

# ASH WEDNESDAY IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY EUCHARIST

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023 AT 12:15 P.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:
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**FROM ASHES TO EASTER** — We begin the journey of Lent with the imposition of Ashes. In ancient times, the donning of ashes by a community member was a sign to one and all that a person was entering a spiritual place, a time of mourning, a time of penitence, a time of self-examination, a time of walking humbly with God. This spiritual journey was sometimes observed by an individual or by an entire community depending on the situation. Lent is the season when we walk humbly with God. We begin the journey with ashes and dust, the roots of life and we turn our spirits to prayer, almsgiving, fasting and penitence. We strive to let go of all that encumbers us, keeps us or enslaves us so that we may turn around and embrace the God who calls us to life. While entering into the season of Lent is a solitary experience, it is deeply a communal experience. We walk together from ashes to Easter.

# Land Acknowledgement

During the season of Lent, we will begin the liturgy in silence. Therefore, all are encouraged to offer this prayer, acknowledging the lands on which we dwell, before the service begins.

In this Holy time of Lent, we acknowledge with respect that we gather today in many sacred places that were home to those who have been displaced. We recognize that our church dwells on the traditional lands of the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Holy One, help us to repent of all that we have done, and to make peace with those whom we have wronged, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

# **▼** The Gathering of the Community

Please stand as the Priests enter

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

i eopie. And also with you

Priest: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you despise nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

First Reading

Please be seated

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near - a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? Blow

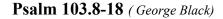
the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

Joel 2.1-2, 12-17a

People: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed



All repeat the refrain, then sing as indicated



O God, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness. You will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger for ever. Refrain

You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is your mercy great upon those who fear you. Refrain

As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our sins from us. As parents care for their children, so do you care for those who love you. Refrain

For you yourself know whereof we are made; you remember that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; When the wind goes over it, it is gone, and its place shall know it no more. Refrain

But you merciful goodness endures for ever on those who fear you, and your righteousness on children's children; On those who keep your covenant and remember your commandments and do them. Refrain

# **Second Reading**

Reader: A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in

anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see - we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10 *A moment of silence is observed* 

**Sequence Hymn:** #45 (Sing a New Creation) "Today I Live"

All Sing



still my laugh-ter and my cry-ing, bring to a halt my heart - beat and my end-less is the world's hor - i - zon; but save me, God, from thoughts that lay me be my broth-er and my mer-it. Let me with-out re - gret re-call the life and all its in - ter-weav-ings; each giv - en day, as I take up the



Text: Fred Kaan, 1975. © 1975 Hope Publishing Co. Music: ROBERT. Margaret R. Tucker, 1998. © 1998 Hope Publishing Co.

breath: oh, give me faith for liv - ing and for dy-ing. low, from mor-bid fears that freeze my power of rea-son. past, and then in - to your hands com - mit my spir - it. thread, let love sug-gest my mode, my mood of liv-ing.

We turn and face the Gospel as it is processed to the midst of the gathered community

We do this as a sign of respect and to symbolize that

its message is at the centre of our lives and its truth is always before our eyes

# The Gospel

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Priest:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Homily:** Andrew Kuhl Please be seated

A moment of silence is observed

#### **▼** The Penitential Rite

Priest: Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole. I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and

Music: "Healer Divine" - Raymond H. Haan

A time of silence is kept before and after the music



1. Heal-er di-vine, Christ, hear our prayer: Let touch the hem us your 2. Cov-er our sin,

meditating on the word of God. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

- guilt re move. Make pure our hearts with your our
- 3. Pain or des-pair, heart - ache or care Lord, you know the hurts your 4. Heal-er di-vine, Christ, hear our prayer; Sav-iour, turn and look your



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gar - ment, find whole-ness, find peace.

cleans-ing. Give whole-ness, give peace. Give whole-ness, give peace. peo - ple.

chil - dren. Give whole-ness, give peace.

# **Litany of Penitence**

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you, to one another, and to the All: whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not Priest: loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

All: Have mercy on us, Lord. Priest: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
All: Have mercy on us, Lord.
Priest: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and

impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Priest: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
 All: We confess to you, Lord.
 Priest: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

All:

All:

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Priest: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work.

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Priest: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

All: We confess to you, Lord.

Priest: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to

All: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Priest: For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us

human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

All: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Priest: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those

All: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Priest: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

who come after us.

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Priest: Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Those who wish to receive ashes should come forward when the officiating clergy have moved to their places:

#### **Lent Prose**

# All repeat the refrain, then sing as indicated



Hear us, O God, have mer-cy up-on us: for we have sinned a-gainst you.

Cantor: To you, Redeemer, on your throne of glory: lift we our eyes in penitence and sorrow. Listen, O Jesus to our supplication. Refrain

Cantor: O Christ, chief cornerstone, right hand of the Father, way of salvation, gate of life eternal, cleanse us, your people, in your love and mercy. Refrain

Cantor: God, we implore you, in your glory seated, look with compassion on our deep affliction; heal and forgive us, God of grace and pity. Refrain

Cantor: Sins oft committed, now we lay before you: with true contrition, now no more we veil them. Grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. Refrain

Cantor: Innocent, captive, taken unresisting. falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced. Save us, we pray you, Jesus our Redeemer. Refrain

#### **Absolution**

Please rise as you are able

Priest: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation, **People:** That we may show forth your glory in the world.

*Priest:* By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord.

People: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord

Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit

keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen.

#### The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

#### The Offering

Please support the ministries of Church of the Redeemer



Or place your gift in the offering plate as it is passed

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.



Text: Kevin Nichols (1929-2006), alt. © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. Music: Melody Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612); adapt. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

home re-joic-ing bring, in glad- ness there to greet us with feast and robe and ring.

#### **▼** The Celebration of the Eucharist

## The Prayer Over the Gifts

Merciful God, turn us from sin to faithfulness. Accept our offering, and prepare Priest:

us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and

reigns with you now and for ever.

All: Amen.

#### The Great Thanksgiving



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

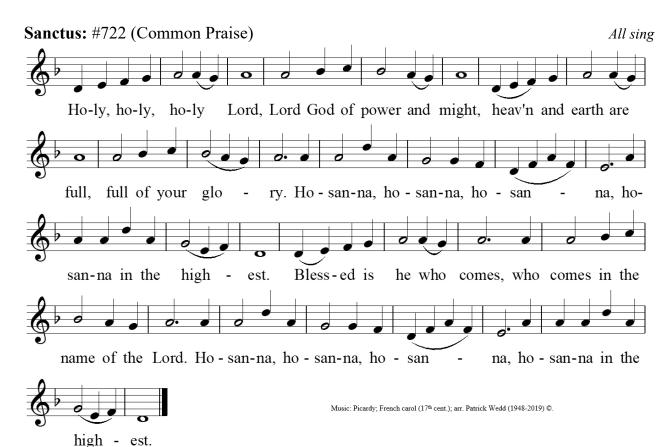


Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places Priest: give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:



God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along Priest: our journey, lifting us up from the dust even when we have fallen short of your glory. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent angels to whisper your message of love without measure. In every age, you sent your prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; and our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire, which you have entrusted to our fragile wills and restless hearts. In the fullness of time, you sent your son to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and the despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin. 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 in remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and offered it for all, 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." For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim our hope:





Dy-ing you de-stroyed our death, ris-ing you re-stored our life. Lord Je-sus,



Music: PICARDY; French carol (17th cent.); adapt. George Black (1931-2003) ©

#### Priest:

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom, to pursue love and justice in all the world. Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.





Music: PICARDY; French carol (17th cent.); adapt. George Black (1931-2003) ©.

# 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 this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Priest: Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

All: If we have died with him, we shall live with him;

if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

#### Agnus Dei (Plainsong)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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

# Communion Motet: "Ach, arme Welt" (Johannes Brahms)

- 1. Ach, arme Welt, du trügest mich, ja, das bekenn' ich eigentlich, und kann dich doch nicht meiden.
- 2. Du falsche Welt, du bist nicht wahr, dein Schein vergeht, das weiß ich zwar, mit Weh' und großem Leiden.
- 3. Dein' Ehr', dein Gut, du arme Welt, im Tod, in rechten Nöten fehlt, dein Schatz ist eitel falsches Geld, dess hilf mir, Herr, zum Frieden.
- 1. Thou, poor vain world, deludest me, yes, that I grant thee verily, and can not still deny thee.
- 2. Ah, thou false world, thou art not true, thy glories fade, I know and rue, with grief and sorrow try me.
- 3. The honours, riches, thou hast brought, in death, in dire distress are naught; Thy treasure vain and falsely wraught. Lord, give me peace eternal.

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.

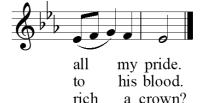
Departing Hymn: #386 (Common Praise) "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" All sing



- 1. When I sur vey the won-drous cross on which the Prince of glo ry
  - 2. For bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the cross of Christ, my
- 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor-row and love flow min gled 4. Were the whole realm of na ture mine, that were an of-fering far too



count but loss, and pour con-tempt on died. mv rich - est gain I God: the vain things that charm me most. I sac - ri - fice them sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so down; did e'er such love and small love so a - maz - ing. di - vine, de - mands my soul, my SO



life.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: ROCKINGHAM; MELODY Psalmody in Miniature, Second Supplement, 1780?; har. Edward Miller (1731-1807); desc. David R. Riley (1947-) ©.

# **Dismissal**

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

my all.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

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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.

theredeemer.ca facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO

#### LENT AT REDEEMER

Sundays, February 26 – April 2

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

**10:30 AM** – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

**8 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesdays, March 1 – 29

6 PM – Creative Midweek Worship

Sunday, March 12

7 PM – Rock Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)
Featuring the music of Leonard Cohen

Sunday, April 2 (Palm Sunday)

7 PM – Palm Sunday Bach Vespers (in the Church and through YouTube)
Featuring Cantata No. 72 *Alles nur nach Gottes Willen*(All things according to God's will)

#### **FAITH FORMATION**

## Children, Youth and Families

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

Church School happens during the 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.

Youth Group is happening on alternating weeks with Youth participating in worship on other weeks. On weeks when youth are in worship, please feel free to use some of the Youth Resources available, and if you would like to sit together with Finn and Tom in the east transept you are very welcome!

If you have children or youth who are school aged, feel free to contact Andrew Kuhl to get on our contact list for up-to-date information! If you are a family with young children interested in programming for young families, please contact Andrew Kuhl (akuhl@theredeemer.ca).

# Wednesday Evenings at 6 PM – Creative Midweek Worship

Consider joining us this Lent for five weeks of Creative Midweek Worship. This short service will involve songs and music, space for prayer and reflection, scripture and poetry, and tactile forms of prayer. After the service we will gather for a simple shared meal. The themes for each week are as follows: March 1: "Story"; March 8: "Rules", March 15: "Washed", March 22: "Together", March 29: "Hope?". If you are interested in joining us or participating, please email <a href="mailto:akuhl@theredeemer.ca">akuhl@theredeemer.ca</a> (it will help us know numbers!).

# **Lenten Book Study**

Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World

Redeemer Explorers and Creation Matters invite you to join them in reading Katherine Hayhoe's accessible but challenging book, **Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World**. We'll use our discussions together as a Lenten practice of self-examination and reflection on the choices we make from day to day. Weekly groups will. begin the week of February 26. For full details <u>visit the Redeemer Explorers page</u> on the website.

<u>Register</u> for the Sunday Group at the Church. <u>Register</u> for the Wednesday Group on Zoom.

# Lent Bible Study with Bible Remixed

Join Dr Sylvia Keesmaat for a six-week Zoom bible study **Dreaming of the New Earth: Reading Revelation with Hope** on Sunday evenings from February 26 to April 2 at 7 PM. The wild symbolism and imagery of the book of Revelation has provided fertile ground for equally wild interpretations of the future.

Deep down, however, this is a book of hope: hope for a new earth, a new kind of city, and a new Community in the face of a world that has been turned upside down. As such, it may be the perfect word of hope for our own unsettled times.

For more information, visit the Bible Remixed website (https://www.bibleremixed.ca).

#### **Lent Resource**

If you are looking for a Lent resource to use at home, Kate Bowler's **Bless the Lent we Actually Have** guides may be helpful. To learn more and download the guides which offer 40 daily prompts to reflect, pray and bless our imperfect days, <u>visit her website</u> (https://katebowler.com).

#### WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY

# Mid-day Prayer

Members of our community gather for mid-day prayer **Monday through Saturday** on Zoom at **12:15 PM**. For about 20 minutes we pause to hear scripture read and to pray for what's on our hearts and for the cares and concerns of the world. The Zoom link and list of readings are sent out each week through eNews. The order of service is <u>on our website</u> (theredeemer.ca).

# 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 next Wednesday will be posted on the website (theredeemer.ca).

# **Intercessions**

In the prayers of the people each Sunday, space is left for members of the community to add a name or concern. If you have people or situations that you would like included but are not comfortable giving voice to them, there is a <u>prayer request form</u> on the website (theredeemer.ca). These will be offered silently by one of the priests during the appropriate petition of the intercessions.