



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
HOLY EUCHARIST  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022 AT 10:30 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:  
162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4  
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# 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](http://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.*

## **Prayer for the Hanukkah Lights** (Laura Sgroi)

*Please rise as you are able*

Baruch atah Adonai,  
Eloheinu melech haolam,  
asher kid'shanu  
b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu  
l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

*Praised are You, Lord our God,  
King of the Universe,  
Who sanctified us with  
His commandments and commanded us  
to kindle the Hanukkah lights.*

*~Hebrew Prayer*

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

## Litany

*Leader:* Let us pray:  
That we may be filled with longing for your kingdom

*A moment of silence is observed*

*All:* **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Leader:* That your church may bear faithful witness to the light of Christ

*A moment of silence is observed*

*All:* **O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Leader:* That your Word may lead us to speak the truth in love

*A moment of silence is observed*

*All:* **O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Leader:* That we may be freed from the bondage of sin and death

*A moment of silence is observed*

*All:* **O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem from every foe deliver them;  
that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Leader:* That you may reveal to us the path that leads to new life

*A moment of silence is observed*

*All:* **O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Leader:* That you may banish our darkness with the light of your presence

*A moment of silence is observed*

**All:** O come, O Dayspring, from on high and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

**Leader:** That you may bring us that peace which the world cannot give

*A moment of silence is observed*

**All:** O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind;  
O bid our bitter conflict cease, and be for us our Prince of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

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

### Collect of the Day

**Priest:** God of grace,  
give us the faith of Joseph  
to see the Spirit's work  
where the world sees only shame;  
to listen to the promise  
and to awaken to the cry of life renewed and love reborn;  
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

*Please extinguish your tapers*

**Psalm 80.1-7, 16-18** (*Plainsong*)

*Please be seated*



HEAR, O Shepherd of Israel, leading / Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned / upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, / and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength / and come to help us.

Restore / us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your counte- / nance, and we shall be saved.

-- / O Lord God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered despite the / prayers of your people?

You have fed them / with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given / them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision / of our neighbours, \*  
and our en- / emies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore / us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your counte- / nance, and we shall be saved.

**Let your hand be upon your / chosen people, \*  
those you have / made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never / turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may / call upon your name.

**Restore / us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your counte- / nance, and we shall be saved.**

### **Reading 1: “Advent Calendar” (Rowan Williams)**

He will come like last leaf’s fall.  
One night when the November wind  
has flayed the trees to bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mould,  
the soft shroud’s folding.

He will come like frost.  
One morning when the shrinking earth  
opens on mist, to find itself  
arrested in the net  
of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.  
One evening when the bursting red  
December sun draws up the sheet  
and penny-masks its eye to yield  
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,  
will come like crying in the night,  
like blood, like breaking,  
as the earth writhes to toss him free.  
He will come like child.

# Response 1: "Like a Bird"

*Please rise as you are able and sing*



1. Like a bird that spreads her wings to
2. From the ends of earth you call your
3. For the na-tions you pre-pare and



gath-er in her young, So you o-pen wide your arms to gath-er in your  
sons and daugh-ters home, Say-ing, "Gath-er now from far and near, my peo-ple,  
spread a splen-did feast, Gath-er ev-'ry tribe and race, the great-est to the



own. For our free re-sponse you wait, Ear-ly morn-ing, noon, and late.  
come." For our sim-ple trust you yearn Till, at last in love, we turn.  
least. For one fam-'ly, how you long; 'Round your ta-ble, vast the throng.



Come and wake us, come and wake us, come and wake us to your wel-come.  
Come and wake us, come and wake us, come and wake us to your wel-come.  
Come and wake us, come and wake us, come and wake us to your wel-come.



Ma-ra-na-tha, come.  
Ma-ra-na-tha, come.  
Ma-ra-na-tha, come.

Text: Delores Dufner, b.1939. Tune: WAKE US, Michael Joncas, b.1951 © 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

*A moment of silence is observed*

## Reading 2: Isaiah 7.10-16

*Please be seated*

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

## Response 2: #329 (Gather) “Within Our Hearts Be Born” *Please rise as you are able and sing*



1. O an - cient love, pro - cess - ing through the a - ges: O hid - den
2. O home-less love, that dwells a - mong the stran - ger: O low - ly
3. O gen - tle love, car - ess - ing those in sor - row: O ten - der
4. O suf - fring love, that bears our hu - man weak - ness: O bound-less



love, re - vealed in hu - man form: O prom-ised love, the dream of seers and  
love, that knows the might-y's scorn: O hun - gry love, that lay with-in a  
love, that com-forts those for - lorn: O hope - ful love, that prom - is - es to  
love, that ris - es with the morn: O might - y love, con-cealed in in - fant



sa - ges: O liv - ing Love, with-in our hearts be born, O liv - ing  
man - ger: O liv - ing Love, with-in our hearts be born, O liv - ing  
mor - row: O liv - ing Love, with-in our hearts be born, O liv - ing  
meek - ness: O liv - ing Love, with-in our hearts be born, O liv - ing



Love, with-in our hearts be borne.  
Love, with-in our hearts be borne.  
Love, with-in our hearts be borne.  
Love, with-in our hearts be borne.

**Reading 3:** “Advent” (*Pamela Cranston*)

*Please be seated*

Look how long  
the weary world waited,  
locked in its lonely cell,  
guilty as a prisoner.

As you can imagine,  
it sang and whistled in the dark.  
It hoped. It paced and pattered about,  
tidying its little piles of inconsequence.

It wept from the weight of ennui,  
draped like shackles on its wrists.  
It raged and wailed against the walls  
of its own plight.

But there was nothing  
the world could do  
to find its own freedom.  
The door was shut tight.

It could only be opened  
from the outside.

Who could believe the latch  
would be turned by a pink flower —  
the tiny hand  
of a newborn baby?

**Response 3:** “Dear Prudence” (*John Lennon / Paul McCartney*)

*Please rise as you are able*

Dear Prudence  
Won't you come out to play?  
Dear Prudence  
Greet the brand new day  
The sun is up, the sky is blue  
It's beautiful, and so are you  
Dear Prudence  
Won't you come out to play?



Dear Prudence  
Open up your eyes  
Dear Prudence  
See the sunny skies  
The wind is low, the birds will sing  
That you are part of everything  
Dear Prudence  
Won't you open up your eyes?

Dear Prudence  
Let me see you smile  
Dear Prudence  
Like a little child  
The clouds will be a daisy chain  
So let me see you smile again  
Dear Prudence  
Won't you let me see you smile?

*A moment of silence is observed*

**Reading 4:** Matthew 1.18-25

*Please be seated*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**Response 4: : "Ave Maria" (Rihards Dubra)**

*Please rise as you are able*

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;  
benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

**Homily: Nate Wall**

*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:

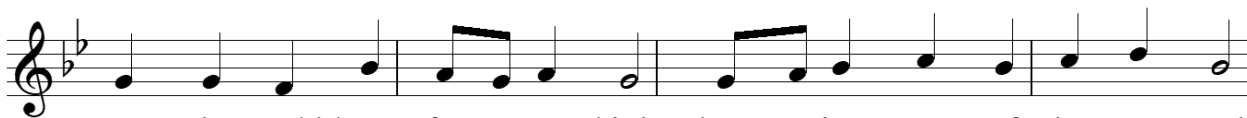
- Place your gift in the offering plate
- Use the tap and give kiosk at the door
- Visit [theredeemer.ca/donate](http://theredeemer.ca/donate)
- Use this QR code



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: #90 (Common Praise) “How the World Longs for Your Birth”** *All sing*



1. How the world longs for your birth, bear - ing news of hu - man worth;
2. How the earth a - waits your seed, parched and bar - ren from our greed;
3. How we ache to know your peace; wars and weap - ons still in - crease;
4. How our minds for heal - ing long, bro - ken bo - dies to be strong,
5. God, who sets your peo - ple free, God who comes, our flesh to be,
6. To our dark - ness bring your light; fill our long - ing eyes with sight.



to our la - bour bring your mirth: Ma-ra-na-tha, come, Lord, come.  
now to hal - low it we need: Ma-ra-na-tha, come, Lord, come.  
bid our fears and hate to cease: Ma-ra-na-tha, come, Lord, come.  
wound-ed hearts to learn your song: Ma-ra-na-tha, come, Lord, come.  
now we wait, your reign to see: Ma-ra-na-tha, come, Lord, come.  
In our lives shine ev - er bright: Ma-ra-na-tha, come, Lord, come.

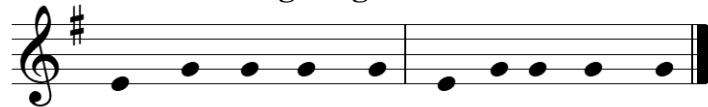
Text: Anna Briggs (1947-) ©. Music: Melody plainsong, adapt. Johann Walther (1496-1570), alt.; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

## ✠ The Celebration of the Eucharist

### Prayer over the Gifts

*Priest:* Gracious God,  
by the power of the Spirit  
who sanctified the mother of your Son,  
make holy all we offer you this day.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the 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: #722 (Common Praise)**

*All Sing*



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of power and might, heav'n and earth are



full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san - na, ho-



san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes, who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the



high - est.

Music: Picardy; French carol (17<sup>th</sup> cent.); arr. Patrick Wedd (1948-2019) ©.

*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 4 (*Ephrem Feeley*)

Behold, a virgin shall conceive

And bear a son.

And his name shall be called

Emmanuel,

God-with-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: #94 (Common Praise) “Wait for the Lord, Whose Day is Near”

*(All Sing)*



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Psalm 31.24 and Psalm 130.5; para. Taizé Community (France). Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994). Para. and music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé. Used by permission of GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive agent.

## 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*

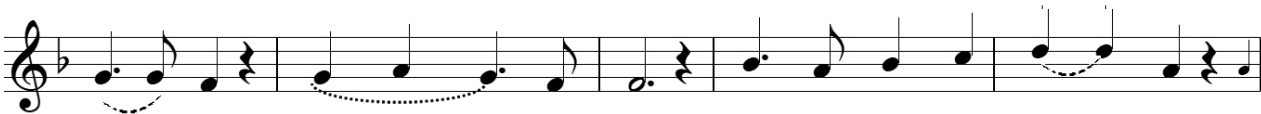


## Departing Hymn: #122 (Common Praise) ) “In the Bleak Midwinter”

*Please rise as you are able and sing*



1. In the bleak mid-win - ter, frost - y wind made moan, earth stood hard as  
2. Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain; heaven and earth shall  
3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there; cher - u - bim and  
4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a



i - ron, wa - ter like a stone; snow had fal - len, snow on snow,  
flee a - way when he comes to reign. In the bleak mid - win - ter a  
ser - a - phim thronged the air; but his moth - er on - ly  
shep - herd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man,



snow on snow, in the bleak mid-win-ter, long a - go.  
sta-ble place suf-ficed the Lord God al-might-y, Je - sus Christ.  
in her maid-en bliss, wor-shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
I would do my part; yet what I can, I give him - give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934). © Oxford University Press.

## The Dismissal

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

*People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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# 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.

## Pastoral Care During the Christmas Season

Pastoral Care will still be available during the Christmas season. From December 25-28, 2022, please get in touch with Susan Haig **via email**. ([shaig@theredeemer.ca](mailto:shaig@theredeemer.ca)). From December 29, 2022-January 2, 2023, Andrew Kuhl will be available **via email** ([akuhl@theredeemer.ca](mailto:akuhl@theredeemer.ca)). Do not hesitate to reach out if you are in need of some care.

## 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 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)).

### On Sunday

#### Bach Vespers

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

#### 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.

## News and Events

### 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.

### Scholar-in-Residence

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.

### George Black Fellow

Last Sunday it was announced that our George Black Fellow, Will Reid, will be concluding his time with us. Will has been part of our community for half of his life. The many ways he has served us from the music-making of our Sunday and seasonal liturgies to administrative support in the office and so much more has been a gift. There will be an opportunity to thank Will and bless his continuing journey as a teacher at Ridley College, St Catharines.

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

Redeemer Explorers invites you to join fellow travellers tomorrow, **December 19**, for the fourth and final Advent guided evening candlelit walk of 30 to 40 minutes. It 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 a registration link are on the website under the "[What's Happening/Redeemer Explorers](#)" tab.

### 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 we'll meet **today** 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) 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**.

### Camino Party and Presentation

You're invited to a party hosted by the Spanish pilgrims who would like to share some of their experience with you. Join us on **Sunday, January 8 at 12 noon** in the church following the Eucharist. There will be

a light lunch, a video with photographs and music of the Way, the telling of stories, and answers to all the Camino questions you may wish to ask. **Please register** so that we will have enough provisions. Contact Susan Haig ([shaig@theredeemer.ca](mailto:shaig@theredeemer.ca)) for more information.

### **Devotion on the Page: Up Close with Medieval Manuscripts**

You are invited to be part of a small-group experience at the AGO, led by Sylvia Wang and David Townsend on **Friday, January 20**. Sylvia and David will give a short introduction to medieval devotional books, and then we'll look at two manuscripts up close—a book of hours and a psalter—in a private study room, in groups limited to eight participants each. Further details and a registration link are on the website under the "[What's Happening/Redeemer Explorers](#)" tab. **The deadline to register is January 12.**

### **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.

### **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.

## **Refugee Settlement Committee Update - December 10, 2022 (International Human Rights Day)**

They're coming! The committee has heard that Abdikadir, Asho, and their sons will be arriving on January 26. We are all thrilled to hear a date for this long-expected arrival, and eager to meet the family.

Besides Abdikadir, in his mid-forties, and Asho, in her late thirties, there are six sons, ranging in age from 19 years to 9 months. The oldest, Zakaria, speaks some English and is interested in furthering his education to go into the field of medicine. Abdiaziz and Arafat are younger teenagers who speak Somali, but not English. The younger boys, Ahmed and Abdirizak, will learn English quickly once they are in school. Baby Ayub will grow up in Canada.

We may have a "landing spot" for them, but have not yet secured permanent housing, so don't know when move-in day will be. If you might be available to help on a Saturday in January, please contact Susanna Jacob ([andorrajosej@gmail.com](mailto:andorrajosej@gmail.com)).

If you'd like to contribute to welcoming this family to Canada, you can donate through CanadaHelps and the **Welcome Abdikadir and Family to Canada** campaign page. CanadaHelps will provide an immediate tax receipt.

Thank you for whatever you can do to provide a warm welcome to these strangers who will become friends.

### **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)).

### **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).

## **In the Community**

### **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>).

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!

### **Food Drive**

Since the pandemic began, our food banks have seen surging levels of demand. Coupled with the current food inflation prices, thousands of families in Toronto often do not have enough to eat.

As a result, we've decided to hold a food drive in the church for the Daily Bread Food Bank. There will be a collection box in the welcome area until **December 18**. Please take the time to drop off what you can; whatever your level of participation - from 1 item to 20 – everything will be most appreciated and put to good use.

Food donations will support the Daily Bread Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity. A list of the **most needed items is here**.

## **WORSHIP WITH US**

### **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** –Christmas Rockin' 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

### **Sunday, January 1 (Epiphany)**

**9 AM** - on Zoom

**10:30 AM** - in the Church and through YouTube