



PRAYING FOR PEACE SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022 AT 7:00 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 TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

We are in the heart of downtown Toronto and we gather to celebrate on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Our beautiful building connects us to the rich heritage of our city while also drawing us deeper into the roots of our Anglican tradition. Just as the streetscape around us has evolved over the years, our members have changed to reflect the growing, vibrant and progressive Christian community found at the Redeemer today.

We come from a variety of faith traditions (and sometimes no faith tradition at all), and we like it that way. We are students, workers, retired, homeless, not limited by sexual orientation, gender identity or personal history. We are at the very beginning of our life with Jesus and we are deeply steeped in a life complicated by faith. We open our doors to worship God and to learn about Jesus, and how all of this might just transform our lives.

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Land Acknowledgement

During the season of Lent, we will begin the liturgy in silence. Therefore, all are encouraged to offer this prayer, acknowledging the lands on which we dwell, before the service begins.

In this Holy time of Lent, we acknowledge with respect that we gather today in many sacred places that were home to those who have been displaced. We recognize that our church dwells on the traditional lands of the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Holy One, help us to repent of all that we have done, and to make peace with those whom we have wronged, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The Gathering of the Community

Please rise, as you are able

The service begins as the Candles for Peace are lit.

Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord. *People:* Thanks be to God.



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Confession

Please be seated

Leader: O Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the moment, because we are so preoccupied with our daily lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom. All: Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our convictions. In your name we pray. Amen.

The Word Heard

Scripture Reading

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Reader: The word of the Lord. *People:* Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63.1-8 (George Black)

Isaiah 55.1-9 A moment of silence is observed



O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; My soul thirsts for you,

my flesh faints for you,

as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,

that I might behold your power and your glory. Refrain



For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise. So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name. My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips. **Refrain**

When I remember you upon my bed,and meditate on you in the night watches.For you have been my helper,and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.My soul clings to you;your right hand holds me fast. Refrain

Scripture Reading

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. *People:* Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

Reader:The Gospel of Christ.All:Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 13.1-9

A minute of silence is observed for reflection.

Hymn: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"







Reflection: Nate Wall

Silence

We observe five minutes of silence

Embodied Prayer

Leader: Dear friends, St. Paul speaks to us the words of truth saying, "do not let the sun go down on your anger." In the cares of each day, in the anxieties we face, in the fears that come in the night we come before God seeking that peace which the world does not know and cannot give. I invite you, in the name of the Lord, to come forward and light a candle, As a symbol that peace may dispel the darkness of all conflict and aggression.

> All approach the bowls in the centre of the room, take a taper, light it form the candle and place it in the sand with the words: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace"



Hear us, O God, have mer-cy up-on us: for we have sinned a -gainst you.

- *Cantor:* To you, Redeemer, on your throne of glory: lift we our eyes in penitence and sorrow. Listen, O Jesus to our supplication. Refrain
- *Cantor:* O Christ, chief cornerstone, right hand of the Father, way of salvation, gate of life eternal, cleanse us, your people, in your love and mercy. **Refrain**
- *Cantor:* God, we implore you, in your glory seated, look with compassion on our deep affliction; heal and forgive us, God of grace and pity. Refrain
- *Cantor:* Sins oft committed, now we lay before you: with true contrition, now no more we veil them. Grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. **Refrain**
- *Cantor:* Innocent, captive, taken unresisting. falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced. Save us, we pray you, Jesus our Redeemer. Refrain

Prayers for Peace

Please rise, as you are able



God, bend your ear and hear our prayer.

Leader: Creator God, you have made us in your image and given us authority and responsibility to care for the earth and all <u>its</u> creatures.

All: God, bend your ear...

Leader: Teach us by your Spirit how to live so that the resources of the earth are preserved and developed in ways that benefit all your creatures throughout <u>the</u> world.

- All: God, bend your ear...
- Leader: Our God, we desire peace, we yearns for peace, we pray for peace.
- All: God, bend your ear...
- *Leader:* May people throughout the world be led by your Spirit to find avenues of peace and abandoning their swords of hatred <u>and</u> violence.
- All: God, bend your ear...

Leader: Ruler of the nations, we pray for those who hold positions of authority And power in <u>our</u> world.



God, bend your ear and hear our prayer.

All: God, bend your ear...

Leader: May they be filled with a desire for justice and take serious their calling to exercise their authority in ways that bring reconciliation, healing <u>and</u> peace.

- All: God, bend your ear...
- *Leader:* God of Hope, we pray for the many people in our world, neighbours near and far, who feel powerless and despairing and live with<u>out</u> hope.
- All: God, bend your ear...
- *Leader:* Strengthening God, encourage them in their struggle and may they come to know your love and your liberating word <u>of</u> hope.
- All: God, bend your ear...

Leader: Our God, receive our thanksgiving and praise. May we who have been blessed and provided for abundantly always express our gratitude in a ministry <u>of</u> sharing.

All: God, bend your ear...

Concluding Prayer

Leader: Merciful God,

you give to the faithful the peace we find in you. Grant to us who call upon your name your reconciling love, that it might rule our hearts, bend our wills, and transform our lives. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, who with you and the Holy Spirit dwell in perfect unity, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** Leader: Gathering all our cares into one, let us pray,

All: God, who cares for us, the wonder of whose presence fills us with awe, let justice, kindness and love shine in our world. Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven. Give us the food and the hope we need for today. Forgive us our wrongdoing as we forgive the wrongs done to us. Protect us from pride and from despair and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up. In you is truth, meaning, glory, and power, while worlds come and go. Amen.

Closing Song: #19 (Taize) "In God Alone"



Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace. *All:* **Thanks be to God.**

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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LENT AT REDEEMER

Sundays, March 6 to April 10, 9:30 AM & 11:15 AM – Lent Services Sung Eucharist

Sundays, March 20, and April 3, 7:00 PM – Prayers for Peace

Sunday, March 27, 7:00 PM – Rock Eucharist featuring the music of Billy Joel

Sunday, April 10, 7:00 PM – Bach Vespers featuring Dietrich Buxtehude's "Membra Jesu Nostri"

Weekdays, 12:15 PM – Lenten Mid-Day Prayer

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 on Zoom at 9:30 AM to discuss, share life, and learn. Contact Andrew Kuhl (<u>akuhl@theredeemer.ca</u>) for more information about Children, Youth and Families.

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 <u>on our website</u> (theredeemer.ca).

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 <u>website</u> (theredeemer.ca).

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

Calling All Pilgrims

The Becoming Pilgrims Committee invites all parishioners contemplating walking the Camino this September to a planning/preparation meeting on **Wednesday March 30** at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be both in the sanctuary of the church and by Zoom. A Camino veteran will speak to us about preparation and planning. Please join us and bring your questions. The link to the Zoom will be available in next week's eNews.

The Common Table

While we are beginning to return to some sort of normal, the past two years of 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 (pwasswa@theredeemer.ca)</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

Last year was one where hopes for a return to life as it once was, seemed within reach and still not yet. Through it all, we have worshiped, learned, served and celebrated together. In the midst of on-going uncertainty, there is still much to be grateful for. As the calendar year starts anew, please consider reviewing your financial support of our vital ministry. If your givings need to remain the same or be reduced - thank you for your continuing donations. Your gifts make a difference. If you have the capacity to increase your givings or to give for the first time, we are grateful.

Here are the ways you can offer your financial support:

- update your Pre- Authorized Remittance information or sign up for PAR. There is a form on the church website <u>www.theredeemer.ca/donate</u>
- online through CanadaHelps. There is a link on our website <u>www.theredeemer.ca/donate</u>
- e-transfer. Please contact the treasurer, Richard Heystee, for more information on how to do this.
- by cheque or cash on the collection plate when we gather for worship in the church