



The Burning Bush

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:

162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4

office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • 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

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OFFERTORY — If you would like to make a monetary donation to support the ministry of Church of the Redeemer, we invite you to visit theredeemer.ca/donate via the QR code above. Thank you for joining us today.

Welcome

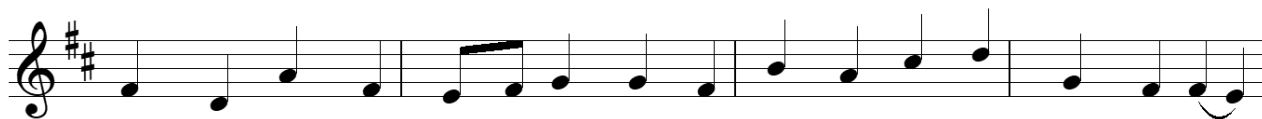
Moderator

Land Acknowledgment

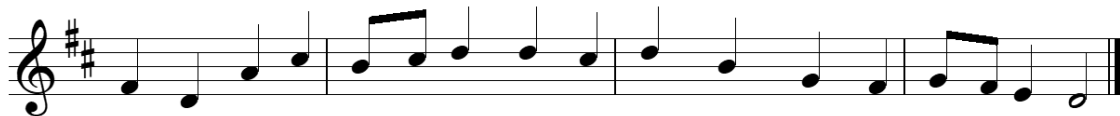
Steven Mackison

Opening Hymn: #481 (Common Praise) “May the Grace of Christ our Saviour”

Redeemer Music Team



1. May the grace of Christ our Sav-iour, and the Fa-ther's bound-less love,
2. Thus may we a - bid in un - ion with each oth - er and the Lord,
3. To the God whose wis - dom made us, to the Son who set us free,



with the Ho-ly Spir - it's fav-our, rest up - on us from a-bove.
and pos-sess in sweet com-mun-ion joys which earth can-not af-ford.
to the sanc-ti - fy - ing Spir-it, glo - ry, end-less glo - ry be!

Text: St.1-2, John Newton (1725-1807); st.3, New English Hymnal. Music: William Boyce (1710-1779), alt.

✠ The Gathering of the Community

Steven Mackison

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

People: **And also with you.**

The Collect of the Day

Steven Mackison

Priest: O God,
whose word burns like a fire within us:
grant us a bold and faithful spirit,
so that, in your strength,
we may be unafraid to speak your word
and follow where you lead;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Abigail Young

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

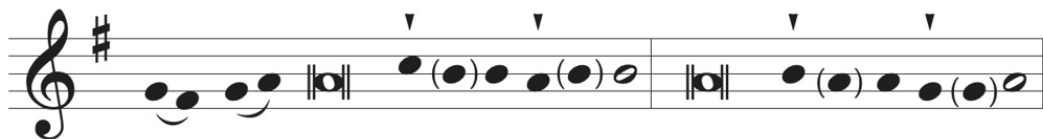
Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

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

Exodus 3.1-15

All: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed



GĪVE THÄNKs to our God and call upon the Holy Name; *
 make known God's deeds among the peoples.

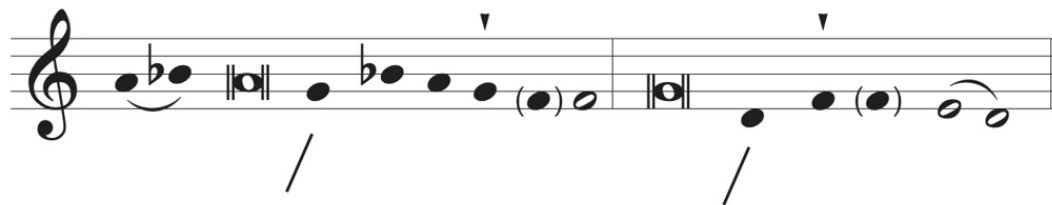
Sing to God, sing praises to the Holy One, *
 and speak of all God's marvellous works.

Glory in the Holy Name; *
 let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice.

Let us search for you and your strength, O God, *
 let us continually seek your face.

Let us remember the marvels you have done, *
 your wonders are the judgements of your mouth,

O offspring of Abraham your servant, *
 O children of Jacob your chosen.



İsrael / came into Egypt, *
 and Jacob became a sojourner in / the land of Häm.

You, God made your people ex- / ceedingly fruitful; *
 you made them stronger than / their enemies;

Whose heart you turned, so that they / hated your people, *
 and dealt unjustly with / your servants.

You sent / Moses your servant, *
 and Aaron whom you had chosen, Hal- / lelujäh!

Second Reading

Abigail Young

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Romans 12.9-21

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Hymn: #698 (Gather) "Take Up Your Cross"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Take up your cross, the Sav-iour said, If you would my dis - ci - ple
2. Take up your cross, let not its weight Fill your weak spir - it with a -
3. Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and let your fool-ish heart be
4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength, And calm - ly ev - 'ry dan-ger
5. Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, Nor think till death to lay it



be; Take up your cross with will - ing heart, and hum - bly
larm; his strength shall bear your spir - it up, and brace your
still; The Lord for you ac - cept - ed death Up - on a
brave: It guides you to a bet - ter home And leads to
down; For on - ly those who bear the cross May hope to



fol - low af - ter me.
heart and nerve your arm.
cross, on Cal - v'ry's hill.
vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest (1814-1877), alt. Tune: English; harm. By Martin West (1929-), © 1983, Hope Publishing Co.

The Gospel

Paige Souter

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

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

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 16.21-28

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: Paige Souter

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation:

Redeemer Music Team

The Prayers of the People

Catherine Emerson

Leader: Let us pray to our Creator saying:

Give us wisdom, O God,

All: that might we see your glory shining forth.

Leader: God our liberator,

the cries of the oppressed continue to rise to you as they did so long ago in Egypt. Give us ears to listen to your call, as Moses did, that we may be the people whose hospitality, mutual affection, and care might extend even to those we do not count as friends.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Give us wisdom, O God,

All: that might we see your glory shining forth.

Leader: God our healer, when we look around us we see so much sorrow: refugees with no place to lay their head, those who have recently lost homes, or jobs, those who struggle with addiction, those suffering from physical afflictions and mental illness. And, closer to home, the brokenness in our own lives. Help us to recognize your healing presence, shining forth in the places we least expect it.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Give us wisdom, O God,

All: **that might we see your glory shining forth.**

Leader: God our Creator, we see the bushes burning, and the trees, and it is all consumed. Homes, hopes, creatures, human lives, all turned to ash. Comfort your afflicted creation, O God, that out of this loss, healing might come, and we might see the need to change our ways.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Give us wisdom, O God,

All: **that might we see your glory shining forth.**

Leader: God of new life, we give thanks for those who have died. We pray that they now see your glory brightly, just as we have seen your glory in their lives.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Give us wisdom, O God,

All: **that might we see your glory shining forth.**

Leader: God of joy, we delight in all the ways that we see your presence in the world around us. We give thanks for dedicated teachers who encourage our children to grow and flourish. We give thanks for those who accompany us in our suffering and grief, for those who support us financially when we are in need, for those working to right the wrongs done to so many in the past. We give thanks that we live on holy ground, that shines forth with your glory when we least expect it.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Give us wisdom, O God,

All: **that might we see your glory shining forth. Amen.**

The Peace

Steven Mackison

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

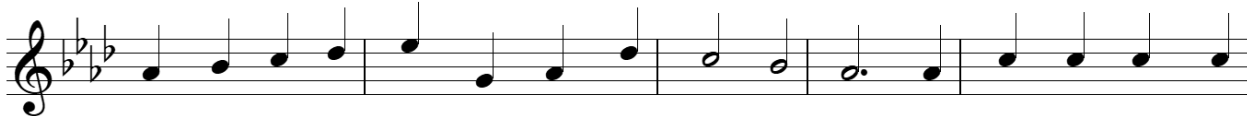
People: **And also with you.**

Hymn: #544 (Gather) "The God of Abraham Praise"

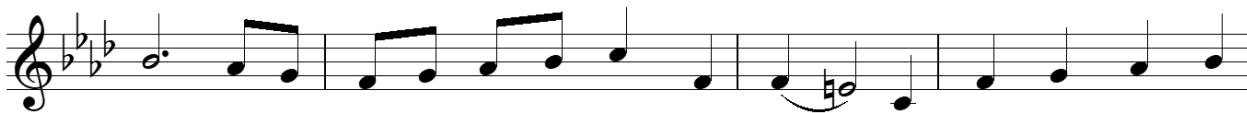
Redeemer Music Team



1. The God of A-braham praise, Who reigns en-throned a - bove; The
2. The Lord, our God has sworn: I on that oath de - pend; I
3. There dwells the Lord, our King, The Lord, our Right-eous - ness, Tri-
4. The God who reigns on high The great arch - an - gels sing, And



an - cient of e - ter - nal days, And God of love; The Lord, the great I
shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend: I shall be - hold God's
umph - ant o'er the world and sin, The Prince of Peace; On Zi - on's sa - cred
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King! Who was, and is, the



AM, By earth and heav'n con - fessed We bow and bless the
face, I shall God's pow'r a - dore, And sing the won - ders
height The king - dom God main - tains, And, glo - rious with the
same, For all e - ter - ni - ty, Im - mor - tal God, the



sa - cred name For ev - er blest.
of God's grace For ev - er - more.
saints in light, For ev - er reigns.
great I AM, All glo - ry be."

Text: *Yigdal Elohim Hai*; ascr. To Daniel ben Judah Dayyan, fl. 1400; para. by Thomas Oliviers (1725-1799), alt. Tune: LEONI, from the *Yigdal*; transcribed by Meyer Lyon (c.1751-1797).

The Lord's Prayer

Steven Mackison

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 Giving and Receiving of Communion

Steven Mackison

Priest: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

For those of us participating at home, it is a strange experience to be invited to Communion – not through the physical bread and wine we can touch and taste – but a Spiritual Communion with the God who comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is genuine true desire, lively faith, and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how.

You may wish to pray quietly this prayer to help you:

One: Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.
You wait for me and only I can let you in.
I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence.
Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood,
that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

The Doxology

Steven Mackison

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

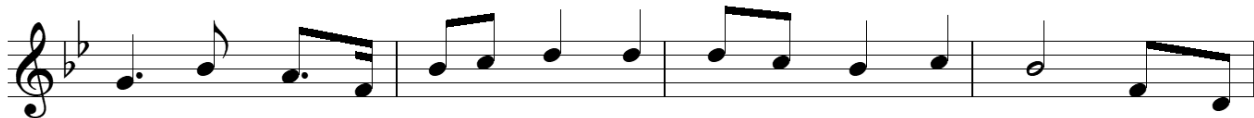
Steven Mackison

Departing Hymn: #575 (Common Praise) "Let Streams of Living Justice"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth; give
2. For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end, for
3. Your ci - ty's built to mus - ic; we are the stones you seek; your



free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth. The
love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend. Weave our
har - mo - ny is lan - guage: we are the words you speak. Our



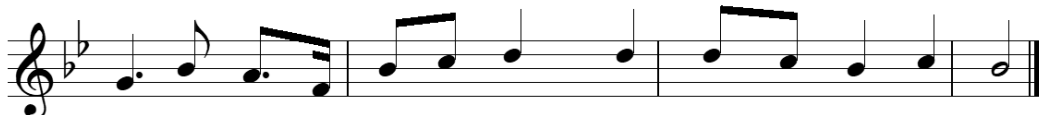
hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights, the
var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun; on your
faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in other's dreams, our



mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight. Make
loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run. O great
love in hand of neigh - bour: our home - land bright - ly gleams. In -



lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the ir - on power; a -
Weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one; dye our
scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way the path un - tried; your



bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ours with your sun.
truth the heart of strang - er; your life the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla
(1934-) ©. Music:
Gustav Theodore Host
(1874-1934), The
Planets; harm. adapt.
Hymns for Church and
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The Dismissal

Paige Souter

Deacon: Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

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

Our thanks go out to all who contribute financially to the Redeemer community. Our ability to continue to offer outreach support through the Common Table and maintain our rich and varied worship and program life is possible thanks to the generous donations of parishioners and friends of the community. Thank you for your generosity.

Online Donation

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The Collect is from *Opening Prayers (2009) alt.* The Prayers of the People were written by Sylvia Keesmaat.

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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, September 10 (Proper 23A)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Sunday, September 17 (Proper 24A)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)