



ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS EVE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021 AT 7:30 P.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!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today. Our home sits on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Standing at the crossroads of the heart of the city, this is a place of celebration, refuge, learning, and worship, for the vibrant, diverse faithful community that gathers here. We open our doors to welcome the sojourner, the weary, the yearning, and the seeker. We welcome you!

Children are always welcome in worship! To support your child's participation in worship we have activity bags available for use during the service. please look for the kits and supplies near the entrance of the Church by the rainbow carpet!

Pastoral care is available through the holiday season. Christmas is often a season of joy and light; it can also be a difficult time. If you are in need of prayer, a listening ear, or pastoral care, feel free to reach out to our clergy. One of us will be available throughout the Christmas season.

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:30 AM – Relaxed Sung Eucharist (Online and In-Person)
11:15 AM – Traditional Sung Eucharist (Online and In-Person)
7:00 PM – Various Evening Services (Online and/or In-Person)
8:00 PM – Compline (Online Only)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday-Saturday, 12:15PM – Mid-Day Prayer (Online Only)
Tuesday, 12:15 PM – Meditation (In-Person Only)
Wednesday – Daily Prayer (Posted on Website)

STAY CONNECTED

If you would like to stay connected with us and discover what's happening at Redeemer, feel free to subscribe to our **eNews** at theredeemer.ca/news-events.

theredeemer.ca facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO

<u>twitter.com/TheRedeemerTO</u> instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO **Song:** "Christmas Must Be Tonight" (The Band)

Come down to the manger.

See the little stranger

Wrapped in swaddling clothes, the prince of peace

The wheels start turning

Torches start burning

And the old wise men journey from the East

How a little baby boy

Bring the people so much joy

Son of a carpenter

Mary carried the light

This must be Christmas, must be tonight

A shepherd on a hillside

Where over my flock I bide

Oh a cold winter night a band of angels sing

In a dream I heard a voice

Say, "Fear not, come rejoice

It's the end of the beginning, praise the newborn king"

How a little baby boy

Bring the people so much joy

Son of a carpenter

Mary carried the light

This must be Christmas, must be tonight

I saw it with my own eyes

Written up in the sky

But why a simple herdsmen such as I?

And then it came to pass

He was born at last

Right below the star that shines on high

How a little baby boy

Bring the people so much joy

Son of a carpenter

Mary carried the light

This must be Christmas, must be tonight

¥ The Gathering of the Community

The Greeting

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.

The Collect of the Day

Priest: Almighty God,

as we prepare with joy

to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child,

embrace the earth with your glory

and be for us a living hope

in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

▼ The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

Please be seated

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

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Isaiah 9.2-7

People: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed



Second Reading

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Titus 2.11-14

People: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Song: "Golden Slumbers" (Lennon/McCartney)

Please rise, as you are able & sing

Once there was a way to get back homeward.

Once there was a way to get back home.

Sleep, pretty darling, do not cry, and I will sing a lullaby

Golden slumbers fill your eyes, smiles await you when you rise Sleep, pretty darling, do not cry, and I will sing a lullaby

The Gospel

Deacon: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 2.1-14

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Song: "Carry That Weight" (Lennon/McCartney)

Boy, you're gonna carry that weight Carry that weight a long time Boy, you're gonna carry that weight Carry that weight a long time

Homily: Steven Mackison

Please be seated

A moment of silence is observed

Priest: Let us confess our faith as we say,

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,

Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying,

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi,

hear us, O Lord

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth,

hear us, O Lord

All Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord

All: Lord, grant us peace.

Leader: Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and

Saviour Jesus Christ, hear us, O Lord

All: Lord, grant us peace. Amen.

The Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

If you would like to make a financial donation to the ministry of the Church of the Redeemer, please place your offering on the plate as you exit the building tonight.



that

bless - ed Christ -mas

morn.

The Prayer over the Gifts

sent

And God

Priest: Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast.

May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

sal - va - tion

▼ The Celebration of the Eucharist

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest: Truly it is right to praise you, Holy God wonderful and beyond all knowing. You are glorious in splendour and light. In your goodness and loving-kindness,

you breathed your word of love and all creation sprang forth.

All: He is born!

Priest: Giver of life, and lover of all things, you formed us in your own image, placing us in the garden of your delight, and giving the whole world into our care.

All: He is born!

All:

Priest: When we turned from you in folly and in pride, you would not leave us. In every generation your wisdom entered into holy men and women, making them your friends, prophets and witnesses to your love, heralds of your reign of justice and mercy.

He is born!

Priest: And so with all the angels and saints of every time and place, we join our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: Holy One, in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in the womb of his mother Mary. Dwelling among us as a servant, he revealed your glory. He fasted to learn your will, and feasted with sinners. Holding out his hands of mercy to all in need, he called all the fallen to join in your great feast. On the night before he gave his life for us Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Priest: In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks. He gave it to his friends, saying, "Drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."All: He is born!

Priest: Therefore, we proclaim the death he died when lifted on the cross, we celebrate his bursting from the tomb, and look for him to come again in glory, offering to you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

All: He is born!

Priest: Send forth your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. As we share this holy sacrament, so renew us by your Spirit that we may live as Christ's Body for the love of the world. Bless what is broken, bring healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed. Make us swift and faithful to serve you.

All: He is born!
Priest: Gather your people from the ends of the earth together with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, with prophets, apostles, martyrs and all your saints to feast at the table of your kingdom. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour, glory, and praise are yours, now and forever.

Gathering all our praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us. Our Father, who art in heaven,

the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

He is born!

All:

All:

Priest:

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 Breaking of the Bread

Priest: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

People: God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

Priest: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Giving and Receiving of Communion

Priest: Dear friends,

I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

For those of us participating at home, it is a strange experience to be invited to Communion

– not through the physical bread and wine we can touch and taste –
but a Spiritual Communion with the God who comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is genuine true desire, lively faith, and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how.

You may wish to pray quietly this prayer to help you:

One: Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.

You wait for me and only I can let you in.

I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence.

Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

Fraction Song: "Born at the Right Time" (Paul Simon)

Sung by the Choir

Down among the reeds and rushes a baby boy was found His eyes as clear as centuries, his silky hair was brown

Never been lonely, never been lied to, never had to scuffle in fear, nothing denied to Born at the instant the church bells chime, and the whole world whispering Born at the right time

Me and my buddies we are traveling people. We like to go down to restaurant row Spend those Euro-dollars all the way from Washington to Tokyo I see them in the airport lounge upon their mother's breast They follow me with open eyes, their uninvited guest

Never been lonely, never been lied to, never had to scuffle in fear, nothing denied to Born at the instant the church bells chime, and the whole world whispering Born at the right time

Too many people on the bus from the airport. Too many holes in the crust of the earth The planet groans every time it registers another birth But down among the reeds and rushes a baby girl was found Her eyes as clear as centuries, her silky hair was brown

Never been lonely, never been lied to, never had to scuffle in fear, nothing denied to Born at the instant the church bells chime, and the whole world whispering Born at the right time

The Communion



During communion, if you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the communion minister know.
If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms as shown in the picture on the left.

Communion Song: "Someday at Christmas" (Stevie Wonder)

All sing

Someday at Christmas men won't be boys playing with bombs like kids play with toys One warm December our hearts will see a world where men are free

Someday at Christmas there'll be no wars. When we have learned what Christmas is for When we have found what life's really worth there'll be peace on earth

Someday all our dreams will come to be, someday in a world where men are free Maybe not in time for you and me, but someday at Christmastime

Someday at Christmas we'll see a Man, no hungry children, no empty hand One happy morning people will share our world where people care

Someday at Christmas there'll be no tears, all men are equal and no men have fears One shining moment my heart ran away from our world today

Someday all our dreams will come to be, someday in a world where men are free Maybe not in time for you and me, but someday at Christmastime

Someday at Christmas man will not fail. Hate will be gone love will prevail Someday a new world that we can start with hope in every heart Maybe not in time for you and me, but someday at Christmastime, someday at Christmastime Ooh, Merry Christmas Saint Nick Christmas comes this time each year Ooh, ooh

Well way up North where the air gets cold There's a tale about Christmas

That you've all been told

And a real famous cat all dressed up in red And he spends the whole year workin' out on his sled

It's the little Saint Nick (little Saint Nick)
It's the little Saint Nick (little Saint Nick)

Just a little bobsled we call the old Saint Nick But she'll walk a toboggan with a four speed stick She's candy apple red with a ski for a wheel And when Santa hits the gas, man, just watch her peel

It's the little Saint Nick (little Saint Nick)
It's the little Saint Nick (little Saint Nick)

Run run reindeer

Run run reindeer (whoa)

Run run reindeer

Run run reindeer (he don't miss no one)

And haulin' through the snow at a frightening speed With a half a dozen deer with Rudy to lead He's got to wear his goggles 'cause the snow really flies And he's cruisin' every path with a little surprise

It's the little Saint Nick (little Saint Nick)
It's the little Saint Nick (little Saint Nick)

Ooh, Merry Christmas Saint Nick (Christmas comes this time each year)

Ooh, Merry Christmas Saint Nick (Christmas comes this time each year)

Ooh, Merry Christmas Saint Nick (Christmas comes this time each year)

Prayer After Communion

Please stand

Priest: Father of all,

tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature.

May we who have tasted heavenly things

share in the life of his eternal kingdom.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Doxology

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.



TEXT: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). MUSIC: Mendelssohn; Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847).

Dismissal

Deacon: Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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Musicians

Members of the Church of the Redeemer Choir
Mike Daley, Guitar and Vocals
Will Reid, Vocals
Jill Daley, Keys and Violin
Attila Darvas, Bass
Mike Barrington, Drums

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

*Friday, December 24, 10:30 PM*Carols, Procession & Solemn Sung Eucharist

Saturday, December 25, 10:30 AM Christmas Day morning procession and eucharist

Sunday, December 26 – First Sunday After Christmas
Eucharist at 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM, in the church and on Zoom

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, January 2 – The Epiphany of the Lord
We welcome the Magi as we continue our celebration of the birth of Jesus
Sung Eucharist at 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM, in the church and on Zoom
Compline at 7 PM in the church, and at 8 PM on Zoom

Sunday, January 9 – The Baptism of the Lord

Through the waters of baptism, Jesus heard "you are my Son, the beloved".

Sung Eucharist at 9:30 AM and 11:15 AM, in the church and on Zoom

Compline at 7 PM in the church, and at 8 PM on Zoom

Faith Formation

At Church of the Redeemer, we offer a variety of faith formation programs. For our youngest members and their families, we offer Pyjama Prayers on Zoom on Friday Nights at 6:45 PM. This is a time of story, songs, and prayers at the end of a week. For children (JK-Grade 6) we offer Church School Sundays at 9:30 AM on Zoom, these lessons help us connect, learn about Jesus, and have some fun.

Our youth group (Grade 7-12) gather in person at 9:30 AM, we gather to discuss, share life, and learn. Contact Andrew Kuhl (<u>akuhl@theredeemer.ca</u>) for more information about Children, Youth and Families.

Marginalia is our adult faith formation program. Coming up in January is a session on Jesus & Astrology (January 10th), and a series on Women & the Bible (January 24, 31, February 7). Marginalia brings people together for learning and conversation sometimes with special guests and speakers. For information about upcoming sessions contact Nate Wall (nwall@theredeemer.ca).

Jesus & Astrology (Jan. 10)

A band of non-Jewish strangers hunts down the baby Jesus because, as they say, "We saw his star at its rising." Ancient peoples tried to decode the stars' secrets. Modern people still feel the pull of celestial bodies on our lives. In this Marginalia one-off, we'll explore the role of stars and folk magic in the Bible, in western history, and in the here and now. And we'll wonder what it all has to do with the story of the non-Jewish magi who track down the Jewish Messiah.

Women & the Bible (Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7)

"Complicated" might be the best word to describe women's relationship with the Christian Bible. The Bible's words inspired the suffrage movement and made possible the 20th century idea of universal human rights. But the Bible has also been used to defend and entrench even the worst kinds of patriarchy. With the help of some special guests, this Marginalia series will explore the Bible's legacy when it comes to women and womanhood.

Worship and Spirituality

During the Week

Mid-day Prayer

Members of our community gather for mid-day prayer **Monday through Saturday** on Zoom at **12:15 PM**. For about 20 minutes we pause to hear scripture read and to pray for what's on our hearts and for the cares and concerns of the world. The Zoom link and list of readings is sent out each week through eNews. The order of service is on our website.

Tuesday Meditation Group

The group is taking a break for Christmas and will return on Jan. 4.

Prayer on Wednesday

Each Wednesday morning, a simple order for daily prayer is added to the parish website with a link shared on the Facebook page. This is an invitation to set aside time during the day to read scripture, to reflect and to offer prayers. The order of service for this coming Wednesday will be posted on the website.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Each month a cycle of prayer is available <u>online</u>. 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.

On Sunday

Intercessions

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

In the Community

Remember Your Booster

All members of the community are encouraged to book a COVID-19 booster vaccination as soon as you are eligible. Information is available on the <u>City of Toronto website</u>. When we love our neighbour, we wear a mask and get vaccinated!

Becoming a Pilgrim

The next steps in planning a parish Camino to Santiago pilgrimage in mid-September 2022, alongside a series of local pilgrimages in and around the GTA, are well underway. The Pilgrimage Committee is proposing two possible starting points for the Camino: the first begins in the village of O'Cebreiro and would mean a pilgrimage of about nine days; the second in the city of Sarria and would take approximately six to seven. The local pilgrimages in and around the GTA will begin Eastertide 2022 and continuing into the autumn. Anyone interested in the Camino pilgrimage in Spain is invited to a Zoom planning meeting on **Wednesday Jan. 19, 2022**, at 7:30 PM. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, please contact Susan Haig or Henry Krol. The Zoom link will be available in a future edition of eNews. Planning for the local pilgrimages will commence in February 2022.

The Common Table

The pandemic has caused many services to close, meaning low-income folks or people experiencing homelessness have limited access to resources. Clothing and hygiene supplies are particularly hard to come by and, with the changing of the seasons, we are in urgent need of winter wear. To donated needed resources, please contact <u>Paul Wasswa</u>, The Common Table's Outreach Supply Room Coordinator, to arrange a drop-off time. A list of the items we need is updated regularly and posted on <u>The Common Table's page</u> of the website. We ask that you donate only the needed items as storage space is limited. Please note that we are unable to provide receipts for in-kind donations.

Support Us

We gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus - God-with-us, Emmanuel. This has been a year where hopes for a return to life as it once was, has seemed within reach and still not yet. Through it all, we have worshiped, learned, served and celebrated together. In the midst of uncertainty, there is still much to be grateful for. As the calendar year ends, please consider reviewing your financial support of our vital ministry. If you have given all you can - thank you. Your gifts have made a difference.

If you have the capacity to make an additional gift or to give for the first time, please consider one of these options:

- online through **CanadaHelps**
- **e-transfer.** Please **contact** the treasurer, Richard Heystee, for more information on how to do this.
- a cheque, dated in December 2021, mailed to the church and postmarked in 2021. The church address is 162 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4.
- hand-delivered envelopes dropped through the mail slot in the door to the right of the main doors before midnight December 31, 2021 (if you can do this safely while following pandemic protocols).

Thank you for supporting the ministry of our community.