



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020 AT 10:30 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:
162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4
office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • www.theredeemer.ca



Welcome: *Susan Haig*

Opening Rite: *Prerecorded*

“The Long and Winding Road” (*Lennon/McCartney*)

The Collect of the Day: *Susan Haig*

Priest: Almighty God,
who sent your servant John the Baptist
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,
we may stand with confidence before his glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

✠ The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: *John Stevens*

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of

Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

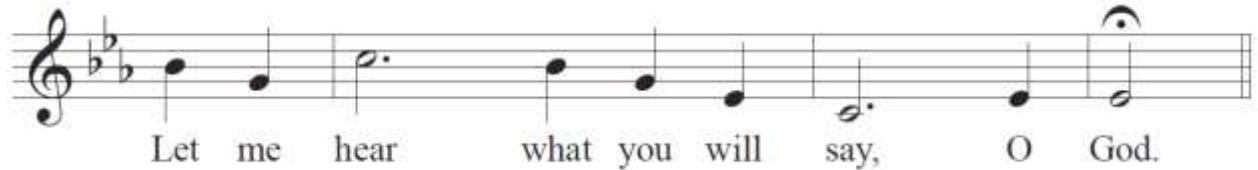
Isaiah 40.1-11

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 85 (1-2, 8-13) (*George Black*)

Refrain:



You have been gracious to your land, O God,
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins. **Refrain**

You speak, O God and I will listen,
for your words are peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to you.
Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land. **Refrain**

Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
God shall indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before you,
and peace shall be a pathway for your feet. **Refrain**

Second Reading: *Sue Stevens*

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

2 Peter 3.8-15a

All: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed

Hymn: #106 (Common Praise) "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"



1. There's a voice in the wil-der-ness cry-ing, a call from the ways un-
2. O Zi-on, give voice to good tid-ings, as - cend to the heights and
3. But your word, O God, is faith-ful, your arm, O Lord, is
4. There's a voice in the wil-der-ness cry-ing, a call from the ways un-



trod: pre - pare in the des - ert a high-way, a high-way for our
sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late peo - ple the com - ing of their
strong; you stand in the midst of na - tions, and you will right the
trod: pre - pare in the des - ert a high-way, a high-way for our



God! the val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the lof - ty hills brought
King. The works of pride all per - ish, like flowers they shall de -
wrong. You will feed your flock like a shep - herd, and fold the lambs to your
God! the val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the lof - ty hills brought



low; make straight all the crook - ed plac - es where the
cay; the power and pomp of na - tions shall
breast; in pas - tures of peace you'll lead them, and
low; make straight all the crook - ed plac - es where the



Lord our God may go!
pass like a dream a - way.
give to the wea - ry rest.
Lord our God may go!

Text: Is.40.3-11; para. James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music:
Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988). Used by permission of Eldred
Bancroft. ©Estate of Henry Hugh Bancroft.

The Gospel: *Steven Mackison*

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

Mark 1.1-8


All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily: Steven Mackison

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation: “The Truth Sent from Above” (*Ralph Vaughan Williams*): *Paul Oros*

Hymn: #104 (Common Praise) “Joy Shall Come”



Joy shall come e-ven to the wil-der-ness, and the parched land shall then know
great glad-ness; as the rose, as the rose shall des-erts blos-som, des-erts
like a gar-den blos-som. For liv-ing springs shall give cool wa-ter, in the
des-ert streams shall flow; for liv-ing springs shall give cool wa-ter, in the
des-ert streams shall flow.

Text: Israeli trad. Music: Melody Israeli Trad.; arr. Patrick Wedd (1948-2019) ©.

The Prayers of the People: *Dennis Duffy*

Leader: Watchful at all times,
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence
before our Maker and Redeemer.

A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.

Show us your mercy:

All: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: That the one who is the Light of the world
may rouse us from sleep
and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence.

A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.

Leader: Show us your mercy:

All: **And grant us your salvation**

Leader: That we may discover God's word
in every sound that bursts forth from creation,
God's touch in every human embrace,
and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us.

A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.

Leader: Show us your mercy:

All: And grant us your salvation

Leader: That divine energy and holy grace
may bring our hearts to vigilance
and make us see with uncovered eyes
the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies.

A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.

Show us your mercy:

All: And grant us your salvation

Leader: That we may come to recognize
in our holy assembly gathered for prayer
that Jesus the Christ is here
to make our songs of praise and pleadings his own.

A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.

Show us your mercy:

All: And grant us your salvation

Leader: That God's coming into the days and years of our human history
may be always new, always brimming with light
to drive all darkness away.

A long pause is observed. Please give voice to your prayers or add them over in the chat box.

Show us your mercy:

All: And grant us your salvation

Leader: Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end.

All: Amen.

A Penitential Rite: *Susan Haig*

Priest: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

***All:* Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
in your likeness and image,
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: *Susan Haig*

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

***All:* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Doxology: *Susan Haig*

Priest: Glory to God,

***All:* whose power working in us
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Concluding Hymn: #114 (Common Praise) “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”



1.Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend-ing, once for fa-voured sin - ners
2.Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread-ful maj - es-
3.Now re - demp-tion, long ex - pect - ed, see in sol-emn pomp ap-
4.Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee, high on thine e - ter - nal



slain; thou-sand thou - sand saints at - tend-ing swell the tri - umph
ty; all who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him
pear; all his saints, on earth re - ject - ed, thrill the trum - pet
throne; Sa - viour, take the power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom



of his train: hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le -
to the tree, deep - ly griev-ing, deep - ly griev-ing, deep - ly
sound to hear: hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le -
for thine own: O come quick-ly! O come quick-ly! O come



lu - jah! God ap - pears on earth to reign.
griev-ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
lu - jah! See the day of God ap - pear!
quick-ly! Hal - le - lu - jah! Come, Lord, come!

Text: John Cennick (1718-1755), Charles Wesley (1707-1788), Martin Madan (1726-1790), alt. Music: Melody attrib. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) and Martin Madan (1726-1790).

Ministry Updates: *Susan Haig*

The Dismissal: *Steven Mackison*

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Our thanks go out to all who contribute financially to the Redeemer community. Our ability to continue to offer outreach support through the Common Table and maintain our rich and varied worship and program life is possible thanks to the generous donations of parishioners and friends of the community. For health and safety reasons, we would appreciate your donations via the "Online Donation" link below, where you will be redirected to the gifts section of our Website. Thank you for your generosity.

[Online Donation](#)

As the church year ends, please consider reviewing your financial support of our vital ministry

All Liturgical Texts excerpted from the Book of Alternative Services © 2004 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. All rights reserved.
Reproduced under license from ABC Publishing, Anglican Book Centre, a ministry of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, from maryrosaries.com.
The Penitential Rite is excerpted from PCUSA Book of Common Worship Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1993. Cover image courtesy of www.stainedglassinc.com.
All music, not in the public domain, is reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-707061.

Ministry Updates

Celebration of New Ministry

Today at 4 PM on Zoom all are invited to a celebration of new ministry for Trinity-St. Paul Port Credit and The Rev'd Roshni Jayawardena, our former assistant curate. This service of celebration and prayer will include music from Trinity-St. Paul, St. Peter's Erindale and Church of the Redeemer. The Zoom link was shared in the Friday, December 4 eNews.

Compline at 8 PM

Compline is a Christian tradition of bedtime prayers. These traditional prayers unveil God's grace in all of our endings - the day's end, the week's end, and our last nightfall.

Join in through Zoom at 8 PM each Sunday night for about 20 minutes. The link can be found in each Friday's eNews.

I Wonder as I Wander: 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 and can be found [here](#).

Blue Christmas Service

In Covid as in exile the people of God raise a lament, asking “how can we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land?” **Join in by Zoom on Tuesday December 15 at 7 PM** as we grieve our different losses and sorrows together and journey in company towards the hope and promise of a Jerusalem restored. The link for the service will be in the Friday, December 11 eNews.

Redeemer Gifts – Calling for Drivers

The Pastoral Care Team is asking for volunteers to assist with delivering **Redeemer Gifts on Saturday December 19**. If you can help, please contact MJ Wilson at mjwdhp@icloud.com.

Christmas in the City

All are invited to this online musical event to benefit the Common Table at Church of the Redeemer on **Sunday, December 13 at 7:30 PM**, featuring Jack DeKeyser, Laurel Tubman, Kevin Breit, Will Reid, Julian Fauth, Greg Wyard and Fraser/Daley/Daley.

[The Common Table](#) serves the most vulnerable among us with meals-to-go, supplies and resources five days a week. All proceeds from this very special musical event benefit the programme, which is providing critical support during this especially precarious time. Tickets are available for \$10, \$25 and \$50 depending on how much you wish to contribute – all tickets provide equal access to the event. Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Christmas Eve Virtual Pageant

This year, our Christmas Eve Services will be different than other years. While we cannot gather together in the church, the children and youth of our community carry on the tradition of telling the age-old story of Jesus’ birth. We will gather on Zoom at 5 PM on **Thursday, December 24**.

Christmas Eve at 10:30 PM on Zoom

While we cannot gather together in the church, we will celebrate the joyous news of Emmanuel – God-with-us – through scripture, carols and hymns, reflection and prayer in an online service through Zoom. Join in on **Thursday, December 24** at 10:30 PM.

Christmas Day at 10:30 AM on Zoom

While we cannot gather together in the church, we celebrate the Incarnation through scripture, carols and hymns, reflection and prayer in an online service through Zoom. Join in on **Friday, December 25** at 10:30 AM.

The Common Table: Update and Call for Volunteers

Street homelessness is drastically increasing during the pandemic. To respond to this need, the Common Table has shifted to doing two days of street outreach by visiting encampments that are growing in areas close to the church including Yorkville, delivering food, supplies, and providing ongoing connections and support. Monday through Wednesday the hot food service at the side doors of the church continues. On Thursdays and Fridays staff and volunteers will be on foot in the community, packed with supplies. We are excited about this endeavour! You can help by offering your prayers, your support, and your hands. There are volunteer opportunities both on-site and at home. Can you help? Please get in touch with [Angie](#) for more information about where help is needed.

Our Bell Tolls

Our bell tolls at noon on Wednesdays to raise awareness of overdose deaths in our city. Each toll represents one person who is loved and who mattered. We honour the lives we have lost and stand in solidarity with the poor who are forgotten and neglected.

Advent Word

Each year, we participate in AdventWord - a global advent calendar. Each day, on social media we post an image that reflects the day's word. Please join us!

You can sign up to receive the daily meditations and share your own images. To learn more visit the AdventWord 2020 [website](#).

Daily Prayer

An order of service for daily prayer is added to the parish website early each Wednesday morning as an invitation to take time in the middle of the week to pause and pray. Everything you need is provided including a reflection. The link to the order of service to be posted this Wednesday is [here](#).

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Each month a cycle of prayer is available [online](#). This resource provides the names of ministries from the Anglican Communion, the Indigenous cycle of prayer, the diocese and our community to hold in our prayers each day. In peace we pray. Lord, Hear our prayer.

Donating Securities or Mutual Funds?

A donation of securities or mutual funds can be a tax-efficient way to give to Redeemer! You can donate through Canada Helps using their website [here](#). In order to receive a 2020 tax receipt for your donation, consider starting the donation process by December 14th. Questions? – please email us at Stewardship@theredeemer.ca. Thank you!