# EARTH'S LIFE WE

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SEASON OF CREATION: LISTENING TO THE VOICES OF THE SEA SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023 AT 10:30 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 <u>theredeemer.ca/newsletters</u>.

theredeemer.ca facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO

Welcome to the Church of the Redeemer bulletin margin notes, where you will find a brief commentary and explanation of the liturgy as it unfolds, making it more meaningful for all. **Presider:** Margaret Rodrigues

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Opening Hymn: "Let All Who are Thirsty Come" (Taizé)



Please rise as you are able and sing

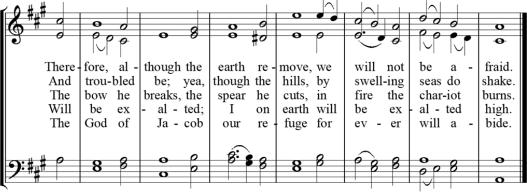
▼ The Gathering of the Community				
Priest: <b>People:</b>	Blessed be the One who creates all things. The Holy One's love is new every morning.			
Priest: <b>People:</b>	This is the day the Creator has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.	Pronounced		
The Coll	"CALL-ect". The collect of the day is			
Priest: <b>People:</b>	Gracious God, present everywhere, may your love, like water, pour over our thirsty spirits, cleansing, refreshing, and renewing us. Be present as we seek to know you, to love you, and so respond to your unconditional love for us. We ask this in Jesus' name. <b>Amen.</b>	the prayer we say together that unites us in worship and praise. It focuses on the theme of the day and "collects" the meaning behind the readings and offers them in prayer.		
<b>₩</b> The P	roclamation of the Word			
First Re	ading: The First Story of Creation (Parts 4 and 5) Please be seated			
<ul> <li>And Eloheme spoke: "Lights come into; come into Heavens' Firmness;</li> <li>For marking between Day and Night, for signifying seasons and days and years.</li> <li>And become lights in Heavens' Firmness</li> <li>for lighting over the Earth," and it was so.</li> <li>Eloheme crafted the two Great Lights: the Greater Light reigning over the Day;</li> <li>And the Lesser Light reigning over the Night and all the Stars.</li> <li>Eloheme gave them to Heavens' Firmness to be light over the Earth,</li> <li>And to reign over Day and Night, and to separate Light from Darkness.</li> <li>So Eloheme saw Goodness.</li> </ul>		The First Story of Creation is courtesy of "Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes" The creation story reveals God who is deeply relational. As the story reveals the breadth and diversity of creation that is called into being, it		
Of this evening and of this morning there now was: Fourth Day.they interc		invites us to see that they are interconnected		
<ul> <li>And Eloheme spoke: "Waters! Be teeming; swarm a swarming of living souls.</li> <li>And flying fly; fly birds above the Earth, across the face of Heavens' Firmness!"</li> <li>So Eloheme created the great sea monsters and all living souls teeming</li> <li>Who swarm in the waters, all according to their myriad kind.</li> <li>And all winged-wings of their kinds; and Eloheme saw Goodness.</li> </ul>		through God's gift of 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.

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 46 Paraphrase: "God is Our Refuge and Our Strength" All Sing 0 ο σ 1. God our re - fuge and our strength, in straits a pre-sent aid; is 2. Though hills а midst the seas be cast; Though wa - ters roar-ing make, 3. Un to the ends of all the earth wars in - to peace he turns: 4. Be still, and know that Ι am God; а mong the na-tions Ι 5. Our God, who the Lord of hosts. is still up on our side: is dd • 8



Text: Psalm 46.1-5, The Scottish Psalter, 1929. Tune: STROUDWATER, The Psalter in Metre, 1899

Second Reading: To Water (Kate Marshall Flaherty)

And what if I were to sing to water like a farmhand crooning to the milk cow?

And what if I were to thank water – more space than matter – for permitting me to float on its skin?

Water, I am 90% you. I might as well sing myself a gurgling lullabye.

I wonder at the whales – their songs and skins immersed in the sea – who cannot live if beached.

The psalmist expresses the community's confidence in God. It invites us to trust God and see that God is at work in the midst of the challenges facing creation.

Kate Marshall Flaherty is a Torontobased poet, writer, editor, and performer. She has eight published books of poetry. Her poem "Water" is from her first book, *Tilted Equilibrium*. Creation and peace are common threads in her writing. Birthing calves in water, brine in their blood; whalesongs the waves they disappear in.

Then I'll sing to you, water, for if I don't, you won't flow through me but catch death in baleen, my throat.

A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Hymn: #567 (Common Praise) "Eternal God, Strong to Save"



We turn and face the Gospel as it is processed to the midst of the gathered community. We do this as a sign of respect and to symbolize that

# its message is at the centre of our lives and its truth is always before our eyes.

# The Gospel

Deacon:The Lord be with you.All:And also with you.

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.*All:* Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves

The Sequence hymn (from the Latin "sequentiae" meaning "following") is a hymn that is sung following the second reading and before the reading of the Gospel.

Jesus gives to a turbulent sea the gift of peace and stillness. As his followers, can we commit ourselves to bearing these same gifts to the oceans and waterways of the Earth? beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

Deacon All:	The Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.	Mark 4:35-41
Homily	: Alanna Mitchell	
Profession of Faith Please rise as you are		Please rise as you are able
Priest: All:	Together, let us profess our faith as we say: We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates a who is present in every part of the fabric	ll things,

Homily is from the Greek word "homilio" which means "conversation". The purpose of the homily (also known as the sermon) is to gather the themes of the readings together and articulate what they meant for those about whom they were written and what they mean for us, today.

Today's Profession of Faith, sometimes called "the Creed", comes from Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute in South India, It is a summary of our Christian history, full of symbols of faith found mostly in the New Testament.

In the prayers of the people we offer to God our cares and concerns, our joys and hopes, praying for the church, the world, the sick, the suffering, and those whom we love but see no more.

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

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**

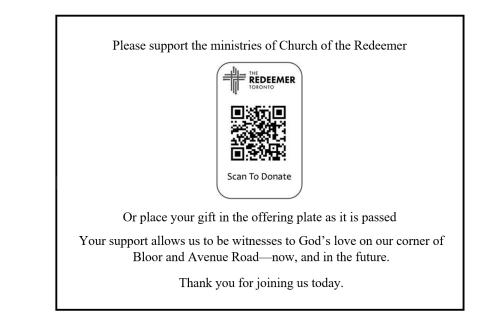
- *Priest:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- *People:* And also with you.

When Jesus appeared to his disciples after the resurrection, his first words to them were "Peace be with you." We share the peace with our neighbour as a sign that we are reconciled with one another and with God. You can share the peace through a nod, a handshake, or by raising your hand in the peace symbol.

# The Offering

The offering is our opportunity to worship God by giving back out of the abundance from which we have received. It is not obligatory, but the opportunity is there for all who wish to express their love to God through the giving of monetary gifts.

The "Offertory Hymn" is sung when we offer our gifts to God as an expression of thanks for all that we have been given. Our financial gifts, as well as bread and wine are brought before the altar as a symbol that in offering what sustains us, we might be a blessing to others.



Offertory Hymn: #584 (Gather) "Healing River"

All sing



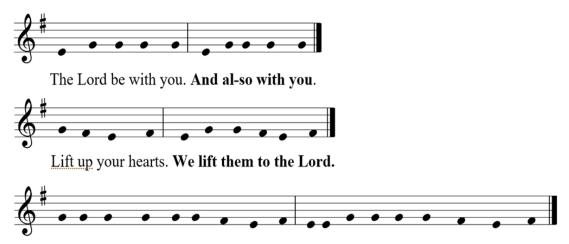
# Prayer Over the Gifts

Priest: Gracious God,

you provide us with living water in abundance for all to share. Nourish us with the abundance of this sacred meal so that we may respond to those who thirst for you; through Jesus Christ, the Messiah.



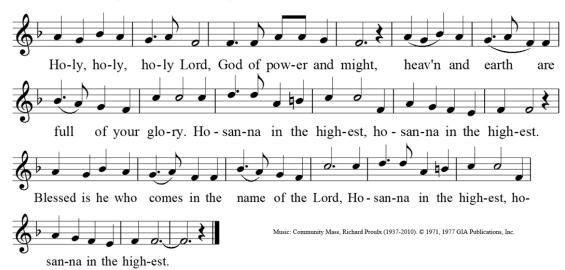
#### ✤ The Holy Eucharist



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters: and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus: #732 (Common Praise)



The Eucharist (Greek for "Thanksgiving") is a Christian ritual in which bread is eaten and wine is drunk as a way of showing devotion to Jesus Christ. Also known as "Communion" it is central to our faith and is practiced in most Christian churches in different forms. In the Eucharist we recall who Jesus Christ was, and the sacrifice he made for us on the cross.

The Sanctus (from the Latin word "holy") is an ancient hymn that is sung during the Eucharistic Prayer. It is adapted from Isaiah's vision of the greatness of God, and from Matthew, where the people called out "Hosanna!" when Jesus entered Jerusalem.

This is Eucharistic
Prayer #2 from The
Episcopal Church:
Enriching our
Worship.

The climax of this story is the celebration of the Eucharist itself with Jesus and his disciples, which is followed by Christ's suffering and betrayal. We pray using Jesus' own words and follow his command to eat and drink in memory of him. Priest: Glory and honour and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favour upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

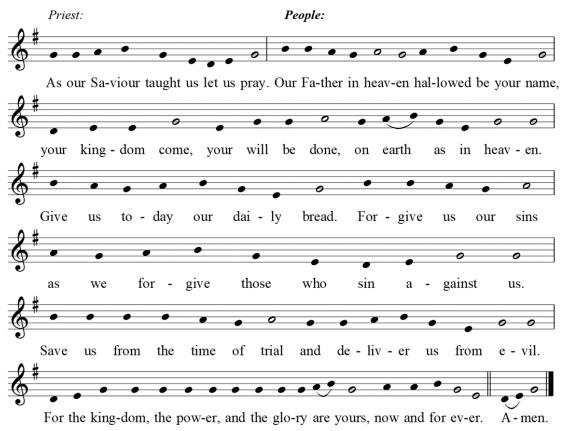
Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honour, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

# The Lord's Prayer



MUSIC: McNeil Robinson © 1979, Theodore Presser Co

The Lord's Prayer, found in both Matthew and Luke, is a prayer that captures the essence of our relationship with God and with one another. Given to us by Jesus himself, it is the most wellknown prayer in the world, and at any given time is being prayed in countless languages and dialects around the alobe.

# The Breaking of the Bread

Priest:	The living bread is broken for the life of the world.	
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- *People:* Lord, as we share your presence make us one in you.
- *Priest:* The gifts of God for the People of God.*All:* Thanks be to God.

#### The Giving and Receiving of Communion

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.

Song: "Oceans" (Pearl Jam)

Hold on to the thread The currents will shift Glide me towards you know something's left And we're all allowed To dream of the next Oh, the next, time we touch

You don't have to stray The oceans away Waves roll in my thoughts Hold tight the ring The sea will rise Please stand by the shore Oh, oh, oh, I will be I will be there once more

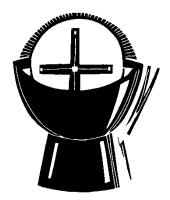
~ Eddie Jerome Vedder / Jeffrey Allen Ament / Stone C. Gossard

# The Communion



*All in the church are invited to come forward to receive communion. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please indicate this to the priest.* 

If you would like to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms as shown in the picture and the clergy will be pleased to offer you a blessing.





# Motet: "A Pure River of the Water of Life" (Christina Rossetti)

We know not a voice of that river, If vocal or silent it be, Where forever and ever and ever It flows to no sea.

More deep than the seas is that river, More full than their manifold tides, Where forever and ever and ever It flows and abides.

Pure gold is the bed of that river, (The gold of that land is the best), Where forever and ever and ever It flows on at rest.

O goodly the banks of that river, O goodly the fruits that they bear, Where forever and ever and ever It flows and is fair. Motet comes from the Latin "motectum" meaning movement and refers to the movement of the various voices in this form of vocal composition. For lo! on each bank of that river, The tree that is life-giving grows, Where forever and ever and ever The pure river flows.

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Please rise as you are able

Priest: Holy One of Israel, You have nourished us with the fruits of your reign. Keep all who are born of water and Spirit faithful in your service, so that we may serve you in the world you have made for all, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

#### The Doxology

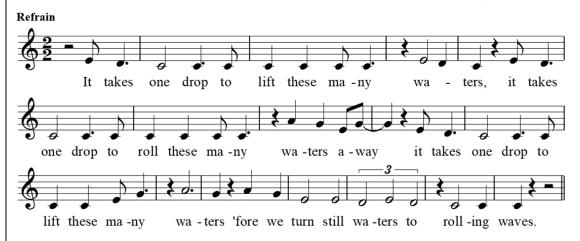
Priest:	Glory to God,
All:	whose power working in us
	can do infinitely more
	than we can ask or imagine.
	Glory to God from generation to generation,
	in the Church and in Christ Jesus
	for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

Please be seated

Departing Song: "One Drop" (Secor, Harris, Pentecost)

Please rise as you are able



It takes one drop to lift these many waters It takes one drop to roll these many waters away It takes one drop to lift these many waters 'Fore we turn still waters to rolling waves

It takes one hand to help pull up your brother It takes one kind word to turn a stranger to a friend It takes one ear to listen to each other Just to hear one heartbeat in rhythm again

This closing prayer is called the "Doxology", which comes from the Greek word "doxalogia" meaning "words of glory." We say this prayer to proclaim that worshipping God together has made a difference in our lives. It takes one stone to move these many mountains It takes one spark to light the darkest hour into day It takes one road to reach a new tomorrow Where there's room for all on that narrow way

#### And it takes one drop to lift these many waters It takes one drop to roll these many waters away It takes one drop to lift these many waters 'Fore we turn still waters to rolling waves

It takes one step before the saints go marching It takes one march before we've got a movement marching in It takes all kind of saints in step together 'Fore we stand in union hand in hand

And it takes one breath to make the winds start changing It takes one change to make a world of changes 'cross the land And it takes one world spinning altogether Before this universe will be as planned

And it takes one drop to lift these many waters It takes one drop to roll these many waters away It takes one drop to lift these many waters 'Fore we turn still waters to rolling waves

# The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve God's Creation. Alleluia!People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

In the dismissal we affirm that we are now strengthened and nurtured to be sent out into the many circumstances of our lives to be agents of God's grace.

#### FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

The cover image "Season of Creation" is by our own Dawn Lee.

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The Greeting, First Story of Creation, and Dismissal are courtesy of "Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes." The Profession of Faith is from Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute (a seminary in South India), adapted by Keld B. Hansen, 2009, as provided in "Listen to the Voice of Creation," Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2022, 33.)

The Eucharistic Prayer is #2 from The Episcopal Church: Enriching our Worship.

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 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