led by a skilled health professional from your Local Health Integration Health Network. Begins **Monday January 20, 2014**. Free of charge. Refreshments provided. Transportation assistance available. Enrolment limited. Registration required. Please see Flyers on the tables for more information!

Health and Wellness information is available in the Centre Hall, Narthex and Yorkminster Park website. To discuss any personal or family health matter the Parish Nurse, Cathy Newman RN, BScN, CP/MHN is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays at the Church or in the community, and can be reached at 416 922-1428 or email [parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com](mailto:parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com). All communications are strictly confidential.

### *"Walking With You Through Grief" Bereavement Support Group.*

The grief journey, though unique to each individual does not need to be an isolating one. Effective grief work is not done alone. This eight week program offers a combination of education and interaction where you will experience support, understanding and hope through your loss. Sharing your story and your grief journey in a safe and supportive atmosphere with others who are going through a similar experience can assist in enabling you to make those first tentative moves towards a new life. In our group, you will be free to express your feelings, share memories, discuss the many challenges you are experiencing in a place where you will be accepted for who you are, and where you are on your journey, without judgment. The group is facilitated by Rev. Dr. Elaine MacInnis, a certified Grief Specialist, and assisted by Cathy Newman, Parish Nurse. For information and registration contact Cathy at (416) 1428, [parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com](mailto:parishnurse@yorkminsterpark.com) or Dale at (416) 922-1240, [drose@yorkminsterpark.com](mailto:drose@yorkminsterpark.com) or Elaine at (416) 243-2302. The program begins **January 20, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.**