



CHRISTMAS ROCKIN' EVE  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2022 AT 7:30 P.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:  
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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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**Prelude:** "Shake Up Christmas" (*Train*)

Ho, ho, ho, shake up the happiness  
Wake up the happiness. Shake up the happiness. It's Christmas time

There's a story that I was told and I wanna tell the world  
Before I get too old and don't remember it  
So let's December it and reassemble it, oh yeah

Once upon a time in a town like this a little girl made a great big wish  
To fill the world full of happiness And be on Santa's magic list

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

Ho, ho, ho,. Ho, ho, ho. It's Christmas time

At the same time miles away a little boy made a wish that day  
That the world would be okay and Santa Claus would hear him say

I got dreams and I got love. I got my feet on the ground and family above  
Can you send some happiness?

With my best to the rest of the people of the East and the West and  
Maybe every once in a while you give my grandma a reason to smile  
'Tis the season to smile

It's cold but we'll be freezing in style

And let me meet a girl one day that wants to spread some love this way  
We can let our souls run free and she can open some happiness with me

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

I know you're out there. I hear your reindeer  
I see the snow where your boots have been

I'm gonna show them so they will know then  
Their love will grow and they believe again

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

Ho, ho, ho,. Ho, ho, ho. It's Christmas time

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time

Ho, ho, ho

Shake it up. Shake up the happiness. Wake it up. Wake up the happiness  
Come on y'all it's Christmas time. Ho, ho, ho,. Ho, ho, ho. It's Christmas time

Welcome to the margin. Here we find brief commentary and explanations of our worship as it unfolds.

This greeting is called the "Apostolic Greeting" and is an amalgam of phrases that the Apostle St. Paul wrote in his letters to the various Christian communities he visited. They were intended as a blessing, words of reassurance to those who were struggling with the same issues each of us face on our own journey.

This hymn has been popular since its composition in 1843. On this very night, Christmas Eve, 1906, Reginald A. Fessenden, a Canadian Inventor, played this song on a violin to ships at sea from Brant Rock Massachusetts, making this the first piece of music ever to be broadcast over the airwaves.

## ✠ The Gathering of the Community

*Please rise as you are able*

*Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

*All:* **And also with you.**

### Entrance Hymn: "O Holy Night"

*All sing*



1. O ho - ly night! the stars are bright - ly shin - ing; It is the  
2. Led by the light! of faith se - rene - ly beam - ing, With glow - ing  
3. Tru ly He taught us to love one a - noth - er; His law is



night of the dear Sav - iour's birth. Long lay the world in sin and er - or  
hearts of His cra - dle we stand. So led by light of a star sweet - ly  
love and His gos - pel is peace. Chains shall He break, for the slave is our



pin - ing, Till He ap - peared and the soul felt its worth. A  
gleam - ing, Here came the Wise Men from O - ri - ent land. The  
broth - er, And in His name all op - pres - sion shall cease. Sweet



thrill of hope the wea - ry world re - joic - es, For yon - der breaks a  
King of kings lay thus in low - ly man - ger, In all our tri - als  
hymns of joy in grate - ful cho - rus raise we; Let all with - in us



new and glo - rious morn! Fall on your knees! O hear the an - gel  
bom to be our Friend. He knows our need to our weak - ness is no  
praise His ho - ly name. Christ is the Lord! O praise His name for



voic - es! O night di - vine, O night when Christ was born! O night,  
strang - er. Be - hold your King, be - fore Him low - ly bend! Be -  
ev - er! His power and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim! His



O ho - ly night, O night di - vine!  
- hold your King, be - fore Him low - ly bend!  
power and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

TEXT: Placide Cappeau, (1808-1877).  
TUNE: O Holy Night. Adolphe C. Adam, (1803-1856).



## Collect of the Day

*Priest:* Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. *Please be seated*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

Isaiah 9.2-7

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

*A moment of silence is observed*

## Hymn: "Silent Night"

*Please remain seated*



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight;  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;



Round yon vir - gin mo - ther and Child. Ho - ly In - fant, so  
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly ho - sts sing  
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face with the dawn of re -



ten - der and mild, Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Sa - vior is born, Christ the Sa - vior is born!  
- de - em - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

TEXT: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848). MUSIC Stille Nacht; Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863).

Pronounced "CALL-ect" the collect of the day is the prayer we say that calls us together in worship and praise. It focuses on the theme of the day and prepares our hearts for the scripture readings and the homily.

The First Reading is taken from the Old Testament, and tonight is from the book of Isaiah. Isaiah was a prophet who wrote between 740-700 BC. Prophets were concerned more with interpreting the present than foretelling the future. This passage is referring to the Assyrian domination and the hope of Israel to be set free by a coming king. It is also a passage that refers to a messianic hope; that God's Anointed one is coming as good news. We read it at Christmas because we believe that the Messiah has come, and will come again.

"Stille Nacht" (Silent Night) was composed by Joseph Mohr and Franz Xaver Gruber in 1818 in Austria. Mohr brought the poetry to Gruber to compose music to be accompanied on guitar because flooding made the organ unplayable.

The Second Reading comes from the letters in the New Testament. Tonight's reading is the Apostle Paul's letter to an assistant, named Titus, who was continuing the work of Paul's ministry. This passage points to the revealing of God's glory in Jesus (fully God and fully human), and how that fits God's plan for us and the intersection of how we should live based on that truth.

The Sequence is sung before the Gospel reading, and is meant to prepare our hearts to hear what it says to us.

"Gospel" is an Old-English word meaning "good news" and refers to the writings of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, all of whom were witnesses to Jesus' life and ministry.

All the events that happen in this Gospel are on the margins of history. There is a census for taxation purposes, people are forced to return to their hometowns.

An expecting couple is on their way to Bethlehem (Joseph's family is of the line of Jesse and David). Shepherds watching the sheep encounter the Glory of God.

## Second Reading

*Reader:* A Reading from the Letter to Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

Titus 2.11-14

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*A moment of silence is observed*

**Sequence Song:** "Golden Slumbers" (*Lennon/McCartney*)

*Please rise as you are able and sing*

Once there was a way to get back homeward.

Once there was a way to get back home.

Sleep, pretty darling, do not cry, and I will sing a lullaby

Golden slumbers fill your eyes,

smiles await you when you rise

Sleep, pretty darling, do not cry, and I will sing a lullaby.

## The Gospel

*Please turn to face the reader*

*Reader:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**People:** Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a

Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 2.1-20

**People:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Song:** "Carry That Weight" (*Lennon/McCartney*)

Boy, you're gonna carry that weight.  
Carry that weight a long time  
Boy, you're gonna carry that weight  
Carry that weight a long time

**Homily:** Andrew Kuhl

*Please be seated*

*A moment of silence is observed*

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Please rise as you are able*

*Leader:* Let us pray. We join with other Christians throughout the world to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

We pray for the whole church, in all its incarnations,  
and for all who work and worship in this place.

Grant, Lord, that in the routine of our everyday lives  
we may never cease to glorify your name. Hear us, O Lord:

**All:** Lord, grant us peace.

*Leader:* We pray for the nations of this world; that those in authority may see the light of Christ in their own lives and that they may, in faith and humility, seek your perfect will, and so lead their people to justice, freedom, and peace. Hear us, O Lord.

**All:** Lord, grant us peace.

Shepherds were hired hands, labourers, not the owners of the flocks. They are the ones who gather for the birth of Jesus. These outsiders would not normally attend the birth of a King.

Luke draws our attention to these edges to see where God is at work in history.

Homily is from the Greek word "homilio" which means "conversation". The purpose of the homily (also known as the sermon) is to gather the themes of the readings together and articulate what they meant for those about whom they were written and what they mean for us, today.

In the prayers of the people we offer to God our cares and concerns, our joys and hopes, praying for the church, the world, the sick, the suffering, and those whom we love but see no more.

*Leader:* We pray for the sick and the suffering; for the homeless and the hungry; for the lonely and the lost. I invite your prayers for those whose cares weigh heavily on your heart this Christmas Eve, spoken aloud, or offered in the sanctity of silence.

*A moment's pause is observed for those who wish to voice their prayers*

May all who know emptiness be filled with your abundant grace given to us this night in the person of your Son.

*All:* **Lord, grant us peace.**

*Leader:* We pray for those who are dying, and those who have entered into the nearer presence of God. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

*All:* **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Comfort their loved ones, assuring them of your promise of life everlasting. Hear us, O Lord:

*All:* **Lord, grant us peace.**

*Leader:* Merciful Father, accept these our hearts' desires for the sake of the one who is born in our hearts, this night, your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

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

*People:* **And also with you.**

## **The Offering**

Peace is mentioned several times throughout the New Testament and the sharing of the peace has been a part of Christian worship since the second century. It is a gesture that we offer our neighbour that is meant to suggest that we are reconciled with one another and with God. You can share the peace through a nod, a handshake (if you are comfortable) or by raising your hand in the peace symbol.

The offertory is our opportunity to worship God by giving back out of the abundance from which we have received. It is not obligatory to participate in the offertory, but the opportunity is there for all who wish to express their love and gratefulness to God through the giving of monetary gifts.

Please support the ministries of Church of the Redeemer





## Offertory Hymn: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

*All 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.

This hymn is called an "Offertory" because it is sung when we offer our gifts to God for all that we have been given. Our financial gifts, as well as bread and wine are brought before the altar and raised up as a symbol; that in offering what sustains us, we might be a blessing to others.

"In the bleak midwinter" was a poem written by Christina Rossetti in 1872. It was first published with the title 'A Christmas Carol'. In 1906 Gustav Holst set the poem to music and the carol has been famous ever since.

The Eucharist, also known as Communion, is a sacramental act of worship where we partake of the bread and wine. A sacrament is "an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace." This means that Jesus is somehow present to us in this ritual act, not by "magic," but through the mystery of God's revealing Godself in a unique way when we partake of the bread and wine. This is a two thousand year old ritual, instituted by Jesus at the Last Supper with his disciples. It is a radically open table to which all people are invited and welcome to participate in.

## Prayer over the Gifts

*Priest:* Source of light and gladness,  
accept all we offer on this joyful feast.  
May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours;  
for he is Lord now and for ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

## ✠ The Celebration of the Eucharist

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Priest:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Priest:* Truly it is right to praise you, Holy God,  
wonderful and beyond all knowing.

You are glorious in splendour and light.

In your goodness and loving-kindness,

you breathed your word of love

and all creation sprang forth.

*All:* **He is born!**

*Priest:* Giver of life, and lover of all things, you formed us in your own image, placing us in the garden of your delight, and giving the whole world into our care.

*All:* **He is born!**

*Priest:* When we turned from you in folly and in pride, you would not leave us. In every generation your wisdom entered into holy men and women, making them your friends, prophets and witnesses to your love, heralds of your reign of justice and mercy.

*All:* **He is born!**

*Priest:* And so with all the angels and saints of every time and place, we join our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

### **Sanctus**

*All:* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Priest:* Holy One, in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in the womb of his mother Mary. Dwelling among us as a servant, he revealed your glory. He fasted to learn your will, and feasted with sinners. Holding out his hands of mercy to all in need, he called all the fallen to join in your great feast. On the night before he gave his life for us Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks. He gave it to his friends, saying, "Drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*All:* **He is born!**

*Priest:* Therefore, we proclaim the death he died when lifted on the cross, we celebrate his bursting from the tomb, and look for him to come again in glory, offering to you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

*All:* **He is born!**

The Sanctus is an ancient hymn that is always said or sung during the Eucharistic Prayer. It comes from the Latin word meaning "holy." It is adapted from Isaiah 6.3, describing the prophet's vision of the throne of God, and from Matthew 21.9, where the people called out "Hosanna!" when Jesus entered Jerusalem. It is a hymn of adoration and praise that we sing to express our confidence that God is with us in the eucharist, and that we look to God in hope that our world and our lives will be transformed.

*Priest:* Send forth your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. As we share this holy sacrament, so renew us by your Spirit that we may live as Christ's Body for the love of the world. Bless what is broken, bring healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed. Make us swift and faithful to serve you.

*All:* **He is born!**

*Priest:* Gather your people from the ends of the earth together with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, with prophets, apostles, martyrs and all your saints to feast at the table of your kingdom. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour, glory, and praise are yours, now and forever.

*All:* **He is born!**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Priest:* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

*All:* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Priest:* We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

*All:* **God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

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

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

The Lord's Prayer is the crux of Christian faith and worship because it was given to us by Jesus himself. It can be found in both Matthew 6 and Luke 11. It is a prayer of beauty and simplicity, addressing all that is sacred in our relationship with God and with one another. At this moment you are praying these words in communion with more than 2.5 billion Christians around the world.

**Fraction Song: “Born at the Right Time”** (Paul Simon)

*Sung by the Choir*

Down among the reeds and rushes a baby boy was found  
His eyes as clear as centuries, his silky hair was brown

Never been lonely, never been lied to, never had to scuffle in fear, nothing denied to  
Born at the instant the church bells chime, and the whole world whispering  
Born at the right time

Me and my buddies we are traveling people. We like to go down to restaurant row  
Spend those Euro-dollars all the way from Washington to Tokyo  
I see them in the airport lounge upon their mother's breast  
They follow me with open eyes, their uninvited guest

Never been lonely, never been lied to, never had to scuffle in fear, nothing denied to  
Born at the instant the church bells chime, and the whole world whispering  
Born at the right time

Too many people on the bus from the airport. Too many holes in the crust of the earth  
The planet groans every time it registers another birth  
But down among the reeds and rushes a baby girl was found  
Her eyes as clear as centuries, her silky hair was brown

Never been lonely, never been lied to, never had to scuffle in fear, nothing denied to  
Born at the instant the church bells chime, and the whole world whispering  
Born at the right time

**The Communion**

*All in the church are invited to come forward to receive communion.*

*If you are wearing a mask, please keep it on while the priest offers you the bread.*

*After the priest serves 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 below*

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



**Communion Song:** "Someday at Christmas" (*Stevie Wonder*)

Someday at Christmas men won't be boys playing with bombs like kids  
play with toys

One warm December our hearts will see a world where men are free

Someday at Christmas there'll be no wars. When we have learned what  
Christmas is for

When we have found what life's really worth there'll be peace on earth

Someday all our dreams will come to be, someday in a world where men  
are free

Maybe not in time for you and me, but someday at Christmastime

Someday at Christmas we'll see a Man, no hungry children, no empty hand  
One happy morning people will share our world where people care

Someday at Christmas there'll be no tears, all men are equal and no men  
have fears

One shining moment my heart ran away from our world today

Someday all our dreams will come to be, someday in a world where men  
are free

**Communion Song:** "Mary Did You Know" (*Mark Lowry*)

Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy would one day walk on water?

Mary, did you know

that your Baby Boy would save our sons and daughters?

Did you know

That your Baby Boy has come to make you new?

This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know

That your Baby Boy will give sight to a blind man?

Mary, did you know

That your Baby Boy will calm the storm with His hand?

Did you know

That your Baby Boy has walked where angels trod?

When you kiss your little Baby you kissed the face of God?

Mary did you know. Ooo Ooo Ooo

The blind will see. The deaf will hear. The dead will live again.

The lame will leap. The dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy is Lord of all creation?

Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy would one day rule the nations?

Did you know that your Baby Boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?

The sleeping Child you're holding is the Great, I Am.

"Someday at Christmas" was the name of this single song as well as the album Stevie Wonder released in 1967. Many covers have been recorded since then but it was a reimagined 2015 duet with Stevie and Andra Day that saw this song hit the charts once again.

## Prayer after Communion

*Please rise as you are able*

*Priest:* Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

## The Doxology

*Priest:* Glory to God,

*All:* **whose power working in us,  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

This closing prayer is called the “Doxology”, which comes from the Greek word “doxalogia” meaning “words of glory.” We say this prayer to proclaim that worshipping God together has made a difference in our lives.

## Closing Hymn: “Joy to the World”

*Please rise as you are able and sing*



1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive the King; let  
2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - iour reigns: let us glad songs em - ploy, while  
3. No more let wrongs and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground; he  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions prove the



ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and heaven and na - ture  
fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains re - peat the sound - ing  
comes to make his bless - ings flow far as our sin is  
glo - ries of his right - eous - ness and won - ders of his



sing, and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and heaven and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as our sin is found, far as, far as our sin is found.  
love, and won - ders of his love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Melody George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. William Holford, Voce de Melodia, 1835; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

## Dismissal

*Priest:* Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

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

Worship is an encounter with God in community through which we begin to be opened, transformed and healed.

In the dismissal we affirm that we are now strengthened and nurtured to be sent out into the many circumstances of our lives to be agents of God’s grace.

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## Notices

### 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.

### Christmas Flowers

The flowers in the church are placed to the Glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, Myrtle and Malcolm Finlayson and Dorothy and William Horan, by Mary and Bill Horan.

### Christmas Communion

It may not be possible for some of our members to be present for our Christmas celebrations due to illness or physical difficulty. If you are aware of anyone who may wish to receive home Communion, please speak to one of the clergy or call the Church Office (416-922-4948).

### 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 WITH US

#### Sunday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

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

#### Sunday, January 8 (The Baptism of the Lord)

9 AM - on Zoom