

WELCOME TO YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 7TH, 2025
ADVENT II - MORNING WORSHIP



Sunday, December 7th, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

Advent II - Morning Worship

*Indicates places in the service where worshippers are invited to stand as they are able.

Preludes – Ecce, Dominus venient
Conditor alme siderum

*Marcel Dupré
Flor Peeters*

***Processional Hymn 36** – Hark the glad sound (Richmond)

***Call to Worship**

The Rev. Paula Willis

Introit – Hark, the herald angels sing

Dawn King

**Minster Singers
Dawn King, conductor**

Lighting of the Advent Candle of PEACE

Cleber, Charryse, Ariana, Tessa

Invocation and The Lord's Prayer (sung Amen)

The Rev. Paula Willis

***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.***

***Hymn 49** – Soon and very soon

Prayer with the Children

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

The Christmas Box

Ariana

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Window on the Church

John Speller
Treasurer, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church

Holy Scripture

John Speller

Matthew 3:1-12

Pastoral Prayer

The Rev. Paula Willis

Choral Response – Leave it all quietly to God

C. M. Palmer

Offering

***"And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and
Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints." (1 Thessalonians 3:13)***

Anthem – Thou shalt know Him when He comes

Mark Sirett

***Thou shalt know Him when He comes, not by any din of drums, nor His manners, nor His
airs, nor by any gown 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.***

***Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host
Praise, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Sermon – “Be Prepared: A Christmas Checklist”

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Sign of Peace

*Greet those around you with the words, “**The peace of Christ be with you,**”
to which we respond, “**And also with you.**”*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***Hymn 46** – On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry (Winchester New)

Reception of New Members

Sahar & Behrooz

Mohsen & Khadijeh “Azar”

Dean Bender

James Thompson

Bill & Christine Melvin

Stanley Zhang & Nina Adler

Violet Walcott

Dennis Kwadwo Asare

Margo Brodie

Diana Kivi

Church Covenant

As an organized group of Christian people, we enter into covenant with one another to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, grace and godly living; to promote its Christian spirit by sustaining its worship, sacraments, discipline, doctrine and maintenance of the biblical norms and standards of conduct; to contribute to the support of the ministry, to the expenses of the church, and to serve, as our respective talents and circumstances permit, the mission of the church, which covenant is made in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Act of Remembrance

Sandra Hubley

Choral Preparation – Creator of the starry height

Conditor alme siderum

Invitation to the Table

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Rev. Paula Willis

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

The pre-packaged bread and cup will be distributed by the Deacons. Please wait until all have received the elements and the minister gives the signal to partake together.

***Hymn 452** – Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Picardy)

(Worshippers are invited to sing the hymn as communion is distributed)

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand ;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture —
in the body and the blood —
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.*

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

***Recessional Hymn 41** – Lo he comes with clouds descending (Helmsley)

***Benediction**

The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes

***Amen** – Udell in A

Postlude – Tuba Tune

C. S. Lang

Carillon – Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding (Merton)

arr. Beverly Buchanan

Naoko Tsujita, Carillonneur

Jessica Willingham, Loren Graziano, Cassandra Amorim, sopranos

Margaret Terry, Amanda Weatherall, altos

Adam Wicks, Ronald Tapawan, tenors

Stephen King, Joseph Ernst, basses

Sharon L. Beckstead, Associate Musician

Welcome families! In support of our Protection Plan, upon arrival, parents/guardians may sign-in their child (Babies to Gr. 5) at the Centre Hall Table before the service begins and then sign-out their child in Cameron Hall following the Choral Amen of the Service (during the Postlude).

Sunday Morning:

- Family Ministry Leader Prayer Time: 9:45-10:15am
- Family Ministries (children/youth): 11:10am-12:15pm
 - o Children/Youth and their families are in the Sanctuary for the first part of the 11am Worship Service
 - o After the Children's Prayer Time in the Service, children, youth and leaders go to Cameron Hall for further worship and faith learning before dividing into age-appropriate groups
- We encourage all youth (Gr. 6-12) to hang out in the Youth Zone Rm upstairs after the service for fellowship time
- Family Ministry Potluck Luncheons (Scheduled Sundays throughout the year)

Tuesday Online:

- Family Ministry (ALL Ages) Bible Study and Activities: 6:30-7:15pm
- Family Ministry Leader's Bible Study and Prayer: 7:15-8pm

Youth Nights (twice a month):

- Youth (Gr. 6-12) are welcome to experience Fun, Faith and Fellowship two scheduled nights a month

To receive our weekly Family Ministry E-update, Zoom links or any information about our ministries, schedule, events, potlucks and more, please contact

Leticia Limenco at llimenco@yorkminsterpark.com

Want to be a part of our Nativity play? Children/Youth volunteers needed!
Contact Leticia at llimgenco@yorkminsterpark.com

Like us on [Facebook](#)  | Follow us on [Instagram](#)  | Subscribe to our [YouTube Channel](#) 

Family Ministry Collage - December 7th, 2025



IONA WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 7:00 PM

Music by Iona Passage and reader, R. H. Thomson.

If you are unable to be with us, but would like us to light a candle and say a prayer for someone, please email the name to jpholmes@yorkminsterpark.com prior to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 4:30 PM

A cherished Yorkminster Park tradition since 1933, Carols by Candlelight was Canada's first candlelight carol service.

In the soft glow of candlelight, the Yorkminster Park Choir, conducted by William Maddox, Organist and Director of Music, and Sharon Beckstead, Associate Musician, offers a program of beautiful carols and seasonal anthems. Join us for an evening of quiet reflection and joyful song as we celebrate the hope and wonder of Christmas. Admission is free, all are welcome.

WALKING TOGETHER SATURDAYS IN ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29 to DECEMBER 20



During Advent our weekday email devotional, *Walking Together*, is expanded to include Saturdays.

Guest contributor for Saturday, December 6th
The Rev. Leanne Friesen

Executive Minister, Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec

LEARN MORE/SUBSCRIBE TODAY by visiting www.yorkminsterpark.com.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS, 7:00 PM, NOV. 26 TO DEC. 17 | ZOOM



In Advent we celebrate and anticipate the earth-shaking, life-transforming good news that God is coming to us.

Join us as we explore *Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* by Will Willimon.

To Register please [click here](#), or contact pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com

This study will be co-led by Rev. Paula Willis and Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS MISSION

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY – December 14, 11:00 a.m.

IN SUPPORT OF CHURCHES-ON-THE-HILL FOOD BANK

The following non-perishable food and hygiene items are needed:



Dry Pasta



Cans of Tuna



Cans of Fruit



Beans in
Tomato Sauce



Peanut Butter



Diapers

We are asking everyone to donate these items on
WHITE GIFT SUNDAY, December 14th for collection during
the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

BETHLEHEM on YONGE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

There are opportunities open for those who are interested in joining the 2025 team in the wonder that is Bethlehem on Yonge.

We are in need of **guides** and **angels** and **shepherds**, a **few wise men**, a couple of roaming **camels** and a **donkey**! We also need some help in Cameron Hall with serving our many visitors. Being involved with Bethlehem on Yonge is a wonderful way to get to know many people in the church all at once and we always have a lot of fun. If you are new to the church please do not hesitate to call me and get involved because **all are welcome**!

BAKING FOR BETHLEHEM ON YONGE

If you love to bake and have some free time on **Saturday, December 13th between 9:00 – 5:00** to learn some new recipes, please feel welcome to join us for a few hours or even the whole day as we prepare for all our guests on Christmas Eve. Veronica Bergs has made it a Christmas tradition to share her time and baking talents at this time of year and will help anyone who is new to baking but wants to learn.

Please contact the Rev. Paula Willis at pwillis@yorkminsterpark.com

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT YORKMINSTER PARK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 | ADVENT II

11:00 a.m. Morning Service

7:00 p.m. IONA Service with music by IONA Passage

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 | ADVENT III

11:00 a.m. Morning Service – White Gift Sunday and Family Christmas Mission

4:30 p.m. Carols by Candlelight – A candlelit service of carols and seasonal anthems

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

11:00 a.m. Service of Comfort and Hope – A service of reflection, healing, and prayer, followed by a reception

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 | ADVENT IV

11:00 a.m. Family Christmas Service – The children and youth of YP present the Christmas story

4:30 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols – Readings from scripture interspersed with beautiful choral music

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 | CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 p.m. Bethlehem on Yonge – The Christmas Story re-enacted in the park at YP! Enjoy hot chocolate, homemade cookies & carol singing – fun for the whole family

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – A peaceful service featuring timeless carols, the Christmas story, and the sharing of candlelight

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 | CHRISTMAS DAY

11:00 a.m. Worship Service – Join us on Christmas Day for worship and Holy Communion as we give thanks for the gift of Christ

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, | NEW YEAR'S EVE

11:15 p.m. Watchnight Service – A year-end gathering for reflection, thanksgiving, and spiritual preparation for the new year

SPECIAL SERVICES, CONCERTS & EVENTS



TORONTO COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

By Request

Tuesday, December 9, 7:30 p.m.

A festive evening of music featuring highlights from *Wicked* and *Jurassic Park*, seasonal favourites and more.

To purchase tickets, visit torontocommunityorchestra.org



HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Friday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.

The Elmer Iseler Singers join with their associate choir, VIVA Chamber Singers, and the Amadeus Choir. To purchase tickets, email office@yorkminsterpark.com, or they can be purchased in the narthex before morning worship service.



CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday, December 14, 4:30 p.m.

In the soft glow of candlelight, the Yorkminster Park Choir, conducted by William Maddox, Organist and Director of Music, and Sharon Beckstead, Associate Musician, offers a program of beautiful carols and seasonal anthems. **Admission is Free.**



TORONTO ORPHEUS CHOIR

Merry and Bright

Tuesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.

Orpheus reunites with the acclaimed Hannaford Street Silver Band to celebrate the holiday season in style. To purchase tickets, visit orpheuschoirtoronto.com



JOHN MCDERMOTT FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Thursday, December 18, 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate the season with John McDermott, special guest Lawrence Gowan, and more.

Admission is Free. Donations in support of Out of the Cold and the House of Compassion will be gratefully accepted.

Yorkminster Park Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, December 7 - Advent II

- 10:00 am** Mustard Seed Fellowship, Teal Boardroom (502)
10:00 am Berean Bible Study, Red Board Room (120)
11:00 am Worship Service, The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes preaching, **Advent II**, Communion, Sanctuary
7:00 pm Iona Evening Worship, The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes preaching, Sanctuary

Monday, December 8

- 9:00 am** Meals on Wheels
1:00 pm Women of the Word Bible Study, led by Esther Barnes, Zoom Only
7:00 pm Grief Support Group, Eglinton St. George's United Church, 35 Lytton Blvd.

Tuesday, December 9

- 9:00 am** Meals on Wheels
10:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study led by The Rev. Paula Willis, Friendship Room (302)
10:00 am Dorcas Knitting Group, Youth Zone (508)
11:00 am Open Doors, Sanctuary
12:15 pm Lunchtime Chamber Music, Rising Stars Recital - Featuring Piano Trio with Friends Xuan He, piano
6:30 pm FM Meeting, led by Leticia Limgenco, Zoom Only
7:00 pm The Toronto Community orchestra presents "By Request", Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 10

- 7:00 am** Morning Brew Bible Study, led by Stuart Campbell, Friendship Room (302)
9:00 am Meals on Wheels
11:00 am Open Doors, Sanctuary
5:30 pm Out of the Cold, Heritage Room & Gymnasium
7:00 pm Advent Bible Study, *Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* by Will Willimon, Zoom Only

Thursday, December 11

- 9:00 am** Meals on Wheels
11:00 am Open Doors, Sanctuary
7:30 pm YPBC Choir Practice, Cameron Hall

Friday, December 12

- 9:00 am** Meals on Wheels
6:30 pm Life Together Life Group, Friendship Room (302)
7:30 pm Handel's Messiah, Elmer Iseler Singers, Amadeus Choir and Viva Chamber Singers, Sanctuary

Saturday, December 13

Sunday, December 14 - Advent III

- 10:00 am** Mustard Seed Fellowship, Teal Boardroom (502)
10:00 am Berean Bible Study, Red Board Room (120)
11:00 am Worship Service, White Gift Sunday, The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes preaching, **Advent III**, Sanctuary
4:30 pm Carols by Candlelight Service, led by The Rev. Dr. J. Peter Holmes, Sanctuary

We are delighted to have you worshipping with us!

Thank you for joining us in person and online

Stay Connected: Please [share your email address](#) to receive emails about life at Yorkminster Park. 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 Donations

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



In Person

Place your gifts in the collection plate during services or special events.



By Mail

Send your offering by cheque to the church office.



Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)

Regular monthly offering directly from your bank.



Scan the QR Code

It will take you directly to our [CanadaHelps](#) page.



Online

Visit our website yorkminsterpark.com > Give



Tap to Give

Use our **TipTap** machine. Please note that a tax receipt cannot be issued at this time.



Interac e-Transfer

Submit your offering to transactions@yorkminsterpark.com

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.

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. Leticia Limgenco

Interim Director of
Family Ministries

Ms. Ahmeda Mansaray-Richardson

Director of Mission and Community Engagement

The Rev. John Torrance

Minister Emeritus, Pastoral Care



***Hymn 36 Hark the glad sound (Richmond)**

- 1 Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.**
- 2 He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**
- 3 He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.**
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy belovèd name.**

Hymn 49 Soon and very soon

1 Soon and very soon,
 we are going to see the King!
 Soon and very soon,
 we are going to see the King!
 Soon and very soon,
 we are going to see the King!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We're going to see the King!

2 No more crying there —
 we are going to see the King!
 No more crying there —
 we are going to see the King!
 No more crying there —
 we are going to see the King!

3 No more dying there —
 we are going to see the King!
 No more dying there —
 we are going to see the King!
 No more dying there —
 we are going to see the King!

*Hymn: 46 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh ;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.
- 2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin ;
make straight the way for God within ;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.
- 3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward ;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.
- 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand ;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.
- 5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Hymn 452 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand ;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture —
in the body and the blood —
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.
Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high.

***Recessional Hymn 41 Lo he comes with clouds descending**

- 1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain ;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train :
Alleluia !
God appears on earth to reign.
- 2 Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty ;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.
- 3 Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers :
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars !
- 4 Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne ;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own :
Alleluia !
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.