

Advent

Light a candle in the darkness



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022
at 10:30 a.m.

The Church of the Redeemer: 162 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON, M5S 1M4

> Tel: (416) 922 4948 office@theredeemer.ca 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 theredeemer.ca/newsletters.

<u>theredeemer.ca</u> facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO <u>twitter.com/TheRedeemerTO</u> instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO

Welcome

Prayer for the Blessing of Light (Malcolm Archer)

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, eternal creator of day and night. Now, as darkness is falling, hear the prayer of your faithful people.

Wash away our transgressions, cleanse us by your refining fire, and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.

May we live in watchfulness as we wait for the coming of your Son Jesus Christ, who shall judge the world and all its works.

Rouse us then from the sleep of sin and make us ready to enter your kingdom where songs of praise for ever sound.

For you are the true light, who lightens every one, and the new heavens and the new earth join to sing your praise now and for evermore. Amen.

The congregation stands as the Light of Advent is shared. Tapers are lit.

Litany

Cantor: Alert and full of joy, let us pray to the Lörd saying:



Cantor: O God, in your measureless love you have fashioned humanity, making it

glorious by the image of your glory; hear us, we pray:

All: Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Cantor: Through Abraham you promised happiness to all who love you, and by the

manifestation of Christ you have made yourself known to your Church; hear us,

we pray:

All: Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Cantor: When we wander in darkness, you do not leave us, but restore us to the light of

your forgiveness; hear us, we pray:

All: Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Cantor: Sanctify in love the whole body of your people, we pray:

All: Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Cantor: Lord, you govern all the world in your love; hear us, we pray:

All: Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Cantor: Give us the victory, Lord Jesus Christ, when you come; set peace in your

Church, and hear us, we pray:

All: Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Music: Jacques Berthier. Text: Praise in All our Days (adap.)

We pause to offer our prayers and thanksgivings silently or aloud

Collect of the Day

Priest: Almighty God,

as your kingdom dawns,

turn us from the darkness of sin

to the light of holiness,

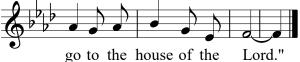
so that we may be ready to meet you

in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please extinguish your tapers

Antiphon:





Choir: Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself; to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Choir: For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Choir: For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Reading 1: "Advent Credo" (Allan Boesak)

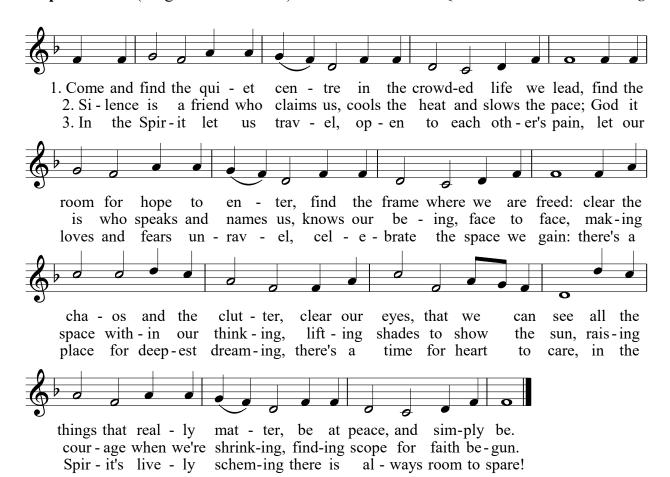
It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—

This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

- It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—
- This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful counsellor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.
- It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—
- This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.
- It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—
- This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.
- It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—
- This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.
- So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.



Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1992, alt. © 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Melody attrib. Benjamin Franklin White, 1844; harm. Ronald A. Nelson, 1978. Harm. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.

A moment of silence is observed

Reading 2: Isaiah 2.1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat

their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Response 2: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" (Edward Bairstow)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought.

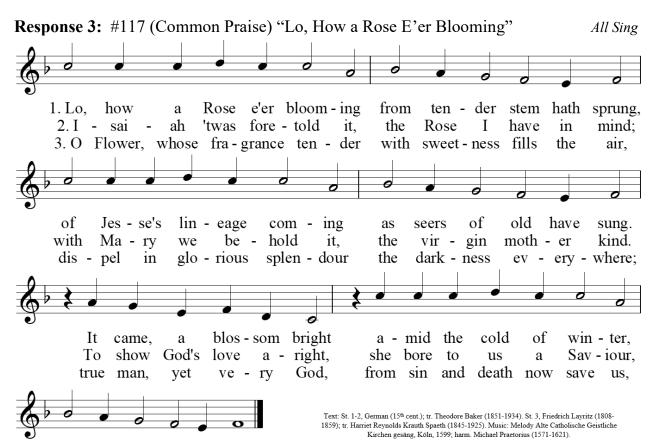
For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation and to be given for Food to the faithful. Before him come the choirs of angels with every principality and power; the Cherubim with many eyes, and winged Seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

A moment of silence is observed

Reading 3: "Poem for Advent" (Sarah Klassen)

He comes at last, the long-expected painter in working clothes, carrying ladders, paint-splattered dropsheets. He'll cover everything and scan each wall for cracks caused by the building shifting, plaster and scrape, making rough places plain. If he's inclined he'll hum Lo, how a rose ere blooming while I remove from every room all hindrances: the vining ivy, ornaments, those matched lamps that might get in the way of things. Myself.

When everything is ready, he'll begin.



when half spent was the night. when half spent was the night. and share our ev-ery load.

A moment of silence is observed

Reading 4: Matthew 24.36-44

Please rise as you are able

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Response 4: Canticle: Song of Zechariah (Paraphrase)



- 1. Blessed be the God of Is ra el who comes to set us free and rais es
 - 2. With prom-ised mer-cy will God still the cov-e-nant re-call: the oath once 3. My child, as proph-et of the Lord, you will pre-pare the way, to tell God's



up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree. So have the prophets sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all; that we might wor-ship peo-ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway. Then shall God's mer - cy



long de-clared that with a might - y arm God would turn back our en - e-with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise, from on high shine forth and nev - er cease to drive a - way the gloom of



Text: Song of Zechariah (Luke 1.68-79); para. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944-). Para. © 1989 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Dorothy Howell Sheets (1915-2011) ©.\

mies and all who wish us harm. ness be-fore God all our days. death and lead us in - to peace.

Homily: Bill Ryan

Please be seated

Commissioning and Blessing of the Director of the Common Table

Priest: Dear Friends in Christ, Bill Ryan has been appointed Director of the Common Table, a position of leadership and service, of discerning the needs and feeding the bodies and souls of those come through our doors seeking God's help. Bill's ministry continues the compassionate work done through the years in this community, and is part of the work and witness of the whole Church.

The Priest addresses the Director saying,

Priest: Bill, will you, in the presence of this congregation to which you have been called to serve as Director, commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Bill: I will, with God's help.

Priest: People of the Church of the Redeemer, will you, having accepted Bill as Director of the Common Table, commit yourselves to support him in this ministry?

People: We will, with God's help.

The Director faces the congregation

Bill: I, Bill Ryan, commit myself to you, the people of the Church of the Redeemer, bringing my strengths and weaknesses, my hopes and concerns, my gifts and talents bestowed on me by God's grace, and will endeavour, with the help of God, to share with you in the ministry of the Common Table, in the name of Christ, with the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

People: We, the people of the Church of the Redeemer commit ourselves to you as our Director, bringing our strengths and weaknesses, our hopes and concerns, our gifts and talents bestowed on us by God's grace, and will endeavour with the help of God, to share with you in the ministry of the Common Table, in the name of Christ, with the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

Members of the community form a circle of blessing.

Priest: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified; hear our prayer which we offer for Bill this day; that in his vocation and ministry he may serve you with compassion and faithfulness to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest presents the Director to the Community

The Peace Please rise as you are able

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

People: And also with you.

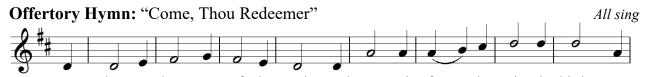
If you would like to make a monetary donation to support the ministry of Church of the Redeemer, we invite you to:

- Place your gift in the offering plate
- Use the tap and give kiosk at the door
- Visit theredeemer.ca/donate
- Use this QR code



Your support allows us to be witnesses to God's love on our corner of Bloor and Avenue Road - now, and in the future.

Thank you for joining us today.



- 1. Come, thou Re-deem er of the earth, And ma ni fest thy vir-gin-birth: Let 2. Be got-ten of no hu-man will, But of the Spi rit, thou art still The
- 3. Forth from his cham-ber go-eth he, That ro-yal home of pur-i-ty, A
- 4. From God the Fa ther he pro-ceeds, To God the Fa ther back he speeds; His 5. Thy cra dle here shall glit-ter bright, And dark-ness breathe a new-er light, Where
- 6. All laud, e ter nal Son, to thee Whose ad vent sets thy peo-ple free, Whom



ev - 'ry age a - dor - ing fall; Such birth be - fits the God of all. Word of God in flesh ar - rayed, The pro-mised fruit to us dis-played. giant in two-fold sub-stance one, Re - joi - cing now his course to run. course he runs to death and hell, Re - turn - ing on God's throne to dwell. end - less faith shall shine se - rene, And twi - light nev - er in - ter - vene. with the Fa - ther we a - dore, And ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

▼ The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest: God of love and power,

your word stirs within us

the expectation of the coming of your Son.

Accept all we offer you this day,

and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.

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

The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.



<u>Lift up</u> your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you,

almighty and merciful God,

through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people

with the promise of the Redeemer,

through whom you will also make all things new

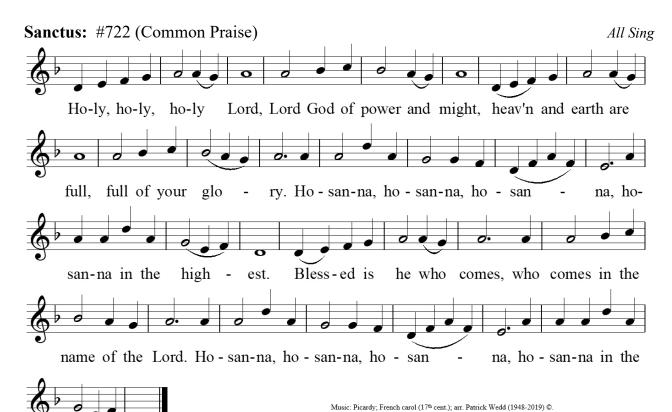
in the day when he comes to judge

the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



high - est.

Priest: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophet's hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,

and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples,

saying, Take and eat: this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me. Therefore we proclaim our hope,

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Priest: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Priest: Holy God, we long for your spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

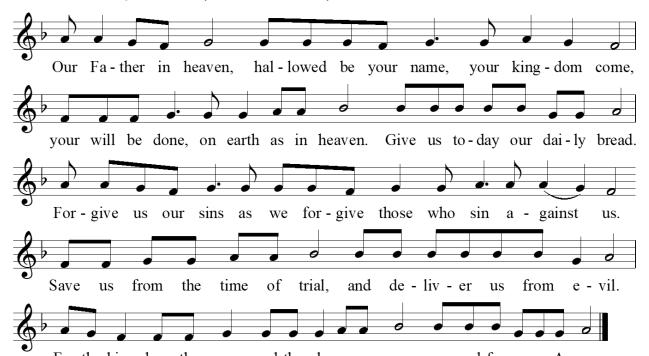
Priest: All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer: #744 (Common Praise)



For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom. *People:* Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Antiphon for Advent (Ephrem Feeley)

The Lord will bestow his bounty, And our earth shall yield its increase.

The Communion

All in the church are asked to remain seated to receive communion. If you are wearing a mask, please keep it on while the priest offers you the bread. After the priest moves on to the next person, remove your mask, eat the bread and replace your mask. If you need a glutenfree wafer, please indicate this to the priest. If you wish to partake of the wine, remove your mask as the communion minister offers you the chalice and then replace your mask. If you would like to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms as shown in the picture

above and the priest will be pleased to offer you a blessing.

Communion Hymn: #41 (Sing a New Creation) "Come, Come Emmanuel"

All sing



Come, come Em-man-u - el. Come, Em-man-u - el.

Text and music: James J. Chepponis, 1995. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayer after Communion

Please rise as you are able

Priest: All your works praise you, O Lord.

All: And your faithful servants bless you.

Gracious God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
May we, who share his body, live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup, bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements Please be seated

Song of the Advent: "Let It Be" (Lennon / McCartney)

Please rise as you are able and ALL sing

When I find myself in times of trouble, Mother Mary comes to me

Speaking words of wisdom, let it be

And in my hour of darkness she is standing right in front of me

Speaking words of wisdom, let it be

Let it be, let it be, let it be Whisper words of wisdom, let it be

And when the broken hearted people living in the world agree

There will be an answer, let it be

For though they may be parted, there is still a chance that they will see

There will be an answer, let it be

Let it be, let it be, let it be There will be an answer, let it be

Let it be, let it be, let it be Whisper words of wisdom, let it be

Let it be, let it be, let it be Whisper words of wisdom, let it be, be

And when the night is cloudy there is still a light that shines on me Shinin' until tomorrow, let it be I wake up to the sound of music, Mother Mary comes to me Speaking words of wisdom, let it be

And let it be, let it be, let it be Whisper words of wisdom, let it be

The Dismissal

Priest: Go forth in hope to serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Ministry Updates

Mask-wearing

The diocese is strongly recommending as much as possible that we all wear a mask when in indoor settings, including our church building.

Staying Connected

The next meeting is **today at 2 PM** on Zoom. Bill Ryan, our new director at the Common Table will be part of the meeting. Come and get to know more about him. The Zoom link is in eNews.

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 are sent out each week through eNews. The order of service is <u>on our website</u> (theredeemer.ca).

Tuesday Meditation

Tuesday Meditation with Lilian Junkin gathers for 30 minutes in the chancel at 12:15 PM for a peaceful mid-week reflection. If you have any other questions, please contact Lilian (<u>lilian.n.junkin@gmail.com</u>).

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).

Garden Eucharists this Autumn

Our Garden Eucharists at the home of Karen and Michael Visser have continued throughout the autumn. Please join us on this last Saturday afternoon of the year, weather permitting:

Saturday December 31, at 1:00 PM

If you have any questions, please be in touch with Susan Haig (shaig@theredeemer.ca) or Andrew Kuhl (akuhl@theredeemer.ca).

Blue Christmas Service

For those who have lost loved ones near the Christmas season, this time can be difficult as remembrances of close friends and family no longer with us. This special service will take place on **Tuesday**, **December 13** at **6 PM** in the church and on Zoom.

On Sunday

Rock Eucharist and Bach Vespers

Mark your calendars! Join us at 7 PM on **Sunday, December 4** for a Rock Eucharist featuring music of the Beatles with Redeemer singers and band. This service will be in-person and live streamed on YouTube.

Bach Vespers will also be in-person and live streamed on YouTube at 7 PM on **Sunday, December 18**. It will feature Part III of Bach's Christmas Oratorio with the Redeemer choir and orchestra.

Christmas Flowers

If you would like to contribute towards the flowers and decorations for Christmas, please mark your donation "Christmas Flowers" and include any memorial information you would like mentioned in the Christmas bulletins. The deadline for these dedications is **Friday**, **December 16**. Any late submissions unfortunately will not be able to be published until after Epiphany as the church is closed over the holidays and all bulletins including Epiphany will be prepared before Christmas.

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 included but are not comfortable giving voice to them, there is a <u>prayer request form</u> on the website (theredeemer.ca). These will be offered silently by one of the priests during the appropriate petition of the intercessions.

In the Community

Zoom Coffee and Conversation

After the services, the connection on Zoom will be kept open for a post-service coffee time. We will pause for about five minutes to allow time to grab a cup of coffee, tea or a cool beverage and return for a time of conversation.

Coffee Time at the Church

All who attend worship services in the church building are invited to linger for a time of conversation and coffee in the narthex – the space at the back of the church – immediately following the service.

Sunday Driver Needed

The Pastoral Care Team is looking for someone to drive one of our parishioners to Redeemer on Sunday mornings from time to time. They live near St. Clair and Birchmount. If you are able to assist, please speak to Susan Haig or email her at shaig@theredeemer.ca.

Redeemer Gifts - Invitation for Delivery Friends

Amid the hustle and bustle, Christmas can be a difficult time of the year for people who have experienced a loss or illness, or who feel isolated and sad during these continuing challenging times. The Pastoral Care Team, with the help of many members of our community, responds by delivering gift bags and cards to these folks to remind them that we are holding them in our hearts, and to bring a touch of cheer!

Redeemer Gifts will be delivered on Saturday, December 17th. We are seeking Delivery Friends (on foot, bicycle, or by car) to deliver the gift bags. Please contact Mary-Jane Wilson at mjwdhp@icloud.com or 647-227-0952 if you are able to help. Thank you!

Sunday Brunch for the 20s/30s Group

Sundays are good days for low-key brunch after church. If you're in your 20s or 30s and you'd like to join a group of us from Redeemer who meet up around the corner at Hemingway's, then put these dates on your calendar: **December 4, and December 18**. On those days we'll meet at the stone baptismal font near the church entrance after the service before heading out. Reach out to <u>Nate Wall (nwall@theredeemer.ca)</u> if you have any questions.

Open Doors

Would you like to join the Open Doors Docent team? Each Wednesday from 12-2 and each Friday from 11-2 we open our doors and in pairs we welcome any who wish to enter to rest or look around. If you would like to be introduced to this ministry or be added to the rota let us know (office@theredeemer.ca).

The Spirit Garden

The parishes of the Diocese of Toronto are responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Call to Action #82. It calls for the installation of Residential School Monuments in each provincial capital. The **Spirit Garden** at Toronto City Hall will be a place for teaching, learning, sharing and healing, especially for school groups. Please watch Bishop Asbil's call at https://fb.watch/cCKff5EAbP/ and a 'fly-through' of the project at https://www.councilfire.ca/spirit-garden.html.

You can donate here: toronto.anglican.ca & clicking "Spirit Garden". Thank you from your ISWG.

Marginalia

Marginalia – church school for grown-ups and the place where we at Redeemer meet to learn, ponder, and debate the puzzles of the Bible and the Mysteries of Faith – has returned!

Sundays, November 20, December 4 & 11 at 9:30 AM in the church: Kingdom Come: Praying the Future with Jesus

Predictive models and pundits try to get us ahead of the future. If the recent past has taught us anything, though, it's that the future will always be uncertain and unknown. What is a follower of Jesus in the winter of 2022—war ongoing, viruses ganging up, inflation rising—supposed to *hope for*? In this year's final Marginalia series we pose that question to the one prayer Jesus taught his disciples, the "Lord's Prayer." How can Jesus' prayer help us face the future?

Registration is open at www.theredeemer.ca. Contact Nate Wall (nwall@theredeemer.ca) for more information.

I Wonder as I Wander: Walking Together Monday Evenings in Advent

Redeemer Explorers invites you to join fellow travellers each **Monday in Advent beginning on November 28** for a guided evening candlelit walk of 30 to 40 minutes. The walks will begin at 5:30 PM, setting out from and returning to Redeemer. There's the option of heading off together for dinner at a nearby pub afterwards.

Further details and registration links for any or all of the walks are on the website under the "What's Happening/Redeemer Explorers" tab.

Common Table Ongoing In-House Volunteer Training

We are excited to announce that the first date for in-house volunteer training for The Common Table will be: **Wednesday, November 30** from 4 - 5 PM. Bill Ryan will lead the discussion on *Poverty in Toronto*. The session will be held in the lower level board room as well as on Zoom. For those who cannot attend, each session will be recorded and made available.

Future dates and speakers will be confirmed for this series which will take place on the last Wednesday of each month

Upcoming topics will include:

- Homelessness in Toronto
- Keeping Healthy in a Busy World
- Two Sides of the Same Coin: Compassion and Social Justice
- Mental Health and Street Life
- Understanding Addictions from a street-level Point of View
- Social Services Allies and Partners

For further information please $\underline{email\ Bill\ Ryan}\ (\underline{commontable@theredeemer.ca}).$

Children's Messiah

Join in a 60-minute, family-friendly casual concert in support of The Common Table on **Saturday, December 3 at 4 PM**. Children's Messiah introduces young audience members to a great choral masterwork and the joys of the

collective live musical experience. Children are encouraged to sit up front to experience the intensity of orchestra and choir, while soloists, including our own Catharin Carew, engage with them directly.

In addition to excerpts from Handel's Messiah, there will be carols for all to sing. Admission is pay-what-you-can at the door. No reservations are necessary. Bring the youngest members of your family or the special child in your life and enjoy this glorious choral experience while supporting our Common Table.

The Carol King Story

Renowned public speaker and musician - and our assistant director of music - Dr. Mike Daley tells the story of singer-songwriter Carole King and performs her classic songs with Jill Daley and Laurel Tubman on **Sunday, December 11** at 7:30 PM at Redeemer. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

Christmas in the City

The annual benefit concert in support of The Common Table will be on Saturday, December 17 at 2 PM.

The Common Table, Church of the Redeemer's drop-in community provides a safe space for some of our neighbourhood's vulnerable members to enjoy a hot meal, good company and have some of their basic needs met. Join Kevin Breit, Wendell Ferguson, Michelle Rumball, Danny Marks, Fraser/Daley, Greg Wyard, Karen Weigold, Clela Errington, Michael-Robert Broder, The Redeemers and more in this afternoon of music-making to help provide support and care for our community. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

An Update from the Refugee Settlement Committee

As we approach Advent, the season of hopeful expectation, we too are filled with hopeful expectation that Abdikadir and Asho's arrival with their six sons will soon be announced.

Back in 2016, in the midst of the surge of Syrian refugees, Mary Jo Leddy gave this advice: "Pay attention; don't wait until you are ready; do what you can". An MPP in the audience spoke up and said, "I've been waiting to do something, because I didn't think I was ready, and I didn't know what to do. Now I do, so if you're interested in joining me, call my office tomorrow".

Clearly, Redeemerites and their friends are ready and doing what they can to help prepare for the family's arrival. Thanks to your generosity, we have all the clothing, furniture, and supplies that are needed for now, and are putting a pause on requests for more items until the family arrives. A big thank you to all who have contributed.

We are still seeking housing for this large family, so if you hear of any housing possibilities, please contact <u>Alison Colvin (acolvin@sympatico.ca)</u> or <u>Henry Krol (henrykrol@yahoo.com)</u>, committee co-chairs.

Settling such a large family in a new country requires funding. You can donate through Canadahelps.org and the **Welcome Abdikadir and Family to Canada campaign** page. Canadahelps.org will provide an immediate tax receipt. (https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118863729RR0001-church-of-the-redeemer/p2p/welcomingAbdikadir/)

May your Advent season be filled with hopeful expectation.

Children, Youth and Families

We have resources available in church for children, and all families are invited to participate in worship together. Please find these resources in the back pew on the west side of the church!

Our regular Church School and Youth Group gatherings have returned. Youth group gathers at 9:30 AM and Church School happens during 10:30 service. Children are invited to go downstairs after the collect with our Church School Volunteers for a 30 minute lesson, returning at the Eucharist. If you have children or youth who are school aged, feel free to contact Andrew Kuhl to get on our contact list!

If you are a family with young children interested in programming for young families, please contact Andrew Kuhl (akuhl@theredeemer.ca).

How Are You Doing?

Our clergy are available to meet with you to talk and for prayer as is helpful to you. You can contact them through the church office (416-922-4948) or by email (Steven Mackison – smackison@theredeemer.ca, Susan Haig – shaig@theredeemer.ca, Andrew Kuhl akuhl@theredeemer.ca).

Pastoral Care Calls

Volunteers from the pastoral care team continue to call members of the Redeemer community to check in with them. Please contact Tony Crosbie (tony.crosbie@sympatico.ca) if you know someone who would benefit from a call from one of the pastoral care team.

Bulletin Announcements

If you have an announcement you would like included in an upcoming bulletin, please send it to Marjorie Wrightson (mwrightson@theredeemer.ca) by Tuesday at 5 PM. Thank you.

Interim Administrator On-Site

Susan Graham Walker, the Part-time Interim Administrator, is on-site most Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 AM to 12 PM. Please don't hesitate to connect by email (<u>sgwalker@theredeemer.ca</u>) or text (647-215-8814).

Advent Resources

As we prepare for Advent and Christmas, some find it helpful to have a way of spending intentional time through the days of Advent to set aside time to pray, reflect and study. Below is the beginning of a list of resources that members of our community may find helpful. Whether you embrace one (or more!) of these on your own or whether you gather some friends and neighbours to journey with together, may your Advent be blessed.

Advent Course

Join Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat for a Bible Remixed Advent Course "The Secret Life of Hope: Reading the Beatitudes" on Monday evenings beginning **November 28**, via Zoom.

Are the Beatitudes a fantasy vision of an impossible world, or a glimpse into the radical world of God's new community? All are welcome; pay what you can. More information is available at <u>Bible Remixed</u> (https://www.bibleremixed.ca/).

PWRDF Advent Resource

The Primates World Relief and Development Fund offers an Advent resource "The Birth of Hope", written by Sylvia Keesmaat, with daily scripture readings, reflections, prayers and PWRDF stories that arrive in your inbox, starting Sunday, November 27 or you can download the entire PDF (available November 9). For further information, <u>visit their website (https://pwrdf.org/advent2022/)</u>.

Light One Candle

Bishop Andrew Asbil is offering a series of four Advent reflections for use by parishes and people in the Diocese. "Light One Candle" explores the four themes of the season: hope, peace, joy and love. The videos are available on the diocese's YouTube channel. (https://www.youtube.com/tordio135).

Advent Word

AdventWord is an online Advent calendar that invites a global community to come and pray together. As they note on the <u>AdventWord website</u> (https://adventword.org/en/home/):

There are many ways to participate in AdventWord! And all of them are correct!

- Read and pray over the daily emailed meditation during Advent
- Connect and discuss the day's word with other disciples on our social media pages
- Share your own personal meditation to inspire others—whether visual or written. Haikus and poems, paintings, photographs, personal reflections, and more are all encouraged.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, December 4 (Advent 2)

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube

7 PM – Rock Eucharist, featuring music of the Beatles – in the Church and through YouTube

Tuesday, December 13

6 PM – Blue Christmas – in the Church and on Zoom

Sunday, December 11 (Advent 3)

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube

Sunday, December 18 (Advent 4)

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube

7 PM – Bach Vespers, featuring Part III of Bach's Christmas Oratorio – in the Church and through YouTube

Saturday, December 24 (Eve of the Nativity)

5 PM – in the Church and through YouTube

7:30 PM - Rockin' Christmas Eve - in the Church and through YouTube

10:30 PM – in the Church, on Zoom and through YouTube

Sunday, December 25 (The Nativity of the Lord)

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube