



MINISTRY UPDATES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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

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.

Annual Vestry Meeting

The annual Vestry meeting will be held **today at 2 PM** on Zoom.

Please register prior to the meeting. You will be asked to register with your name and email address as well as to indicate the number of voting members who are joining the meeting on your connection. If there will be more than one voting member, you will be asked for their name(s). This will help us record attendance without the benefit of passing signature sheets on clipboards around the church. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you are joining by

phone, you can dial 647 558 0588 or 647 374 4685. The meeting ID is 831 2209 1755 and the password is 617016. Links to meeting materials were in Friday's eNews.

Worship and Spirituality

During the Week

Mid-day Prayer

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

Tuesday Meditation

Tuesday Meditation with Lilian Junkin gathers for 30 minutes in the chancel at **12:15 PM** for a peaceful mid-week reflection. If you have any other questions, please contact Lilian (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).

Upcoming Garden Eucharist Dates

Our Garden Eucharists at the home of Karen and Michael Visser are continuing, weather permitting. Please join us on these Saturday afternoons:

Saturday March 25 at 2:00 PM

Saturday April 29 at 2:00 PM

More information will be forthcoming as the Garden Eucharist Saturday approaches, but we wanted you to mark your calendars now. If you have any questions, please be in touch with Susan Haig (shaig@theredeemer.ca) or Andrew Kuhl (akuhl@theredeemer.ca).

On Sunday

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!

Our regular Church School and Youth Group gatherings have returned. 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.

Youth Group is happening on alternating weeks with Youth participating in worship on other weeks. Youth Group is gathering **March 5 at 10:30 AM**. 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).

Floral Dedications

Floral dedications provide a wonderful way to express our personal thanksgiving and remembrances. If you would like to provide chancel flowers, please email the necessary information to the church office (office@theredeemer.ca).

Prices range from \$200 for chancel flowers if there is only one dedication on a Sunday, or \$100 if there are multiple dedications.

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.

Our Common Life

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

Coffee and cookies are available **before** the 10:30 service. Why not arrive early for conversation over coffee or tea until 10:20? All who attend worship services in the church building are also 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.

Open Door Docents

Would you like to join the group of people who welcome those who come through our Open Doors on Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 2 PM.

Routinely there are people curious to enter, rest, find some quiet or discover our wonderful space. Docents – always in pairs - are greeters for any who venture in. In addition it is a couple of hours when you might find some quiet yourself, read a book or be in conversation with your partner to solve the problems of the world. If you are interested in being part of the team, **email Susan Graham Walker** (sgwalker@theredeemer.ca).

Tax Receipts

Income tax receipts for all who financially support the Church of the Redeemer ministries have gone out by email (if we have given us your address) or by post.

Thank you for enabling us to continue to be a witness here at the corner of Avenue Road and Bloor Street.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to **connect through the church office** (office@theredeemer.ca).

Lent at Redeemer

Wednesday Evenings at 6 PM

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 15	“Washed”	March 29	“Hope?”
March 8	“Rules”	March 22	“Together”		

If you are interested in joining us or participating, please email akuhl@theredeemer.ca (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 [visit the Redeemer Explorers page](#) on the website.

[Register](#) for the Sunday Group at the Church.

[Register](#) 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) (<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, [visit her website](https://katebowler.com) (<https://katebowler.com>).

Refugee Settlement Committee

Since the arrival of Abdikadir, Asho and their sons, there has been a great deal of interest in the family and in the work of the Refugee Settlement Committee. As an introduction, you're invited to read the brief article on the church website, theredeemer.ca, under "How we serve". It details the committee's history and myriad roles in helping the newcomers settle into their new lives in Canada.

If you are interested in more active involvement, there are opportunities to volunteer, for example by tutoring or joining in outings with the family. Speak with Susanna Jacob or Alison Colvin for more information.

If you'd like to make a **financial contribution** 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.

Parish Resources

Parish Operations Manager On-Site

Susan Graham Walker, Parish Operations Manager, 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) or text (647-215-8814).

How Are You Doing?

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

Pastoral Care Calls

Volunteers from the pastoral care team continue to call members of the Redeemer community to check in with them.

Please contact Tony Crosbie (tony.crosbie@sympatico.ca) if you know someone who would benefit from a call from one of the pastoral care team.

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)