



IN EARTH'S LIFE WE LIVE



SEASON OF CREATION:

LISTENING TO THE VOICES OF THE AIR
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 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.

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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

Paige Souter

Opening Hymn: #635 (Common Praise) “Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

Redeemer Music Team



1. Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2. To the mem - bers of Christ's bo - dy, to the branch - es of the
3. With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - our of the wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
prayer, with the power to love and wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might: come, Ho-ly Spir - it, come.
sign: come, Ho-ly Spir - it, come.
pare: come, Ho-ly Spir - it, come.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944-). © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Peter Cutts
(1937-). © 1969 Hope Publishing Co.

✠ The Gathering of the Community

Paige Souter

Deacon: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

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

Deacon: This is the day the Creator has made.

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

The Collect of the Day

Paige Souter

Deacon: Holy One,

your breath is our life.

As we gather in the presence of your Spirit,
fill us with the hope that will sustain our lives
and transform our wills;

so that we may breathe in time with the rhythms
of the world you have entrusted to our care.

This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Redeemer.

People: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: The First Story of Creation (Part 6)

Heather Bennett

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.

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

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

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 66.14-18

Redeemer Music Team

Refrain



Come and list-en, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what



God has done for me.

Arrangement by Sr. Thelma-Anne, SSJD. Refrain based on "Gott des Himmels"; H. Albert (1604-51).
Psalm Tone: West Malling.

I CALLED out to you with my mouth, *
and your praise was on my tongue.

If I had found evil in my heart, *
you, God, would not have heard me. **Refrain**

BUT IN truth you have heard me; *
and have attended to the voice of my prayer.

Praise to you, O God; you have not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld your love from me. **Refrain**

Second Reading: From "Our Very First Breath" (*Richard Wagamese*)

Heather Bennett

From our very first breath we are in relationship.
With that indrawn draft of air,
We become joined to everything that ever was, is and ever will be.
When we exhale we forge that relationship by virtue of the act of living.
Our breath commingles with all breath, and we are part of everything.
That's the simple fact of things.

We are born into a state of relationship
And our ceremonies and rituals are guides
To lead us deeper into that relationship with all things.
Big lesson?

Relationships never end; they just change.
In believing that
lies the freedom to carry
compassion, empathy, kindness, love and respect
into and through whatever changes.
We are made more by that practice.

A moment of silence is observed

Song: “White Dove” (*Clela Errington*)

Redeemer Music Team

White dove flying over troubled water
And we are the white dove
and we are the troubled water

The Gospel

Steven Mackison

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: He Shows Goodwill Tells the Good Story.

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

BORN FROM ABOVE

A man named Conquers the People (Nicodemus) came to Creator Sets Free (Jesus) in secret at night. He was one of the Separated Ones (Pharisees) and a headman of the tribes of Wrestles with Creator (Israel) who sat in the Great Council. Out of the shadows he whispered, “Wisdomkeeper, we know the Great Spirit sent you to teach us. No one can perform powerful signs like these unless the Maker of Life walks with him.” “I speak from my heart,” Creator Sets Free (Jesus) answered,

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s

“Only one who has been born from above can see Creator’s good road.” Conquers the People (Nicodemus) was surprised by this strange answer, so he asked, “Can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter his mother’s womb to be born a second time?” “Listen closely,” Creator Sets Free (Jesus) answered. “One must be born of both water and spirit to walk Creator’s good road. The human body only gives birth to natural life, but it takes the Spirit of Creator to give birth to spiritual life. Do not be surprised that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ Everyone born in this way is like the wind that blows wherever it wants. You can hear its sound, but no one knows where it comes from or where it goes.”

womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You must be born from above.” The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’

M. Wildman, Terry. First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament (pp. 168-169). InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

John 3.1-8

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

Homily: Paige Souter

We pause for music and meditation.

Meditation

Redeemer Music Team

Profession of Faith

Paige Souter

Deacon: Together, let us profess our faith as we say:

All: **We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,**

**who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.
We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Sylvia Keesmaat

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.**

The Peace

Paige Souter

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

People: **And also with you.**

Hymn: #462 (Gather) "Spirit Blowing Through Creation"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Spir - it blow - ing through cre - a - tion, Spir - it burn - ing in the skies,
2. As you moved up - on the wa - ters, As you ride up - on the wind,
3. Love that sends the riv - ers danc - ing, Love that wa - ters all that lives,
4. All the crea - tures you have fash - ioned, All that live and breathe in you,



Let the hope of your sal - va - tion fill our eyes;
Move us all, your sons and daugh - ters deep with - in;
Love that heals and holds and rous - es and for - gives;
Find their hope in your com - pas - sion, strong and true;



God of splen - dour, God of glo - ry, You who light the stars a - bove,
As you shaped the hills and moun - tains, Formed the land and filled the deep,
You are food for all your crea - tures, You are hun - ger in the soul,
You, O Spir - it of sal - va - tion, You a - lone, be - neath, a - bove,



All the heav - ens tell the sto - ry of your love. *(To verse 2)*
Let your hand re - new and wak - en all who sleep. *(To refrain)*
In your hands the bro - ken - heart - ed are made whole. *(To verse 4)*
Come, re - new your whole cre - a - tion in your love. *(To refrain)*

Refrain



Spir - it re - new - ing the earth, re - new - ing the hearts of all peo - ple;



Burn in the wea - ry souls, blow through the si - lent lips, come now a - wake us,



Spir - it of God.

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: 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.

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: #393 (Common Praise) "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, in light in - ac -
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, nor want - ing, nor
3. To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small; in all life thou
4. Great Source of all glo - ry and wis - dom and light, thine an - gels a -



ces - si - ble hid from our eyes; most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the
 wast - ing, thou rul - est in might; thy jus - tice like moun - tains high
 liv - est, the true life of all; we blos - som and flour - ish as
 dore thee, all veil - ing their sight; all laud we would ren - der: O



An - cient of Days, al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great name we praise.
 soar - ing a - bove thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 leaves on the tree, and with - er and per - ish, but nought chang - eth thee.
 help us to see 'tis on - ly the splen - dour of light hid - eth thee.

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: Melody Welsh trad.; adapt. John Roberts of Henllan (1808-1876), Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839, harm. The English Hymnal 1906.

The Dismissal

Steven Mackison

Priest: Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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

SEASON OF CREATION – LISTEN TO THE VOICES OF CREATION

Sunday, October 15 - Voices of the Air

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube

Sunday, October 22 - Voices of the Sea

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube

7 PM – Season of Creation Taizé

Sunday, October 29 - Harvesting the Season of Creation

9 AM - on Zoom

10:30 AM - in the Church and through YouTube

7 PM – Season of Creation Rock Eucharist
Featuring the music of Johnny Cash