



I Wonder As I Wander

Five Pilgrimage Walks for Advent

Learning@Redeemer invites all to share the journey of Advent in a series of weekly meditative walks. The themes of the walks will follow the themes of the four candles of the Advent wreath: hope, peace, joy, and love, respectively, and finally, the Christ candle.

A focus for meditation from a member of our community, based on the text of an Advent hymn, forms the basis of the pilgrimage. You are invited to follow the suggested route, on your own time, either in person if you can do that safely, or as reflection from your home.

This week's walk has been prepared by David Burt.

Church of the Redeemer

Advent Peace

In the second week of Advent let's consider the theme of Peace as reflected in "There's a voice in the wilderness crying" (Common Praise Hymn 106) and "Peace Train" (song by Cat Stevens).

As you are able, we suggest exploring each piece during a quiet walk (perhaps with members of your household) through a green space close to your home. Toronto is blessed with many parks, ravines and cemeteries as well as lakeside paths in both the east and west ends of the city. If you prefer, your meditation may of course take place at home.

The texts are divided into six segments so you may explore each piece over several days. Following each segment there is a question to initiate your thoughts.



Cherry Beach

The Pilgrimage Walk Begins...

*“There’s a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!”*



Kew Gardens

What voice or voices do you hear?

*‘Now I’ve been happy lately/ Thinking about the good things to come/
And I believe it could be/ Something good has begun/
Oh, I’ve been smiling lately/ Dreaming about the world as one/
And I believe it could be/ Someday it’s going to come*

*‘Cause I’m on the edge of darkness/ There ride the Peace Train/
Oh, Peace Train take this country/ Come take me home again”*



Beach Boardwalk

What good things do you think will take the place of darkness?

*“O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
Go up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
The coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
Like grass our works decay,
The power and pomp of nations
Shall pass like a dream away”*



Grenadier Pond

In these difficult times what new things will you do
to celebrate the “good tidings” of Christmas?

*“Now I’ve been smiling lately,/ Thinkin’ about the good things to come/
And I believe it could be,/ Something good has begun
Oh Peace Train sounding louder/ Glide on the Peace Train/
Come on now Peace Train/yes, Peace Train holy roller
Everyone jump on the Peace Train/ Come on now, Peace Train
Get your bags together,/ Go bring your good friends, too/
’Cause it’s getting nearer,/ It soon will be with you/
Now come and join the living,/ It’s not so far from you/
And it’s getting nearer,/ Soon it will be true/
Oh Peace Train sounding louder/ Glide on the Peace Train/
Come on now Peace Train/ Peace Train”*



Sunnyside Beach

How can you pass on your hope for “good things” to your family and friends?

*“but the word of our God is steadfast;
The arm of the Lord is strong;
God stands in the midst of nations,
And soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
The lambs will gently hold,
To pastures of peace will lead them,
And bring them safe to the fold.”*



Moore Park Ravine

What to you are the most important issues that need to be resolved in peace?

*“Now I’ve been crying lately,/ ‘Thinkin’ about the world as it is/
Why must we go on hating,/ Why can’t we live in bliss
“Cause out on the edge of darkness,/ There rides a Peace Train/
Oh Peace Train take this country,/ Come take me home again
Oh Peace Train sounding louder/ Glide on the Peace Train/
Come on now, Peace Train/ Yes, Peace Train holy roller
Everyone jump upon the Peace Train.....”*



Mount Pleasant Cemetery

How can you, in even a small way, “jump upon the Peace Train”?