



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 AT 9:00 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 Acknowledgment

Steven Mackison

Opening Hymn: #572 (Common Praise) "Let There Be Light"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Let there be light, let there be un - der - stand - ing,
2. o - pen our lips, o - pen our minds to pon - der,
3. per - ish the sword, per - ish the an - gry judge - ment,
4. hal - low our love, hal - low the deaths of mar - tyrs,
5. thy king - dom come, thy spir - it turn to lan - guage,
6. let there be light, o - pen our hearts to won - der,



let all the na - tions gath - er, let them be face to face;
o - pen the door of con - cord o - pening in - to grace;
per - ish the bombs and hun - ger, per - ish the fight for gain;
hal - low their ho - ly free - dom, hal - lowed be thy name;
thy peo - ple speak to - geth - er, thy spir - it nev - er fade;
per - ish the way of ter - ror, hal - low the world God made.

Text: Frances Wheeler Davis (1936-) ©. Music: Robert J.B. Fleming (1921-1976). © 1976 Margaret Fleming.

✠ 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: God of deep compassion,
you welcome the weak
and free us from the bondage of sin.
Break the cycle of judgement and violence
through Jesus our forgiveness,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Heather Bennett

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

Exodus 14.19-31

All: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed

Refrain



When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
Judah became God's sanctuary and Israel God's dominion. **Refrain**

The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back.
The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep. **Refrain**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?
You mountains, that you skipped like rams? you little hills like young sheep. **Refrain**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of God, at the presence of the Holy One of Jacob.
Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and a flint-stone into a flowing spring.
Refrain

Second Reading

Heather Bennett

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

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee

shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

Romans 14.1-12

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Hymn: #614 (Common Praise) “Forgive Our Sins”

Redeemer Music Team



1. For - give our sins as we for - give, you taught us, Lord, to pray; but
2. How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart that
3. In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew: what
4. Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent-ment cease; then,



you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
broods on wrongs, and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!
bound to all in bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond Eleanor Herklots (1905-1987), alt. © Oxford University Press.

Music: DETROIT. Melody: *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. Russell Schulz-Widmar (1944-). Harm. © 1991 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.**

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by

the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 18.21-35

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: Steven Mackison

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation

Redeemer Music Team

The Prayers of the People

Sylvia Keesmaat

Leader: Confident in God’s presence in our lives, even in times of conflict and judgement, let us offer thanksgivings and petitions to the One whose presence is unending.

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

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of our God

All: at the presence of the God of Jacob

Leader: We pray for the church throughout the world. We ask for God’s strength to be with those churches where to proclaim God’s presence means persecution or torture. We look for God’s healing presence where the church has been the victimizer or the oppressor, that we may be reconciled and forgiven. We pray for fresh expressions of church, that they may be expressions of Christ’s love for us and God’s gift of creation.

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

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of our God

All: at the presence of the God of Jacob

Leader: We pray for the world. Today's psalm portrays the poetry of Your creation. Today it groans under the weight of earthquakes in Morocco, floods in Greece, China, and the US, fires in Canada, and senseless military conflict in many parts of the world. Endow our political leaders with wisdom. Give us compassion to respond to the needs of the refugee, the migrant, and all who are the victims of war, oppression or climate change.

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

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of our God

All: at the presence of the God of Jacob

Leader: We pray for our political leaders, Justin, Doug, and Olivia. We give thanks for all who offer themselves in public service. We remember the people of Manitoba, who have an election next month. We remember the people of Kingfisher Lake and other Indigenous communities who need potable water. In our own community we pray for those in our community who lack adequate shelter, food, or income. We ask for your healing presence on those who are ill or troubled. Give strength and patience to all who care for them.

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

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of our God

All: at the presence of the God of Jacob

Leader: We give thanks for the lives of those who have died. Jesus said, 'I go to prepare a place for you'. Yet we gather in a place that has been prepared for us by generations of believers who have preceded us with their gifts of time, talent and treasure. Why? Because they had a vision of God's presence at this corner of Bloor and Avenue Road. May we remain faithful to the life and witness of those who have gone before us.

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

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of our God

All: at the presence of the God of Jacob

Leader: We give thanks for the presence of God in our lives, in good times and bad. In the words of Pepper Choplin's anthem, 'We are not alone. We are never alone. God is with us, for ever and ever'.

All: Amen.

The Peace

Steven Mackison

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

People: **And also with you.**

Hymn: #501 (Common Praise) “Through All the Changing Scenes of Life”

Redeemer Music Team



1. Through all the chang-ing scenes of life, in trou-ble and in joy, the
2. O mag-ni-fy the Lord with me, ex-alt the sa-cred name; when
3. The guard-ian hosts en-camp a-round the dwell-ings of the just; de-
4. O make but tri-al of God's love; ex-per-ience will de-cide how
5. Fear God, you saints, and you will then have noth-ing else to fear; let
6. To Fa-ther, Son and Spir-it blest, the God whom we a-dore be



prais-es of my God shall still my heart and tongue em-ploy.
in dis-tress to heaven I called, God to my res-cue came.
liv-erance they pro-vide to all who in God's shel-ter trust.
blest and fav-oured are they all who in this love con-fide.
ser-vice be your life's de-light; your wants shall be God's care.
glo-ry, as it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

Text: Psalm 34.1-9; para. Nahum Tate (1652-1715) and Nicholas Brady (1659-1726), *New Version*, 1696, alt. Music: WILTSHIRE. George Smart (1776-1867).

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: #169 (Sing a New Creation) "Sent Out in Jesus' Name"

Redeemer Music Team

Sent out in Je-sus' name, our hands are read - y now to
En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá pa - ra

make the world the place in which the king - dom comes. The
cons - tru - ir con El un mun - do fra - ter - nal. Los

an - gels can - not change a world of hurt and pain in -
án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar un

to a world of love, of jus - tice and of peace. The
mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do de paz. Me

task is ours to do, to set it real - ly free. O,
ha to - ca - do a mi ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad; a -

help us to o - bey, and car - ry out your will.
yú - da - me, Se - ñor; a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.

Text: José Aguiar; Eng. trans. Jorge Maldonado, 1991. © 1988 Abingdon Press, admin.
Music Services. Music: Central American trad.; arr. More Voices, 2007. Arr. © The United Church of Canada.

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

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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The Prayers of the People were written by Peter Bennett.

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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, September 24 (Orange Shirt Day)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

7 PM – A Night of Indian Devotional Music and Meditation – Yeshu Satsang Toronto
(in the Church and through YouTube)

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

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)