

PRAYING FOR PEACE SUNDAY, MAY 15, 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.

If you would like to stay up to date with our news and events, please feel free to subscribe to our eNewsletter by going to <u>theredeemer.ca/newsletters</u>.

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OFFERTORY — If you would like to make a monetary donation to support the ministry of Church of the Redeemer, we invite you to place your gift in the offering plate or visit <u>theredeemer.ca/donate</u> via the QR code above. Thank you for joining us today.

MASKING — During worship we continue to wear masks at all times while in the building. Masks need to cover the nose, mouth, and chin. If you need a mask, we have them available at the entrance to the church.

Those who are leading worship may, while speaking, remove their mask if they are properly distanced from others. During communion, after receiving the bread you may remove your mask when you have stepped away from the station.

We do this both to continue to care for one another and in compliance with the guidelines and policies of the Diocese of Toronto and the Bishop's Office.

Land Acknowledgement

This evening 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.

We acknowledge with respect that we gather today to celebrate on many traditional lands of peoples displaced, of freedoms compromised. We give thanks for those peoples whose lands are home to Redeemer the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. God of all. when your people were driven from their homes you showed them that they could not be driven away from you and you taught them that you would be with them, always. Be with all who seek a place to call home and lead them to their promised land Be with us, and help us to welcome the stranger with compassion and generosity. This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Redeemer. Amen.

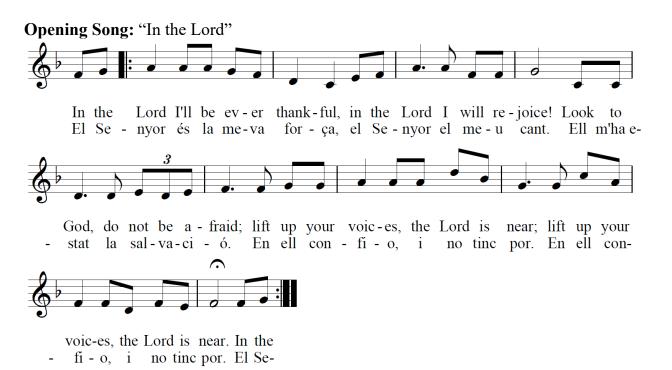
The Gathering of the Community

Please rise, as you are able

The service begins as the Candles for Peace are lit.

Leader: In your resurrection, O Christ.

People: May the peoples of the earth know peace.



The Word Heard

Scripture Reading

Please be seated

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

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

Matthew 11.28-30 A minute of silence is observed

Psalm 148 (George Black)



Praise God from the heavens; sing praise in the heights. Sing praise, all angels, sing praise, all you heavenly host. **Refrain**

Sing praise, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars. Sing praise, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. **Refrain**

Let them praise your name, O God; for you commanded, and they were created. You made them stand fast for ever and ever; you gave them a law which shall not pass away. **Refrain**

O praise God from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will; **Refrain**

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars: Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds; Rulers of the earth and all peoples, princes and all sovereigns of the world; Young men and women, old and young together. **Refrain**

Let them praise your name, O God, for your name only is exalted, your splendour is over earth and heaven. You have raised up strength for your people and praise for all your loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near you. **Refrain**

Reading: "Common Ground" (Judith Ortiz Cofer)

Blood tells the story of your life in heartbeats as you live it; bones speak in the language of death, and flesh thins with age when up through your pores rises the stuff of your origin. These days, when I look in the mirror I see my grandmother's stern lips speaking in parentheses at the corners of my mouth of pain and deprivation I have never known. I recognize my father's brows arching in disdain over the objects of my vanity, my mother's nervous hands smoothing lines just appearing on my skin, like arrows pointing downward to our common ground.

A minute of silence is observed for reflection.

Hymn: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"



loved as to love with all my soul.

Reflection: Steven Mackison

Invitation to Silence

Leader: Eternal God,

in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn, but the sword of righteousness,
and no strength known, but the strength of love:
we ask You so mightily, to shed and spread abroad Your Spirit,
that all peoples and ranks may be gathered
under the one banner of the Prince of Peace:
as children of one God and Father of all:
to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever, Amen.

Let us ask for God's guidance and protection in our meditation, our prayers and our whole lives.

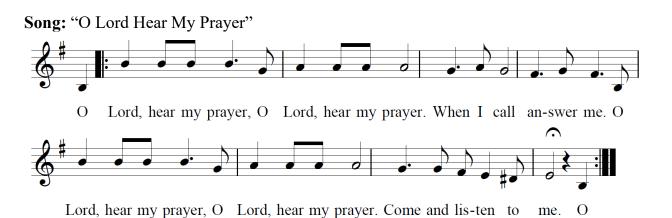
Silence

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.

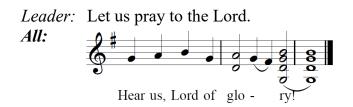
All approach the bowls in the centre of the room, take a taper, light it from the candle and place it in the sand with the words: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace" For those at home participating on Zoom, you are invited to light a candle and say the same words.



Prayers for Peace

Please rise, as you are able

As we pray for peace this evening, the leader will offer intercessions. In the spaces of silence, feel free to add your own petitions silently, aloud, or in the chat box. Each intercession will close with the following:



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.

Departing Song: "Da Pacem Cordium" A B Da pa-cem cor-di - um. Da pa-cem cor-di - um. Da paev-'ry heart. Give peace to ev-'ry heart. Give Give peace to peace. С cem. Da pa cem. Da Lord. Give peace, Lord. Give

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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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 outside of the church, these lessons help us connect, learn about Jesus, and have some fun. Our youth group (Grade 7-12) gather in the church 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

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 (theredeemer.ca). These will be added in the Zoom chat in the appropriate petition of the intercessions.

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).

In the Community

Creation Matters

Creation Matters, Redeemer's ecospirituality group, gathers each month for prayer, discussion, and support. Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 18, from 2:00 - 4:00 PM, via Zoom. If you would like to join us, please contact Grant Jahnke at <u>creationmatters@theredeemer.ca</u>.

Voices for Peace 2022

Join people from around the world as we gather on May 24, 2022, at 7:00 PM, for our 2022 Voices for Peace conference – Blessed Are the Peacemakers. Our featured keynote — awardwinning author and the publisher of Orbis books, Robert Ellsberg, will talk about what it is to create a culture of peace that embraces the radical vision of the Beatitudes. A panel of guests that include Boris Gudziak, Archbishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church; Willard Metzger, Executive Director, Citizens for Public Justice; Joanne Jefferson, Kairos Indigenous Rights Circle, Stolon Nation; opera singer and concert artist Measha Brueggergosman will respond to Robert Ellsberg's presentation from their unique perspectives. Registration is free (https://www.livemeeting.ca/register/?meet=18719&rel=18825)

The Common Table – Donations Needed!

At our drop-in program, The Common Table, we are preparing for the summer season and giving our community the necessities to live. We are in high need of: toothpaste, men's pants (sizes 30-34), track pants, t-shirts, windbreakers and light jackets, baseball caps, and sunscreen. Please call the Church office (416-922-4948) or email Bill Ryan (<u>commontable@theredeemer.ca</u>) to arrange a donation.

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.

- 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 www.theredeemer.ca/donate
- e-transfer. Please contact the treasurer (treasurer@theredeemer.ca) for more information on how to do this.
- by cheque or cash on the collection plate when we gather for worship in the church

FLORAL DEDICATIONS provide a wonderful way to express our personal thanksgiving and remembrances. Just call (416-922-4948) or email the Church office (<u>office@theredeemer.ca</u>) with your dedication information. The cost is \$150+tax for chancel flowers if there is only one dedication on a Sunday, or \$75+tax if there are multiple dedications.