

Marginalia

sunday
school
for
grown
-ups
at
church
of the
redeemer

autumn
fall
2019

Marginalia" are the marks you scribble around the border edges of a book—you know, the comments, jokes, critiques, and doodles sure to drive any librarian crazy. On October 13, Redeemer will launch a Sunday morning learning series by that name. Think of it as a kind of Sunday School for grown-ups. (I mean, why should our kids have all the fun?) On select Sunday mornings throughout this fall, we will offer a chance to crowd around the pages of the Scriptures with others for margin chatter. Together, we'll discuss, query, puzzle over, and otherwise seek to make sense of the sacred pages at the heart of our faith tradition. Our Scholar-in-Residence, Nate Wall, will lead the conversation, with the help of some special guests.

To make sure anyone can attend, sessions will run *twice* on each Sunday of the Marginalia schedule:

- 10AM-11AM for folks who attend the 11:15AM service (so: come early before your regular service!)
- 11AM-12PM for folks who attend the 9:30AM service (so: stick around after your regular service!)

Marginalia groups will meet downstairs at Redeemer, in the Board Room. See the reverse side of this sheet for the fall schedule. Contact our Nate Wall if you have any questions.



flip
over
→
to see
the
schedule
off of
topics

Riddling Jesus

October 13 & 20

Sometimes you circle back to the big, basic question: Who was Jesus, anyway? Was he a Jewish mystic, or a failed revolutionary? A wild-eyed prophet, or a would-be king? Was he God enfleshed, or the pious fiction of the early church? All the earliest stories about Jesus of Nazareth depict him as a storyteller and provocateur—someone who trafficked in riddles. But, in more than one way, Jesus is himself the biggest riddle he left behind. During this two-week series we'll ask: What *can* we know about Jesus for sure, and *how* exactly do we know it? Along the way we'll talk scholarship, faith, and what this enigmatic Jesus might mean for the lives of 21st century folk like us.

Making the Bible

November 10 & 17

Ever wonder where the Bible came from? Hollywood thrillers, magazine features, and online comment sections swim with tantalizing rumours about the Bible's origins. But in the age of fake news, what's sound history, what's pious wishful thinking, and what's plain old conspiracy theory? In this two-part series, we'll venture behind the scenes of the Bible's making. When and why were the Christian Scriptures, in their two parts—the so-called "Old" and the "New" Testaments—composed? And how did this hand-me-down book get from the Ancient Near East to the corner of Avenue and Bloor?

Sing in the Waiting Room

December 1 & 8

You know Advent has come around again once you hear the telltale melody of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." You might not know is that the full hymn contains seven verses, and that each verse begins with an ancient Jewish title ("O Emmanuel," "O Dayspring," "O Wisdom," etc.) for the Messiah. By the 6th century, the Church started to sing these titles, which we call the "O Antiphons." In this two-part series, we'll follow these "O Antiphons" down to their roots in the Hebrew Bible, in the hope of finding our place within an ancient waiting.

not at the usual
morning time
on the 8th —
it's an evening
even instead!
more details
to come



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