



IN EARTH'S LIFE WE LIVE



SEASON OF CREATION:
WHAT HAVE WE HEARD?

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 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: “Turn the World Around” (*Harry Belafonte / Robert Freedman*)

We come from the fi-re, liv-ing in the fi-re. Go back to the fi-re,
turn the world a-round. We come from the fi-re, liv-ing in the fi-re.

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "Turn the World Around". It consists of three staves. The first staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 7/8 time signature. The second and third staves are treble clefs with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the staves, with the words "fi-re" and "liv-ing" split across lines. The music is a simple, rhythmic melody.

Go back to the fi-re, turn the world a-round. We come from the fi-re,
liv-ing in the fi-re. Go back to the fi-re, turn the world a-round.

Handclaps

We come from the wa-ter, liv-ing in the wa-ter. Go back to the wa-ter,
turn the world a-round. We come from the wa-ter, liv-ing in the wa-ter.
Go back to the wa-ter, turn the world a-round. We come from the wa-ter,
liv-ing in the wa-ter. Go back to the wa-ter, turn the world a-round.

Handclaps

We come from the moun - tain, liv - ing in the moun - tain.
 Go back to the moun - tain, turn the world a - round.
 We come from the moun - tain, liv - ing in the moun - tain.
 Go back to the moun - tain, turn the world a - round.
 We come from the moun - tain, liv - ing in the moun - tain.
 Go back to the moun-tain, turn the world a-round.

Handclaps

Handclap rhythm notation consisting of a series of eighth and quarter notes on a staff.

✠ **The Gathering of the Community**

Steven Mackison

Priest: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People: **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Priest: This is the day the Creator has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Collect of the Day

Steven Mackison

Priest: Lord God,
Creator and sustainer of all life,
you call us to care for all you have brought into being.
Help us to respond to your call to be keepers and healers of the Earth,
that through sacrifice, we may mend our relationship with creation,
and renew our relationship with you.
This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: The First Story of Creation

Murray Bryant

Within beginning Eloheme molded
waters above and ground below.
And the earth was helter-skelter;
darkness over the face of Abyss.
And the Breath of Eloheme she
nestled tremulous over wavelets.

Eloheme called out, “Light—be!”
and brilliance bloomed into being.
Eloheme beheld the light created,
and knew that light as goodness.
Eloheme traced the divide across,
between the light and the darkness.
Eloheme called to light: “Be Day!”
and to darkness called: “Be Night!”

Of this evening and of this morning
there now was for the first: Day.

And Eloheme spoke; a Firmness firmed
and came between waters and waters.
Eloheme arched the Firmness
and separated the waters;
The Waters below the Firmness
from the Waters that were Above.

And it was so;
so Eloheme called it: “Heavens!”
Of this evening and of this morning there now was:
Second Day.

And Eloheme spoke: “Assemble! Gather you,
Waters under Heavens, together as one.
And Dry Land! Appear.”
and it was so.

Eloheme called Dry Land: “Earth!”
and the Under Waters: “Seas!”

So Eloheme saw Goodness.

Eloheme spoke: “Earth: Green with Grassy-growth
and bear Forest children and fruiting fruit;
Fruiting of fruit over the Earth,
each in their own image.”

And went forth Greeny-grass on the Earth,
bearing fruitfully offspring of itself;
And went forth Forest on the Earth
bearing fruitfully offspring of itself.

So Eloheme saw Goodness.

Of this evening and of this morning there now was:
Third Day.

And Eloheme spoke: “Lights come into;
come into Heavens’ Firmness;
For marking between Day and Night,
for signifying seasons and days and years.
And become lights in Heavens’ Firmness
for lighting over the Earth,” and it was so.

Eloheme crafted the two Great Lights:
the Greater Light reigning over the Day;
And the Lesser Light reigning over
the Night and all the Stars.
Eloheme gave them to Heavens’ Firmness

to be light over the Earth,
And to reign over Day and Night,
and to separate Light from Darkness.
So Eloheme saw Goodness.

Of this evening and of this morning
there now was: Fourth Day.

And Eloheme spoke: “Waters! Be teeming;
swarm a swarming of living souls.
And flying fly; fly birds above the Earth,
across the face of Heavens’ Firmness!”
So Eloheme created the great sea monsters
and all living souls teeming
Who swarm in the waters,
all according to their myriad kind.
And all winged-wings of their kinds;
and Eloheme saw Goodness.

And Eloheme gave them Blessing
and toward them Eloheme said:
“Bear fruit! multiply! fill Sea’s waters!
and birds; multiply multitudes in Earth!”

Of this evening and of this morning
there now was: Fifth Day.

And Eloheme spoke: “Bring out Earth!
bring out living souls of myriad kind;
Beasts and creatures and wildness,”
and it was so.
So made Eloheme wildlife of the Earth;
all the beasts of the Earth;
All the crawling creatures of the soil;
each after their myriad kind.
So Eloheme saw Goodness.

Eloheme spoke: “Make We humanity
in our Figure and with our Shape,
For shepherding Sea’s fish,
and all Heavens’ birds,
For Earth’s standing beasts,
and all who crawl upon Her!”

So by Eloheme’s form was humanity molded;
by Eloheme’s figure were shaped male and female.
And Eloheme gave them Blessing,
and toward them Eloheme said:
“Fruit! Multiply! Fill the Earth!
Reign over Sea’s fish and Heavens’ birds;
Reign over Earth’s beasts
and all crawling creatures.”

And Eloheme spoke: “Behold!
I give to you all Earth’s greening,
And of all fruiting forests
will be eating for you,
And of all Earth’s beasts,
and all Heavens’ birds,
And of all which crawls
and which has living souls,
And all greening-grass for nourishment,”
and it was so.

*Eloheme saw all creation and, behold!
it was of exceeding goodness!*

Of this evening and of this morning
there now was: Sixth Day.

So completed were Heavens and Earth,
and all the myriad heavenly bodies.
Eloheme completed on the seventh day
the craftsmanship which was crafted.
And Eloheme rested that seventh day
from all the working which was worked.
And Eloheme gave Blessing to that day
and consecrated this the Seventh Day,

Second Reading: The Wild Geese (*Wendell Berry*)

Murray Bryant

Horseback on Sunday morning,
harvest over, we taste persimmon
and wild grape, sharp sweet
of summer's end. In time's maze
over fall fields, we name names
that went west from here, names
that rest on graves. We open
a persimmon seed to find the tree
that stands in promise,
pale, in the seed's marrow.
Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,
as in love or sleep, holds
them to their way, clear,
in the ancient faith: what we need
is here. And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye
clear. What we need is here.

A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Hymn: #95 (SANC) "We're Bound on a Journey"

Redeemer Music Team



1. We're bound on a jour-ney a - cross the wide wa-ters; we sail in the
2. Our sail - ing com-pan-ions are all liv - ing spe-cies, we'd have to make
3. God gave us a gar-den so care - ful - ly plant-ed its fruits should sus-



dark to a har-bour un - known. The birds and the beasts and all God's sons and
room if the di - no-saurs came, and nei - ther for them nor for us is it
tain us for ev - er and aye; Oh! nev - er a - gain will we take it for



daugh-ters, our ship is a plan - et and we are a - lone. Take heart and good
ea - sy to - ge - ther so cramped in this shake - a - ble frame. Take heart and good
grant - ed or need-less-ly gam - ble our birth-right a - way! Take heart and good



cheer though the floods are a - ris-ing; we hear the rain fall and we
cheer you poor pan - ther and bi - son, poor wood- louse, and shrew mouse, tho'
cheer while the floods are a - ris-ing; we'll join heart and hand on Mount



hear the storm roar, but be-yond are the hands that the whole world re - lies on: our
tri - als be sore. Our Cap-tain we have to the fur - thest ho - ri - zon, our
Ar - a - rat's shore. This world is for cher - ish-ing, lov - ing and prais-ing our



Mak-er, Re-deem-er and friend ev-er - more.
Mak-er, Re-deem-er and friend ev-er - more.
Mak-er, Re-deem-er and friend ev-er - more.

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The Gospel

Steven Mackison

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

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

One day, while Jesus was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came, carrying a paralysed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, ‘Friend, your sins are forgiven you.’ Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, ‘Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, “Your sins are forgiven you”, or to say, “Stand up and walk”? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—he said to the one who was paralysed—‘I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.’ Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, ‘We have seen strange things today.’

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 5:17-26

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

Homily: Suzanne Rumsey

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation

Redeemer Music Team

The Prayers of the People

Catherine Emerson

Leader: God our Creator, you called forth the Earth and all living beings and they are good. Open our heart's ear to hear the voices of your creation. To hear their longings and groanings, their joys and pain. May the sacredness of the Earth echo in our souls.

In stillness and silence, we offer our prayers.

Leader: God our Creator,

All: **Help us to listen.**

Leader: In this Autumn season, the land, the soil, the plants and its creatures begin to prepare for a time of rest. May we hear their cry for healing and may we be bearers of comfort and restoration.

In stillness and silence, we offer our prayers.

Leader: God our Creator,

All: **Help us to listen.**

Leader: The rippling water and its creatures who call it home sing to us of their beauty, refreshment, and purity. May the soundings of the seas, the gurgling of creeks, the flow of ground water, and the drops of rain help us to remember their sacred nature and may we be bearers of comfort and restoration.

In stillness and silence, we offer our prayers.

Leader: God our Creator,

All: **Help us to listen.**

Leader: The sky, home of feathered creatures, is painted with brilliant hues of blue and white drawing us into the cosmic life of the universe. May we breathe deeply restoring respect for the air that sustains us and may we be bearers of comfort and restoration.

In stillness and silence, we offer our prayers.

Leader: God our Creator,

All: **Help us to listen.**

Leader: For too long we have been deaf to the cries of the Earth and have not learned to walk gently upon it. For the times we have failed to listen to the voices of creation and the times we have not responded in love, forgive us.

In stillness and silence, we offer our prayers.

Leader: God our Creator,

All: **Have mercy.**

Leader: We have ignored the cries of the human family who bear the greatest burden of environmental destruction and climate change. For the times we have failed to listen to the voices of the poor, the marginalized, and refugees, forgive us.

In stillness and silence, we offer our prayers.

Leader: God our Creator,

All: **Have mercy.**

Leader: God of All Life, through the voices of creation we hear your voice drawing us into your unfolding love. Open us to wonder and awaken us to the dream of the Earth. Teach us to befriend the Earth and our co-creatures. And inspire us to respond in love as we become bearers of comfort and restoration.

All: **Amen.**

Confession

Priest: Let us confess our sins as we say,

All: **Holy and merciful God,**

we confess that we have failed to honor you

by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.

We have walked heavily on your earth,

overused and wasted its resources,

taken for granted its beauty and abundance,

and treated its inhabitants unjustly,

holding future generations hostage to our greed.

Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.

Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as

you desire and intend,

with grateful and compassionate hearts,

through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Priest: O God of mercy,

you forgive our past sin,

you strengthen us in your gift of eternal life,

you shape us for glory.

O God of mercy, we thank you. **Amen.**

The Peace

Steven Mackison

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

People: **And also with you.**

Hymn: "My God Made a World That Changes"

Redeemer Music Team



1. My God made a world that chan - ges that
2. My God made a world of for - ests, of
3. My God made a world of won - ders, and
4. One day God's world may change to blight, plants and



shifts and tilts and lifts; my
des - erts and swamps and fields; my
God made the hu - man race; God
crea - tures cease to grow; a



God made a world of moun - tain ran - ges,
God made tun - dra and buttes and is - lands,
set us down in the midst of cre - a - tion,
warm - ing world may de - scend in - to night, de -



seas and con - ti - nen - tal drifts; my
streams and hard Ca - na - dian shield; my
where we can take or re - fuse our place; my
stroy - ing all that God loves so; then a



God made a void and com - ets, and
God made a world of crea - tures, of
God gave us minds to think with; God
griev - ing God will start a - new, to

deep black holes in space; my God made suns and
 ea - gles and snakes and shrews; of beet - les and cows and
 gave us hearts to love; God gave us the right to
 make a chang - ing world; my God will cre - ate and re -
 moons and pla - nets and God said "It is good!"
 fish and dol - phins, and God said "It is good!"
 choose or lose, and God said, "It is good!"
 new and re - make, and God will say "It is good!"

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: Come Lord Jesus and make in my heart your dwelling place and home.
I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength,
and so, through your presence in bread and wine
I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God.
As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people,
rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving,
I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.

Healing

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

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: "Turn the World Around" (*Harry Belafonte / Robert Freedman*)



Wa-ter make the ri-ver, ri-ver wash the moun-tain. Fi-re make the sun-light,



turn the world a-round. Wa-ter make the ri-ver, ri-ver wash the moun-tain.



Fi-re make the sun-light, turn the world a-round. Wa-ter make the ri-ver,

ri - ver wash the moun - tain. Fi - re make the sun - light,
turn the world a-round.

Handclaps

Heart is of the ri-ver, bo-dy is the moun-tain. Spi-rit is the sun-light,
turn the world a-round. Heart is of the ri-ver, bo-dy is the moun-tain.
Spi-rit is the sun-light, turn the world a-round. Heart is of the ri-ver,
bo-dy is the moun-tain. Spi-rit is the sun-light, turn the world a-round.

Handclaps

We are of the spi-rit, tru-ly of the spi-rit. On-ly can the spi-rit
 turn the world a-round. We are of the spi-rit, tru-ly of the spi-rit.
 On-ly can the spi-rit turn the world a-round. We are of the spi-rit,
 tru-ly of the spi-rit. On-ly can the spi-rit turn the world a-round.

Handclaps

The Dismissal

Steven Mackison

Priest: May you go out in joy and be led back in peace,
 the hills bursting in song, the trees in applause! Alleluia!

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

**We give thanks to Suzanne Rumsey
 for preaching this closing liturgy in the Season of Creation**

Suzanne is originally from the Diocese of Kootenay, B.C., the traditional and unceded territory of the Ktunaxa (Tun-ah-hah) Nation. She joined PWRDF in 2001 as the Latin America and Caribbean Program Coordinator and in 2010 moved to her current position as Public Engagement Coordinator. Prior to joining PWRDF, Suzanne worked for a decade with the Inter-Church Committee on Human Rights in Latin America (ICCHRLA), one of the predecessor coalitions of KAIROS. She recently graduated from Trinity College, University of Toronto, with a Master of Theological Studies degree. She lives with her son Robin, a UofT student, in downtown Toronto.

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

The cover image “*Season of Creation*” is by our own Dawn Lee.

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The Prayers of the People were written by Paige Souter.

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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, November 5 – All Saints/All Souls

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (All Saints) on Zoom

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

7 PM – All Souls Requiem Eucharist

8 PM – Compline on Zoom

Sunday, November 12

9 AM -Spiritual Communion on Zoom

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

8 PM – Compline on Zoom