



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
HOLY EUCHARIST  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 AT 10:30 A.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 [theredeemer.ca/newsletters](https://theredeemer.ca/newsletters).

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*We begin in silence with our focus toward the altar.*

*Please bring conversations to a close when entering the worship space.*

*All are invited to say the following Land acknowledgement prayer silently:*

*We acknowledge with respect that we gather today to celebrate on many traditional lands. 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. We pray that as we celebrate this Advent, We may help to create those things for which we wait: hope for a truthful tomorrow, a justice filled peace The joy of hearts and lives reconciled, and the love which binds us all as one. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.*

*The service begins in darkness. The Advent Candles are lit.*

**Phos Hilaron: O Gladsome Light** (Walter MacNutt)

*Please rise as you are able*

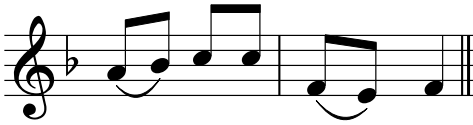
O gladsome Light,  
O Grace of God the Father's face,  
The eternal splendour wearing;  
Celestial, holy, blest,  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ  
Joyful in thine appearing.

To thee of right belongs  
All praise of holy songs,  
O Son of God, Lifegiver;  
Thee, therefore, O Most High,  
The world doth glorify,  
And shall exalt forever.

*The Light of Advent is shared. Tapers are lit. Please light the candle of the person next to you.*

# Litany

## Refrain:



Lord Je-sus come soon!

*Cantor:* For the darkness of waiting  
of not knowing what is to come  
of staying ready and quiet and attentive,  
we praise you O God.

*All:* **Lord Jesus come soon!**

*Cantor:* For the darkness of staying silent  
for the terror of having nothing to say  
and for the greater terror of needing to say nothing,  
we praise you O God:

*All:* **Lord Jesus come soon!**

*Cantor:* For the darkness of loving  
in which it is safe to surrender  
to let go our self-protection  
and to stop holding back our desire,  
we praise you O God:

*All:* **Lord Jesus come soon!**

*Cantor:* For the darkness of choosing  
when you give us the moment to speak, and act, and change,  
and we cannot know what we have set in motion,  
but we have to take the risk,  
we praise you O God:

*All:* **Lord Jesus come soon!**

*Cantor:* For the darkness of hoping  
in a world which longs for you,  
for the wrestling and the labouring of all creation  
for wholeness and justice and freedom,  
we praise you O God:

*All:* **Lord Jesus come soon!**

*We pause to offer our prayers and thanksgivings silently or aloud*

## Collect of the Day

*Priest:* God of glory and compassion,  
at your touch the wilderness blossoms.  
Grant perseverance and patience  
to all who long for your Son's return,  
so that we may announce in word and deed  
the good news of the kingdom.  
We ask this through Christ whose day draws near. **Amen.**

*Please extinguish your tapers*

## Canticle: Magnificat (Taizé, arr. D. Cowling)

*Please be seated*

The musical notation is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff is labeled with a circled 'A' and contains the melody for the first line of the canticle. The second staff is labeled with a circled 'B' and contains the melody for the second line. The third staff is labeled with a circled 'C' and contains the melody for the third line. The fourth staff is labeled with a circled 'D' and contains the melody for the fourth line. The lyrics are written below the staves in French and English.

Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.  
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free.

Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a!  
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

Text: Luke 1.46; Taizé Community, 1978. Tune: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1979, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

## Reading 1: Isaiah 35.1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.  
Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**Response 1:** “And He Shall Purify” (*G.F. Handel – Messiah*)

And He shall purify the sons of Levi  
that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

~ Malachi 3:3

*A moment of silence is observed*

**Reading 2:** “John the Baptist” (*Adapted from York Mystery Plays [no.21:Barbours]*)

When I have, in the name of the Baptist,  
The folk in water clear, then have I said that  
After me shall he come that has more power  
Than I to judge; he shall give baptism  
More entire in fire and spirit.  
Thus am I come in message right,  
To be the forerunner in true witness bearing of that light.  
The which shall light in every man that is come into this world.  
My Lord Jesus shall come this day  
From Galilee unto this flood ye Jourdane call.  
I thank him ever, but am a-feared I am not able to fulfil this deed.  
The heavens shall be opened and the Holy Ghost shall down be sent.  
The Father's voice with great joy be heard full right.  
What needest he, who hath no sin, without within,  
To be baptised like mortal men?  
What rich man goes from door to door  
To beg from him that has nought?  
Lord, thou art rich and I am full poor.  
Thou may bless all, since all thou wrought.  
Now help me, Lord, through godhead, to do this work,  
And save mankind, body and soul, from endless pain.

## Response 2: #270 (Common Praise)“Lamb of God, to Thee We Raise”

*Please rise as you are able and sing*



1. Lamb of God, to thee we raise hymns of ho - ly love and praise
2. Like the morn - ing star he rose, thine ap - pear - ing to dis - close;
3. Filled with grace and sanc - ti - ty from his blest na - tiv - i - ty,
4. Kins - man of the King di - vine, great - est of the proph - et's line,
5. Might - y preach - er, by whose word souls to pen - i - tence were stirred
6. Make us, Lord, like him to be fear - less wit - ness - es for thee;



for the saint and proph-et born to be her - ald of the morn.  
like an en - sign lift - ed high, he de - clared thy king - dom nigh.  
he, the new E - li - as, came bear - ing zeal's most sa - cred flame.  
blest fore - run - ner of the Lord, who his prais - es can re - cord?  
those who long in sin had strayed then the call di - vine o - beyed.  
faith - ful un - to death be found, and at last by thee be crowned.

Text: William Edgar Enman (1869-1950). Music: LÜBECK. Melody Geistreiches Gesangbuch, 1704; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

*A moment of silence is observed*

## Reading 3: “Patience” (Margaret Avison)

*Please be seated*

Still, still, the trees in morning thaw,  
sealed still against steel cold  
and ragged on the windward sides (the conifers)  
let wilted-petal light  
tip-touch every needle, the least twig,  
motionless.

They are prepared  
for onslaught when the obliterating  
blasts sweep in again.

Meanwhile they dwell  
thus, now.

And they are ready  
even for spring, to swell  
sing break spiral shimmer  
transform,  
when that becomes the  
inconceivable now.

### Response 3: “Warm the Time of Winter”

*Please rise as you are able and sing*

*Verses*



1. When the wind of win-ter blows, bring-ing times of sol-i-tude,
2. When we shiv-er in des-pair, when the chill of death comes near,
3. When in days of fall-en snow, change con-founds or love burns low,

*Refrain*



fill the si-lent, ic-y night; be our hearts' com-pas-sion. Ho-ly Light,  
hold us, Spir-it, calm our fear, while the eve-ning deep-ens.  
from the ash-es may there rise phoe-nix of our grow-ing.



warm our night; warm the time of win-ter. Ho-ly Light, warm our night;



warm the time of win-ter.

Text: Ruth Duck, b.1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: Lori True, b.1961, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

*A moment of silence is observed*

### Reading 4: Matthew 11.2-11

*Please be seated*

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.”

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**Response 4:** : "Here Comes the Sun" (*George Harrison*)      *Please rise as you are able and sing*

Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo-doo

Here comes the sun, and I say

It's alright

Little darlin', it's been a long, cold, lonely winter

Little darlin', it feels like years since it's been here

Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo-doo

Here comes the sun, and I say

It's alright

Little darlin', the smile's returning to their faces

Little darlin', it seems like years since it's been here

Here comes the sun

Here comes the sun, and I say

It's alright

Sun, sun, sun, here it comes

Sun, sun, sun, here it comes

Sun, sun, sun, here it comes

Sun, sun, sun, here it comes

Sun, sun, sun, here it comes

Little darlin', I feel that ice is slowly melting

Little darlin', it seems like years since it's been clear

Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo-doo

Here comes the sun, and I say

It's alright

Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo-doo

Here comes the sun

It's alright

It's alright

**Homily:** Ann Jervis

*Please be seated*

*A moment of silence is observed*



## 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](http://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.

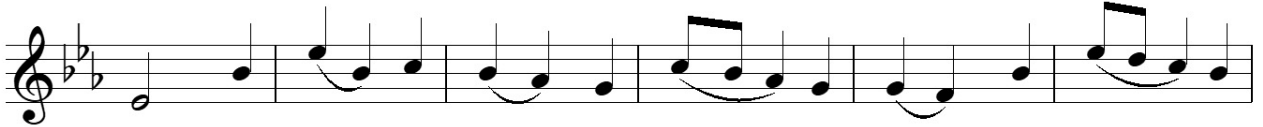
Thank you for joining us today.

# Offertory Hymn: #116 (Common Praise) “Your Kingdom Come”

*All sing*



1. "Your king - dom come" on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges
2. But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be-
3. And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap-
4. the day in whose clear shin - ing light all wrong shall stand re-
5. when knowl-edge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth a-



pray; and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that  
long, and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent  
pear. Gird up your loins, you proph - et souls; pro - claim the  
vealed, when jus - tice shall be throned in might, and ev - ery  
broad the day of per - fect right - eous - ness, the prom - ised



king-dom's day.  
stars are strong.  
day is near:  
hurt be healed;  
day of God.

Text: Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929), alt. Music: *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, Dublin, 1749.

## ✠ The Celebration of the Eucharist

### Prayer over the Gifts

*Priest:* God of hope,  
renew in us the joy of your salvation  
and make us a living sacrifice to you,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving



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



Lift up 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:

## Sanctus:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord God of hosts.



Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san-na



in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the



Lord, of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est,



ho - san-na in the high-est.

MUSIC: Grayson Warren Brown (b.1948), *A Mass for a Soulful People*.  
Copyright 1979 North American Liturgy Resources, 10802 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave.,  
Phoenix, AZ 85029. All Rights Reserved.

*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)

*Priest:* *People:*

As our Sa - viour taught us let us pray. Our Fa - ther in heaven,  
hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread.  
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.  
For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Text: Matthew 6.9-13. Tr. © 1989 *English Language Liturgical Consultation*. Music: Nicholas Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); arr. George Black (1931-2003) ©.

## 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*)

Say to the faint of heart:

Be strong, and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come,

And he will save us.

# The Communion



*All in the church are asked to remain at their seats 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 gluten-free 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: #113 (Common Praise) "Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free" (All Sing)

### Refrain



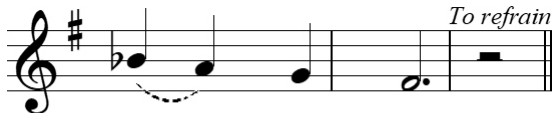
Come, O Lord, and set us free. Ma-ra - na - tha.



1. Des - ert and dry land will grow green in praise; clay will re - joice with full
2. Strength-en the hearts of the fear - ful and weak; be strong: fear not, God is
3. We have been wait-ing and long - ing for light, watch-ing for signs of the
4. Give us a star in the sky day and night, sign of your prom-ise to



bloom: show - ers of flow - ers given birth in dead earth; in col - ours they  
near, com - ing in pow - er and loos-ing our bonds, set - ting the  
Lord. "Prom-ised of a - ges," "Mes - si - ah to come," hear us, we  
save. O - ver the moun-tains we fol - low its light, hop-ing for



ech - o Love's song.  
cap - tives free.  
beg you: "Come, save!"  
sign of your life.

Text and music: Tim Schoenbachler (1952 - ), alt. © 1976 North American Liturgy Resources (NALR). Reprinted by permission of OCP Publications

## **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*



## Departing Hymn: #109 (Common Praise) ) “When the King Shall Come Again”

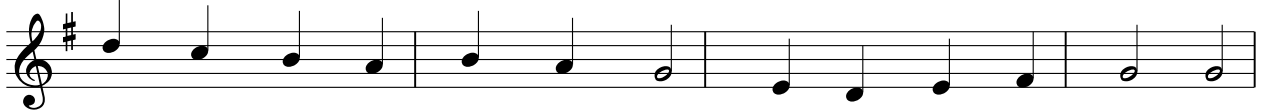
*Please rise as you are able and sing*



1. When the King shall come a - gain, all his power re - veal - ing,
2. In the des - ert, trees take root, fresh from God's cre - a - tion;
3. Strength - en fee - ble hands and knees; faint - ing hearts, be cheer - ful!
4. There God's high - way shall be seen where no roar - ing li - on,



splen - dour shall an - nounce his reign, life and joy and heal - ing;  
plants and flowers and sweet - est fruit join the cel - e - bra - tion;  
God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fear - ful.  
noth - ing e - vil or un - clean, walks the road to Zi - on:



earth no long - er in de - cay, hope no more frus - tra - ted,  
riv - ers spring up from the earth, bar - ren lands a - dorn - ing.  
Deaf ears, hear the sil - ent tongues sing a - way their weep - ing;  
ran - somed peo - ple home - ward bound all your prais - es voic - ing,



this is God's re-demp-tion day long - ing - ly a - wait - ed.  
Val - leys, this is your new birth; moun-tains, greet the morn-ing!  
blind eyes, see the life - less ones walk - ing, run - ning, leap - ing!  
see your Lord with glo - ry crowned, share in his re - joic - ing!

Text: Christopher Idle (1938 - ). © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Melody Piae Cantiones, 1582.

## The Dismissal

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

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

# Ministry Updates

## Flower Dedication

The chancel flowers are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of Garth's mother, Kathleen Caldwell, by Susan and Garth Goddard.

## 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.

## 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 on our website ([theredeemer.ca](http://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. Please note this group will not meet on Tuesday, December 27. If you have any other questions, please contact Lilian ([lilian.n.junkin@gmail.com](mailto:lilian.n.junkin@gmail.com)).

#### 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 ([theredeemer.ca](http://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](mailto:shaig@theredeemer.ca)) or Andrew Kuhl ([akuhl@theredeemer.ca](mailto:akuhl@theredeemer.ca)).

#### Blue Christmas Service

Come and join us for a service that offers a safe harbour for the worries, sorrows and broken dreams that can make this season difficult to celebrate. We will gather both in the church and on Zoom on **Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m.** to pray, lament and praise together.

#### On Sunday

##### Bach Vespers

Bach Vespers will 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 [prayer request form](#) 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.

### 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!

**Today** 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](http://www.theredeemer.ca). Contact Nate Wall ([nwall@theredeemer.ca](mailto:nwall@theredeemer.ca)) for more information.

### Scholar-in-Residence

Last Sunday it was announced that our Scholar-in-Residence, Nate Wall, will be concluding his time with us at the end of December. He will be with us one more time on Sunday, January 29, as the preacher at both the 9 AM and 10:30 AM services when we will have the opportunity to bless Nate and Julia as they continue their journey.

### Creation Matters

Creation Matters, Redeemer's ecospirituality group, gathers each month for prayer, discussion and support. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, December 14**, from 2-4pm, via Zoom. If you would like to join us, please contact Grant Jahnke at [creationmatters@theredeemer.ca](mailto:creationmatters@theredeemer.ca).

### Cookie Bakers Needed

The welcome that a home-baked cookie conveys just can't be beaten and between Sunday coffee-time and a couple of events with receptions, we would welcome donations of home-made treats. For more information about what is needed and when, please [contact Susan Graham Walker](#) ([sgwalker@theredeemer.ca](mailto:sgwalker@theredeemer.ca)).

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

Redeemer Explorers invites you to join fellow travellers each **Monday in Advent** 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.

### 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](#).

### **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 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 [Nate Wall](mailto:nwall@theredeemer.ca) ([nwall@theredeemer.ca](mailto:nwall@theredeemer.ca)) if you have any questions.

### **Carolling on the Steps**

The tradition of carolling on the front steps continues! Our choir gathers early for their final rehearsal before Christmas to bring the beautiful gift of Christmas carols to our busy street corner. Join them at 6 PM on **Thursday, December 22**.

### **Bishop's Levee**

Please join Bishop Andrew Asbil and the Suffragan Bishops to offer prayers for the New Year on **Sunday, January 1** at St James' Cathedral. Join in person, or tune in online on the [\*\*diocesan YouTube channel\*\*](https://www.youtube.com/tordio135) (<https://www.youtube.com/tordio135>).

Festive music at 3:30 PM and Choral Evensong at 4 PM with presentations of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto and the Installation of the Chancellor, our very own Marg Creal! Please come and celebrate this important moment for Marg!

### **Save the Date – Camino Party**

You're invited to a party hosted by the Spanish pilgrims who would like to share some of their experience with you. It will be on **Sunday January 8 at 12 noon** in the church following the Eucharist. There will be a light lunch, videos with photographs and music of the Way, the telling of stories, and answers to all the Camino questions you may wish to ask. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information coming next week.

### **Book Study Series**

The Indigenous Solidarity Working Group is hosting a book study series, to be capped with a meet-the-authors special event. Perhaps this book would be a great Christmas gift suggestion!

The new book, **Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town and the Road to Reconciliation**, by Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) and Andrew Stobo Sniderman is a heart-rending true story about racism and the journey to reconciliation. ISWG invites you to buy the book — a great read — and then attend a three-part book study. There are two options to participate in the book groups.

The **in-person group** will gather in the church after the 10:30 AM service on **Sundays, January 15, 22 and 29**. [Please register](#)

A **group will meet on Zoom**, on **Mondays, January 16, 23, and 30**, from 7 to 8 PM. [Please register](#)

We are delighted that on **Saturday, February 4, from 1 to 4 PM** Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) and Andrew Stobo Sniderman will join us at Redeemer to talk about the book, answer questions and meet members of Redeemer. [Registration](#) for the meet the authors event is available now.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the impact of the Indian Act and residential schools on Indigenous people and how two communities began the journey of reconciliation together.

## Christmas Trees that Give Back

Thirty years ago, First Interfaith Out of the Cold, a program that provides food, shelter, and care to the most marginalized in this city, opened its doors in the Annex. It now operates at St. Matthew's United Church on St. Clair Avenue West and continues to be a vital resource.

Indoor programs were perforce closed in March 2020, but the program pivoted to focus on the exploding crisis of food insecurity. Last season, from November to May FIOOTC provided ~10,000 nutritious lunches and hot dinners, clothing, and PPE kits to mobile street outreach programs (in partnership with Ve'ahavta, The Common Table program at Church of the Redeemer and Seeds of Hope) and to the local community at St. Matthew's. This year that same work continues. FIOOTC is entirely volunteer-run and relies solely on grants and donations. That's where you come in. If you're looking for a beautiful Christmas tree this season, and you'd like your traditional holiday decoration to deliver a positive social impact, consider buying a tree from Sonny's Christmas Trees at the lot at Brunswick and Bloor. Sonny and his family are happy to be back for another season.

As in previous years, they are generously donating a significant portion of their proceeds to the Out of the Cold program. Talk about a win/win tradition!

From **November 26 to December 18**, the lot is located on the patio beside Future's Bistro, 483 Bloor Street and is open daily from 10 AM – 8 PM.

## 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 \(office@theredeemer.ca\)](mailto: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](http://toronto.anglican.ca) & clicking "Spirit Garden". Thank you from your ISWG.

## 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 [Alison Colvin \(acolvin@sympatico.ca\)](mailto:acolvin@sympatico.ca) or [Henry Krol \(henrykrol@yahoo.com\)](mailto:henrykrol@yahoo.com), committee co-chairs.

Settling such a large family in a new country requires funding. You can donate through [Canadahelps.org](http://Canadahelps.org) and the **[Welcome Abdikadir and Family to Canada campaign](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118863729RR0001-church-of-the-redeemer/p2p/welcomingAbdikadir/)** page. [Canadahelps.org](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/118863729RR0001-church-of-the-redeemer/p2p/welcomingAbdikadir/) 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](mailto: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](mailto:smackison@theredeemer.ca), Susan Haig – [shaig@theredeemer.ca](mailto:shaig@theredeemer.ca), Andrew Kuhl [akuhl@theredeemer.ca](mailto: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](mailto:tony.crosbie@sympatico.ca)) if you know someone who would benefit from a call from one of the pastoral care team.

## **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 ([sgwalker@theredeemer.ca](mailto:sgwalker@theredeemer.ca)) or text (647-215-8814).

## **Advent Resources**

### **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). (<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 [AdventWord website](https://adventword.org/en/home/) (<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.

### **Deadline for Donation of Securities**

As the calendar year draws to a close, there is still time to remember the Church of the Redeemer in your year-end donations.

If you have the ability to make a gift of Securities, there are some deadlines upcoming. One of the easiest ways to make your donation is through **CanadaHelps** (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/donate/donate-securities/>). CanadaHelps notes that while they will continue to process donations of securities up until December 30, to best ensure your gift qualifies for a 2022 tax receipt, complete securities donations **before December 16**.

Your generous support of the ministry we share is gratefully received.

## **WORSHIP WITH US**

**Tuesday, December 13**

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

**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** – All-Ages Messy Pageant 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