



ROCK EUCHARIST: THE MUSIC OF NEIL YOUNG

The Church of the Redeemer:

162 Bloor Street West,
Toronto, ON M5S 1M4

Tel: (416) 922 4948

office@theredeemer.ca

www.theredeemer.ca

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

We are in the heart of downtown Toronto, and we gather to celebrate on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Our beautiful building connects us to the rich heritage of our city while also drawing us deeper into the roots of our Anglican tradition. Just as the streetscape around us has evolved over the years, our members have changed to reflect the growing, vibrant and progressive Christian community found at the Redeemer today. We come from a variety of faith traditions (and sometimes no faith tradition at all), and we like it that way. We are students, workers, retired, homeless, not limited by sexual orientation, gender identity or personal history. We are at the very beginning of our life with Jesus, and we are deeply steeped in a life complicated by faith. We open our doors to worship God and to learn about Jesus, and how all of this might just transform our lives.

If you would like to stay up to date with our news and events, please feel free to subscribe to our eNewsletter by going to theredeemer.ca/newsletters.

theredeemer.ca

facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO

instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO

Opening Song: New Mama (Neil Young)

Please remain seated

New mama's got a son in her eyes
No clouds are in my changing skies
Each morning when I wake up to rise
I'm livin' in a dreamland

Changing times, ancient reasons
That turn to lies
Throw them all away
Head in hand, gift of wonders to understand
And open all the way

New mama's got a son in her eyes
No clouds are in my changing skies
Each morning when I wake up to rise
I'm livin' in a dreamland

✠ The Easter Greeting

Please rise as you are able

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Priest: May his grace and peace be with you.

People: **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Collect of the Day

Priest: God of love,
you invite us to abide in you.
May we follow the Spirit of truth,
so that through us your commanding love
may speak to the heart of the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

First Reading

Please be seated

Reader: A reading from the Book of Acts.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown God.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him - though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Acts 17.22-31

All: **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Song: Heart of Gold (Neil Young)

I want to live, I want to give
I've been a miner for a heart of gold
It's these expressions I never give
That keep me searching for a heart of gold and I'm getting old

Keep me searching for a heart of gold
And I'm getting old

I've been to Hollywood, I've been to Redwood
I crossed the ocean for a heart of gold
I've been in my mind, it's such a fine line

That keeps me searching for a heart of gold
And I'm getting old

Keeps me searching for a heart of gold
And I'm getting old

Keep me searching for a heart of gold
You keep me searching and I'm growing old
Keep me searching for a heart of gold
I've been a miner for a heart of gold

Gospel

Please rise as you are able

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

John 14.15-21

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: Liska Stefko

Please be seated

The Prayers of the People

Please rise as you are able

Leader: Let us now come before God with joyful hearts to pray for the needs of our world. Please respond to the bidding “God of Easter,” with “Hear our prayer.”

Leader: God of faithfulness and new beginnings, we praise you for your many blessings in our lives.

A pause is observed

For your presence, alive and powerful, in all that amazes and delights us, we thank you!

God of Easter

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: In this season of great gladness
fill us with boldness to proclaim your good news:
in our homes and neighborhoods,
in our workplaces and communities.
Help us to embody your good news in all we do,
walking gently on this earth
and bringing hope to all your creation.

A pause is observed

God of Easter

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We offer you all who suffer
due to war, violence, or oppression.
Surround them with your life-giving presence.
Empower all your children to be witnesses to your resurrection;
to see its force at work in our world,
overturning all that would harm and destroy--
beyond us and within us--
bending us towards love and truth.

A pause is observed

God of Easter

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We hold before you all who are lonely, sick or struggling — especially (*please add names silently or aloud*).

A pause is observed

And we pray for those who have died, remembering (*please add names silently or aloud*), that they may share in the glory of Christ's resurrection.

A pause is observed

God of Easter

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: And into the light of this moment,
we bring ourselves, with our challenges and burdens,
Our hidden dreams, our unfulfilled potential.

A pause is observed

For every human soul that turns to God in longing and in hope;
Today and every day, pull us out of our graves and into your life.

God of Easter

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Holy One, even before we call, you answer;
while we are yet speaking, you hear.
We offer these, and all our prayers,
in the name of the Risen Christ —
our Saviour and Redeemer.

All: Amen.

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

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.

Offertory Song: Mother Earth (Natural Anthem) (Neil Young)

Oh, Mother Earth with your fields of green
Once more laid down by the hungry hand
How long can you give and not receive?
And feed this world ruled by greed
And feed this world ruled by greed

Oh, ball of fire in the summer sky
Your healing light, your parade of days
Are they betrayed by the men of power
Who hold this world in their changing hands
They hold the world in their changing hands

Oh, freedom land, can you let this go?
Down to the streets where the numbers grow
Respect Mother Earth and Her giving ways
Or trade away our children's days
Or trade away our children's days

Respect Mother Earth and Her healing ways
Or trade away our children's days

✠ The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest: God of hope, give us glad and generous hearts,
ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,
through Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Priest: Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts. When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory saying:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you. Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, Jesus took the cup of

wine, gave you thanks, and said “Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” And now we gather at this table in response to his commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ’s undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Priest: Breathe your Holy Spirit the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our soul and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever.

All: Amen.

Common Prayer (St. Hilda paraphrase)

Priest: Together we pray:

All: God, who cares for us,
The wonder of whose presence fills us with awe,
Let justice, kindness and love
shine in our world.
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.
us the food and the hope we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.
Protect us from pride and from despair
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.
In you is truth, meaning, glory and power,
while worlds come and go. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Lord, we died with you on the cross.

People: Now we are raised to new life.

Priest: We were buried in your tomb.

People: Now we share in your resurrection.

Priest: Live in us that we may live in you.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Communion



All in the church are invited to come forward to receive communion. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please indicate when you arrive at the communion station. If you would like to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms as shown in the picture on the left and the priest will be pleased to offer you a blessing.

Communion Song: Thrasher (Neil Young)

They were hiding behind hay bales
They were planting in the full moon
They had given all they had for something new
But the light of day was on them
They could see the thrashers coming
And the water shone like diamonds in the dew
And I was just getting up, hit the road before it's light
Trying to catch an hour on the sun
When I saw those thrashers rolling by
Looking more than two lanes wide
I was feelin' like my day had just begun

Where the eagle glides descending
There's an ancient river bending
Through the timeless gorge of changes
Where sleeplessness awaits
I searched out my companions
Who were lost in crystal canyons
When the aimless blade of science
Slashed the pearly gates

It was then that I knew I'd had enough
Burned my credit card for fuel
Headed out to where the pavement turns to sand
With a one way ticket to the land of truth
And my suitcase in my hand
How I lost my friends, I still don't understand

They had the best selection
They were poisoned with protection
There was nothing that they needed
Nothing left to find

They were lost in rock formations
Or became park bench mutations
On the sidewalks and in the stations
They were waiting, waiting

So I got bored and left them there
They were just dead weight to me
Better down the road without that load
Brings back the time when I was eight or nine
I was watchin' my mama's TV
It was that great Grand Canyon rescue episode

Where the vulture glides, descending
On an asphalt highway bending
Through libraries and museums, galaxies and stars
Down the windy halls of friendship
To the rose clipped by the bullwhip
The motel of lost companions
Waits with heated pool and bar

But me I'm not stopping there
Got my own row left to hoe
Just another line in the field of time
When the thrasher comes, I'll be stuck in the sun
Like the dinosaurs in shrines
But I'll know the time has come
To give what's mine

Prayer after Communion

Please rise as you are able

Priest: God of abundance,
with this holy meal you have united us with Christ,
and with one another.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
so that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of our Redeemer.

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.**

Announcements

Please be seated

Closing Song: Comes a Time (Neil Young)

Please rise as you are able

Comes a time when you're driftin'
Comes a time when you settle down
Comes a light, feelings liftin'
Lift that baby right up off the ground

Oh, this old world keeps spinnin' 'round
It's a wonder, tall trees ain't layin' down
There comes a time

You and I, we were captured
We took our souls and we flew away
We were right, we were giving
That's how we kept what we gave away
Oh, this old world keeps spinnin' 'round
It's a wonder, tall trees ain't layin' down
There comes a time

Oh, this old world keeps spinnin' 'round
It's a wonder, tall trees ain't layin' down
There comes a time
There comes a time
Comes a time...

The Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

We are grateful for our musicians this evening:

Mike Daley, guitar and voice

Jill Daley, piano and violin

Mark Rainey, voice

John Cowling, voice

Upcoming Evening Services

Taizé (May 21), fashioned after services of a community of brothers who live in an ecumenical community in the village of Taizé of southern France. Singing, silence, scripture and prayers make up the worship service. It draws from more contemplative roots where silence and reflection are central to worship and mantra-like music allows the participants to centre their thought on the adoration of God.

Bach Vespers (May 28), Cantata No. 4, “Christ lag in Todesbanden”, featuring the combined choirs of Church of the Redeemer and St. Paul’s Bloor Street. Our Bach Vespers series explores the music and poetry of a Bach cantata woven into a Vespers service that draws on rich Lutheran hymnody and traditions.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, May 21 (Ascension Sunday)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

7 PM – Taizé (in the Church and through YouTube)

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Sunday, May 28 (Pentecost)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

7 PM – Bach Vespers (in the Church and through YouTube)

Cantata No. 4, “Christ lag in Todesbanden”, featuring the combined choirs of Church of the Redeemer and St. Paul’s Bloor Street

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)