



THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:
TRANSFIGURATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021 AT 10:30 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:

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Welcome: *Steven Mackison*

Prelude: How Dear Are Thy Counsels – *William Crotch*

How dear are thy counsels unto me, O God:
O how great is the sum of them!
Try me, Prove me,
and examine my thoughts,
and seek the ground of my heart.
Look well if there be any way of wickedness in me;
and lead me in the way everlasting

~Psalm 139

✠ The Gathering of the Community

The Greeting: *Steven Mackison*

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Opening Hymn: #778 (Gather) “’Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here”



1.'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night; Your
2.'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Your beau - ty to be - hold, Where
3.Ful - fill - er of the past! Prom - ise of things to be! We
4.Be - fore we taste of death, We see your king - dom come; We
5.'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main; But



face and gar - ments, like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.
Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, Your mes - sen - gers of old.
hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied, And our re - demp - tion see.
long to hold the vi - sion bright, And make this hill our home.
since you bid us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Text: Luke 9.32-33; Joseph A. Robinson (1858-1933), alt. © Esme. D. E. Bird. Tune: Swabia, SM; Johann M. Speiss (1715-1772); adapt. by William H. Havergal (1793-1870).

The Collect of the Day

Priest: Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness,
from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

✠ The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: *Jim Burnham*

Reader: A Reading from the Second Book of Kings

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He

responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

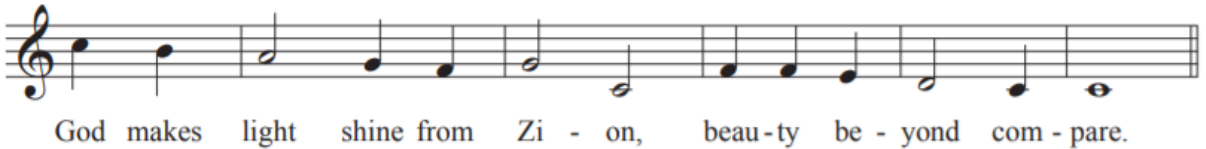
2 Kings 2:1-12

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 50:1-6 (*George Black*)

Refrain:



The God of gods, the Holy One has spoken;
and has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God is revealed in glory. **Refrain**

Our God will come and will not keep silence,
will come with a devouring flame
and a mighty tempest round about.
God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgement of the people. **Refrain**

"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."
Let the heavens declare the rightness of God's cause;
who is the judge of all. **Refrain**

Second Reading: *Jannie Henkelman*

A Reading from the second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Song: "Shine" (*Daniel Lanois*)

Performed by Mike Daley

The Gospel: *Susan Haig*

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.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

Mark 9:2-9

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

Homily: Nate Wall

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation: A New Song (*James Macmillan*), *Virtual Choir*

O sing unto the Lord,
unto the Lord a new song,
sing unto the Lord all the whole earth.

Sing unto the Lord and praise his name,
be telling of his salvation from day to day.

For he cometh to judge the earth,
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the people with his truth. *~Psalm 96*

Statement of Faith: *Steven Mackison*

Priest: I believe in God,

***All:* the creator of the universe,
who spoke, “Let there be light!” and there was light,
setting in motion all of creation and blessing it to this day.**

Priest: I believe in Jesus Christ,

**the light that shines in the darkness;
the darkness cannot overcome it.
He embodied humanity in the image of God,
and suffered for the greater good.
He atoned for our sins
and died on the cross for us,
God’s saving grace!**

Priest: I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the guiding light of God in our world.
Through his spirit, God conquers
the darkness of human sin,
helps people grow
and become the people they are meant to be.
I believe in the power of transformation,
Here in this world and in the world to come. Amen.**

Hymn: “Transform Us As You Transfigured”

**Transform us as you transfigured,
Stood apart on Tabor’s height.
Lead us up our sacred mountains,
Search us with revealing light.
Lift us from where we have fallen,
Full of questions, filled with fright.**

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
Once spoke with those holy ones.
We, surrounded by the witness
Of those saints whose work is done.
Live in this world as your Body,
Chosen daughters, chosen sons.**

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
Would not stay within a shrine.
Keep us from our great temptation –
Time and truth we quickly bind,
Lead us down those daily pathways
Where our love is not confined.**

PICARDY -Text credit: Sylvia Dunstan, 1993. GIA Publishing Inc.

The Prayers of the People: *David Burt*

Leader: Let us pray to the God of glory,
revealed to us in Jesus the Christ.
Holy One, focus our attention
as we, your people, listen to your beloved Son,
so that we do not fail to hear his will for us
or share his longing for the world to be saved.

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

Leader: Let us worship the Lord:

All: In the beauty of holiness.

Leader: O God, with such humility you entered the world
to save it through love’s giving;
increase our desire to enter into
one another’s suffering and hardship,

to share the worlds' resources fairly
with one another,
and recognize all humanity as your children.

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

Leader: Let us worship the Lord:

All: **In the beauty of holiness.**

Leader: O God, let us not take one another for granted,
but wake each morning to notice the Christ
in each person we encounter;
and reverence your hidden presence
in all creation.

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

Leader: Let us worship the Lord:

All: **In the beauty of holiness.**

Leader: O God, in our prayer we stand alongside
all who are too weak to pray, or too confused;
may all who are suffering
sense your love and comfort,
and be given strength to persevere,
and peace of mind and spirit.
We lift up for your healing
all whom we name,
confident in your gracious response.

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

Leader: Let us worship the Lord:

All: **In the beauty of holiness.**

Leader: O God, we commend to your endless presence
those who have died.
Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.
And let light perpetual shine upon them.
Lift the shadow of grief from those who mourn a loss this day,
and fill them with the light of hope in life everlasting.

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

Leader: Let us worship the Lord:

All: In the beauty of holiness.

Leader: Gracious One, thank you for providing always
the encouragement and inspiration we need
for the work you would have us do;
give us the grace to trust your will for us
and follow in the way of your son.

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

Leader: Lord, 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.

The Lord's Prayer: *Steven Mackison*

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: *Steven Mackison*

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: Sizohamba naye (*Swaziland traditional*)

Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye wo wo wo si - zo - ham - ba na - ye
See-zoh -hum- ba na - ye woh-woh-woh see - zoh - hum - ba na-ye

Ngom - hla wen - ja - bu - la, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye
Goom - shla wen - ja - boo - lah, see - zoh - hum - ba na - ye

The Journey of the Catechumens

Priest: Dear Friends in Christ,
Our catechumens have journeyed in faith
through times and circumstances that none could have imagined.
Their commitment to seek life in Christ with us and with one another
has continued beyond their pilgrimage in Lent,
through all the seasons of our liturgical life.
Today we meet them on the mountain,
to acknowledge that their journey together is now complete,
even as we all prepare for our next descent into the wilderness of Lent.

(names of catechumens)

you have remained faithful to the vows you made in our midst:
Opening your eyes and ears to hear the Word of God
and opening your hearts and minds to receive the Lord Jesus.

(names of sponsors)

You have supported our catechumens by prayer and example
and helped them grow in their knowledge and love of God.

The priest invites the catechumens and sponsors to express their gratitude with this prayer.

**God of life,
You have guided our footsteps
through this journey
to discover your presence
more deeply in our lives
You have held us on our way,
opened our eyes to see,
opened our ears to hear,**

**opened our minds to ponder,
opened our hearts to love,
and opened our souls to embrace you.
You are our rock and our salvation. Amen.**

The community stretches forth their hands in blessing as the priest pronounces a blessing.

Ministry Updates: *Steven Mackison*

The Dismissal: *Susan Haig*

Priest: Go forth into the world and shine with the light of Christ. 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](#)

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Ministry Updates

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.

Pre-Vestry Meetings

Our annual meeting will be held on Zoom at 1 PM on Sunday, February 28. We will be hosting pre-Vestry meetings on Sundays, February 14 and 21 at 1 PM on Zoom. These meetings give us a chance to see the budget ahead of the Vestry meeting and provide us with an opportunity to ask questions or share our comments.

All Creatures Great and Small

A joint project from the Pastoral Care Team and Creation Matters to keep us connected through the continuing lockdown. We hope it deepens our knowledge of one another through our relationships with our beloved creature friends inside and outside our homes. For example, why does Mister sit on the piano while Jill Daley plays? Is a guide dog a pet? Who are some of the other important creatures we glimpse in our fellow parishioners' Sunday Zoom boxes? This video series of interviews hopes to answer your questions and introduce you to many of our non-human companions over the coming weeks.

If you would like to receive links to the videos of these interviews, please email twilliams@theredeemer.ca.

Save the Date for Mardi Gras

Join the online Mardi Gras party on **Tuesday, February 16** at 6 PM. There will be many of the things we love about our annual celebration - music and activities - and a few new things, too. To get you started, a Mardi Gras party is not complete without pancakes. Diddy Erb - maker of many Redeemer Mardi Gras pancakes - has shared **this recipe** so that we all have the best pancakes for our party.

Ash Wednesday

We begin the season of Lent with the Ash Wednesday service, on February 17, at 6 PM through [Zoom](#). Prayer, reflection, song, ashes and enrollment of the 2021 Catechesis group will be part of this service.

Lent 1 – Taizé Service

Taizé is a meditative form of worship, using music that highlights simple phrases sung in canon. Join in on Sunday, February 21 through YouTube and Facebook at 7 PM. More details will be available in next week's eNews.

Catechesis 2021

Maybe you are new to Redeemer and have lots of questions about Christianity or Anglicanism. Or maybe you've been here for years and have lots of questions about Christianity or Anglicanism. Either way, Catechesis is the place for you!

Join us via Zoom for 6-8 weeks beginning Ash Wednesday, February 17. We will explore core elements of the faith such as:

- Telling the Salvation Story
- Who is Jesus?
- How to be the Body of Christ

Each session will involve a short presentation, followed by group discussion/debate. We will strive to create a safe, respectful place where questions and doubts are welcome!

How can you get involved? We are looking for inquiring Catechumens and Discerning Sponsors! Please [register](#). For more information, please contact catechesis@theredeemer.ca.

A Fast for the Earth: Lent 2021

Are you looking to undertake a fast during Lent that focuses on creation and issues related to the climate crisis? The Bishop's Committee on Creation Care has produced A Fast for the Earth: Lent 2021 to provide a fast for each week of Lent: a meat fast, a consumption fast, a food waste fast, a water fast, an injustice fast, an electricity fast and an ignorance fast. May this [resource](#) be part of your Lenten observance.

If you are interested in a reflection group to support your participation in the fast, please [register](#) and we will contact you with further details.

Lententide Reading Group

Learning@Redeemer invites all to look forward throughout the season of Lent to the events of Holy Week with the Lententide Reading Group. We'll focus on Jesus' final days by reading the book *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. **The deadline to register is February 15.**

More details are [online](#) and [registration](#) is open now.

Living our Questions: A Small-Group Experience with Fellow Seekers

Is there a "sticking point" in your experience of Christian community? It's easy to feel isolated with our sticking points, but we're not. Learning@Redeemer invites you to share the questions you live with in a safe, confidential circle of fellow seekers. A group of 10 to 12 participants will begin meeting shortly after Easter, with the special invitation to share your "sticking points." We'll start by sharing from the heart about our journeys. In our later meetings, we'll take up the topics that members most want to explore and take turns leading discussion on. More details are on our [website](#), and [registration](#) is open.

Strategic Plan Update

While the trio working on Resourcing for Mission reported in November and received encouragement from the Board of Management we have not progressed with our plan.

We believe that the plan is sound - to be listening first and planning later. In the time since the last Board of Management meeting, the pandemic realities have forced a number of Church and other organizations to push off significant projects or events into late 2021 or even into 2022. (Canterbury Cathedral scaled back it's commemoration of the 850th anniversary of the martyrdom of Thomas Becket until 2021 or 2022. What's two years after 850? Just a round number.)

So with all that is happening we, again, are uncertain when to begin: Before Vestry, after Vestry, as part of the 150th, after the 150th.

At a recent Executive Committee meeting we agreed to provide an interim report or note to the Board of Management, Staying Connected (if appropriate), *The Gathering*, the 2020 Vestry Book.

MJ Wilson, Joan Robinson & I welcome advice and suggestions from the parish leadership.

Susan Graham Walker

An Update from the Refugee Settlement Committee

COVID has affected us all, from here in downtown Toronto to the entire world. While it has been two years since Church of the Redeemer last sponsored a group of refugees (4 young men from Eritrea), the committee has continued meeting occasionally, both to share our own circumstances and to exchange news and maintain hope that we will be able to welcome another group once travel restrictions are lifted.

The committee is working with AURA (Anglican United Refugee Alliance) to sponsor a Somali family of 7, currently living in a Kenyan refugee camp. We hope that they will be able to arrive by 2022.

Make every day a Season of Creation Day!

Following up on the 2020 Season of Creation, Learning@Redeemer in collaboration with Creation Matters presented a 30-Day Challenge. Each day, a member of The Redeemer community offered a reflection on our place in Creation with a related call to action. The responses were thoughtful, creative, and hopeful! The 30-Day Challenge is now available

on the Creation Matters@Redeemer [webpage](#). Please take up the challenge, but don't stop on day 30, just repeat!

Intercessions

In the prayers of the people each Sunday, space is left for members of the community to add a name or concern in chat. If you have people or situations that you would like included in the service but are not comfortable giving voice to them, there is a prayer request form on the website. These will be added to the intercessions in the appropriate petition. You can find the form [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.