



ORANGE SHIRT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 AT 9 A.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.

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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 Acknowledgement

Paige Souter

Opening Ceremony

Sandra Campbell

(Smudging, Prayer and Drumming)

First Reading

Catherine Emerson

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you

bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

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


Exodus 17.1-7


All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed


Psalm 25.1-9 (Paraphrase): #885 (Gather) “Remember, remember your mercy, Lord”

Redeemer Music Team


Refrain 




Re - mem-ber, re-mem-ber your mer-cy, Lord. Re - mem-ber, re-mem-ber your



mer - cy, Lord. Hear your peo - ple's prayer as they call to you: re-



mem - ber, re - mem - ber your mer - cy, Lord. Last time to coda 

2. Re-
3. The

Verse 1



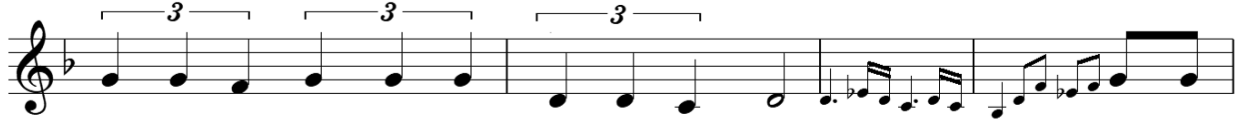
1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me



walk in your truth and teach me: for you are God my Sav-iour. Re- D.S.



mem-ber your mer-cy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.



Do not re-mem-ber the sins of my youth. In your



love re-mem-ber me, in your love re-mem-ber me, be-



cause of your good-ness, O Lord. Re- Lord is good and



up-right, God shows the path to all who stray, and guides the hum-ble in the



right path. God teach-es the way to the poor. Re-

Text: Psalm 25.4-9; © 1963, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; refrain, Paul Inwood, b.1947, © 1987. Published by OCP Publications.

Second Reading

Catherine Emerson

Reader: A Reading from Small Man to The Sacred Family in Village of Horses

WALKING THE ROAD TOGETHER

As you walk the road with the Chosen One, have you gained from him courage for the journey? Have you found comfort in his love? Do you share together in his Spirit? Has his tenderness and mercy

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love,

captured your heart? If so, then have the same kind of thoughts. Love with one heart. Join together in one Spirit. And walk side by side on one path. This will make my heart leap for joy. *But when you do these things, make sure you do them for the right reasons.* Do not let selfish ways take you down a path of bragging or trying to look better than others. Instead, let humility be your guide as you honour others above yourself. Each of you should look to the needs of others, not just to your own.

THE HUMILITY OF THE CHOSEN ONE

Think about yourselves in the same way Creator Sets Free (Jesus) the Chosen One thought about himself. Even though Creator Sets Free (Jesus) has always been the same as the Great Spirit and shared everything equally with him, he did not even think of holding on to this in a selfish way. Instead, he emptied himself, became nothing, and gave up all he had. Then, having been born as a human being, he took on himself the lowly form of a servant. As a True Human Being, he lowered himself even more by following the guidance *of the Great Spirit*, even when death was waiting for him *at the end of the trail*, death on a tree-pole—the cross! Because Creator Sets Free (Jesus) did this, the Great Spirit gave him an honoured place above all others and bestowed on him a name greater than all other names, so that all who live in the spirit-world above, on the earth below, and

being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

underneath the earth will bow their knee to Creator Sets Free (Jesus) in honour of his name. Then everyone, in their native language, will shout out loud that Creator Sets Free (Jesus) the Chosen One is Grand Chief *over all the earth*. This will bring honour and praise to our Father the Great Spirit.

WISE COUNSEL FROM SMALL MAN

My much-loved family, you have always followed my guidance, not only when I was with you but much more now that I am away. So then, with great respect, you must walk the path Creator has given you for being set free and made whole. For the Great Spirit is creating in you the desire and strength to do what pleases him.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

Philippians 2.1-13

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Hymn: #132 (Sing a New Creation) "Sisters, Let Us Walk Together" *Redeemer Music Team*



1. Sis - ters, let us walk to - geth - er, shar - ing sad - ness, loss and grief.
2. Broth - ers, let us work to - geth - er, seek - ing jus - tice, heal - ing shame.
3. Peo - ple, let us love to - geth - er, join - ing spir - its, link - ing hands.



We will move through pain to whole-ness; bro - ken-ness trans-formed to peace.
Filled with hope, em - bued with cour - age, ev' - ry vio-lence we will name.
We are God's u - nique cre - a - tion; clothed with dig - ni - ty we'll stand.

The Gospel

Steven Mackison

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: Gift from Creator tells the Good Story of Creator Sets Free.

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

LITTLE CHILDREN AND THE GOOD ROAD

The people were bringing their little children to Creator Sets Free (Jesus) so he would lay his hands on them and pray, but his followers spoke harsh words to the ones bringing them. "Let the little children come to me!" Creator Sets Free (Jesus) said to his followers. "Do not turn them away. Creator's good road from above belongs to the ones who are like these children." He then took the children into his arms, laid his hands on them, *blessed them*, and then went on his way.

Then little children were being brought to Jesus in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." And he laid his hands on them, blessed them and went on his way.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 19.13-15

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

Homily: Lori Ransom

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation

Redeemer Music Team

The Prayers of the People

Abigail Young

Leader: Creator God, from you every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love, and empowered us by your Spirit to speak the truth in love, and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one another to grow into the full stature of Christ, who is our light and our life.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently, aloud or in the chat box.

Leader: Let us pray,

All: **God, have mercy.**

Leader: Gracious God, through Jesus you invited all creation into your reconciling love. As you freed his followers from their fear of the risks of discipleship, so move within us in your love with the strength, the compassion and courage to give of ourselves to the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to us through Jesus Christ, your Son.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently, aloud or in the chat box.

Leader: Let us pray,

All: **God, have mercy.**

Leader: Liberating God, in Christ the captive is freed, the blind made to see, the suffering healed, and the poor receive good news. The whole creation yearns for us, the children of God, to be revealed in our care for each other and for all of creation. May we join the struggle against the social, racial, economic, and land injustices that affect the lives of Indigenous people and harm the earth.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently, aloud or in the chat box.

Leader: Let us pray,

All: **God, have mercy.**

Leader: Loving God, Creator of all, maker and redeemer of history, you hold the pains and joys of our past, our present, our future; you open us to the gifts of time and the possibilities of new beginnings, and offer us the confidence to face our sin and loss with hope. Breathe in us the grace to trust in your loving forgiveness, that we may face our histories with courage, guide us by your Holy Spirit in our walk of repentance, as we turn to embrace the new life you have given to us.

As we pause, you are invited to offer prayers silently, aloud or in the chat box.

Leader: Let us pray,

All: **God, have mercy.**

Confession

Paige Souter

Deacon: Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

All: **Creator God, in our sin we have avoided your call.**

**Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.**

Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgment;

bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Deacon: The Lord enrich us with grace, and nourish us with many blessings;
the Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;
the Lord accept our prayers, and absolve us from our offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

The Peace

Paige Souter

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

People: **And also with you.**

Hymn: #583 (Common Praise) "When God Restored Our Common Life"

Redeemer Music Team

1. When God re - stored our com - mon life, our hope, our lib - er -
2. We went forth weep - ing, sow - ing seeds in hard, un - yield - ing
3. Great lib - er - at - ing God, we pray for all who are op -

ty, at first it seemed a pass - ing dream, a wak - ing fan - ta -
soil. With laugh - ing hearts we car - ry home the fruit of all our
pressed. May those who long for what is right with jus - tice now be

sy. A shock of joy swept o - ver us, for we had wept so
toil. We praise the one who gave the growth, with voic - es full and
blessed. We pray for those who mourn this day, and all who suf - fer

long; the seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.
strong. The seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.
wrong; may seeds they wa - ter now with tears spring up in - to a song.

The Lord's Prayer

Paige Souter

Deacon: 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

Paige Souter

Deacon: 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.

Healing

For those desiring prayers for healing, please contact one of the clergy present privately in the chat.

The Doxology

Paige Souter

Deacon: 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.**

Departing Hymn: #663 (Gather) “As a Fire is Meant for Burning” *Redeemer Music Team*


1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing With a bright and warm-ing flame, So the
 2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; We are pil - grims on the way. We are
 3. As a green bud in the spring-time Is a sign of life re - newed, So may



church is meant for mis - sion, Giv - ing glo - ry to God's name. Not to
 seek - ers; we are giv - ers; We are ves - sels made of clay. By our
 we be signs of one - ness 'Mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hues. As a



preach our creeds or cust - oms, But to build a bridge of care, We join
 gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, We would show that Christ is light. In a
 rain - bow lights the heav - ens When a storm is past and gone, May our



hands a - cross the na - tions, Find - ing neigh - bours ev - 'ry - where.
 hum - ble, lis - t'ning Spir - it, We would live to God's de - light.
 lives re - flect the ra - dian - ce Of God's new and glor - ious dawn.

Text: Ruth Duck (1947-), ©
 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Tune: BEACH SPRING; *The
 Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. by
 Marty Haugen (1950-), © 1985,
 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Dismissal
Steven Mackison

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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The Prayers of the People were written by Paige Souter, adapted from *A New Agape Worship Service* (<https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/BookC.pdf>).

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Service Notes

Orange Shirt Sunday

Orange Shirt Day is September 30. It is also the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Today we mark Orange Shirt Day at Church of The Redeemer. We are invited to wear something orange (sweater, shirt, socks, shoes etc.) at the 9 and 10:30 AM services.

At the beginning of both services, Sandra Campbell will smudge, offer a prayer and drum. During drumming it is customary to stand. Sandra is Wahta Mohawk First Nation and Wolf Clan (Kanien'kehā:ka Wahta, Wakkwā:ho). She is a member of Church of The Redeemer. Sandra is the Indigenous Outreach Coordinator with Toronto Urban Native Ministry.

In 2013 Phyllis Webstad, Northern Secwepemc (Shuswap) grandmother, community leader, and Residential School Survivor, started the Orange Shirt Day movement to honour Survivors and their stories. To raise awareness and in honour of Phyllis, Survivors, intergenerational Survivors, and those who died and did not return home, we wear orange on September 30. For more about Phyllis Webstad's story and to listen to her recordings on September 30, please visit: <https://www.orangeshirtday.org/>.

Smudging

This is the ceremonial process of burning sage in an abalone shell or container. The smoke that comes up from the burning medicines is called "smudge" where we draw the smoke over our bodies in sacred reverence and gratitude. It sets our intention while connecting to the Creator while visiting within the Creator's creation

May your hands be cleansed, that they can create beautiful things. May your eyes be cleansed, that you might see the signs and great wonders of God's world. May your ears be cleansed, that you bravely hear the truth. May your throat be cleansed, that you might speak rightly when words are needed. May your feet be cleansed, that they might take you where you are most needed to be. May your heart be cleansed, that you might hear its messages clearly. May the people and this holy worship space be washed clean by the fragrance smoke of this sage. May that same smoke, when spiralling to the heavens, carry our petitions to our Creator. Now that we are of one mind and of the people...

Return to Order of Service

The Drum

The drum is significant to many First Nations. The gift of the drum is our connection to the Creator.

There are various teachings about the drum, but the main teaching is to give the community the opportunity to come together in prayer and song of thanksgiving. The first drum was given to a girl during her vision quest for peace during the time when there was grave hardship during wartime. It was the responsibility of the drummer or drummers to be the channel (s) of peace for the community.

The drum carrier has a responsibility of taking care and feasting the drums every season. The drum is alive because our connection with the Creator is alive. Depending on the song, it is customary to stand when an honour song is sung to show a sign of respect to the covenant with the Creator that the drum is the connector and bringer of peace.

When a drum starts drumming with four honour beats, the purpose is to request that the Creator stop and bend an ear for the beginning of the prayer song. During this period, the Creator will listen and send the Spirit (Spirit helpers) to give visions, answers, or messages to all of Creation.

Usually the songs throughout the ceremony (service) are to give thanks for peace and prosperity by giving thanks and praises for the bountiful gifts that Creator gave while traveling in a peaceful loving way of life. At the end of the service the drum song is given to thank the Creator for providing the community the opportunity to share and move in our lives in a good way.

[Return to Order of Service](#)

Lori Ransom

We are grateful to Lori Ransom for preaching the Gospel on Orange Shirt Sunday.

Lori serves as a Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator with the United Church of Canada and as an Indigenous Consultant to the World Council of Churches.

Lori deepened her knowledge of and passion for the work of healing and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples after being appointed as the first Healing and Reconciliation Program Animator for The Presbyterian Church in Canada and later as Senior Advisor, Church and Interfaith Relations, for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Lori currently serves as a member of the Canadian Council of Churches' Executive, the Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and the Aboriginal Education Council of Centennial College, Scarborough.

She resides in downtown Toronto with her brother James and beloved two-year old Cockapoo, Finnegan.

Lori is a member of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation (near Eganville, Ontario) who has lived off-reserve for all of her life.

Return to Order of Service

WORSHIP WITH US

7 PM Tonight – In the Church and through YouTube

A Night of Indian Devotional Music and Meditation – Yeshu Satsang Toronto

We welcome Yeshu Satsang
(<https://www.facebook.com/YeshuSatsangToronto>) for an evening of Indian devotional music and meditation.

In India, Yeshu is Hindi for “Jesus.” Satsang means “gathering of the truth.” Typically, satsangs in India are gatherings of people who worship together, often using devotional songs called bhajans and kirtans. You are invited to join us in worshipping Jesus in an Indian way. We’ll be sitting on the floor, with incense, flowers and oil lamps, surrounded by the sounds of sitar, tabla, and other Indian and western instruments. The song books provided are in Hindi (with English translations) written so that you can join in.

A time for refreshment and conversation continues following the service that all are invited to join for as long as they are able.

Sunday, October 1 (Proper 26A)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

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

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Sunday, October 8 (Season of Creation – Voices of the Land)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

7 PM – No Evening Service

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)