The background is a deep blue gradient. In the upper corners, there are golden musical notes and treble clefs. Scattered throughout are white snowflake icons. The main title is in a large, golden, serif font.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

with
Church of the Redeemer Choir
and
Cantabile Chamber Singers


A red cross symbol composed of multiple parallel lines, creating a textured effect.

The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3 at 7 PM

Church of the Redeemer

162 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M6S 1M4

A single lit candle is positioned on the right side of the poster. The candle is white with a bright flame at the top, and its light creates a soft glow on the blue background.

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.

theredeemer.ca

[instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO](https://www.instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO)

[facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO](https://www.facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO)

Special thanks to our musicians this evening:

Church of the Redeemer Choir

Cantabile Chamber Singers, Cheryll Chung, Director

<https://cantabilechambersingers.com>

✠ The Service of Light

Please rise, as you are able

Tapers are lit during the singing of the canticle.

Canticle: “O nata lux” (*Thomas Tallis*)

O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi
Dignatus es pro perditis,
Nos membra confer effici
Tui beati corporis.

*O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness deign to receive
suppliant praise and prayer.*

*Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members
of thy blessed body.*

Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Please sing.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death’s dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai’s height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav’nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

The Bidding Prayer

Priest: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, creator of light and darkness. In this holy season, when the sun's light is swallowed up by the growing darkness of the night, you renew your promise to reveal among us the splendor of your glory, enfleshed and visible to us in Jesus Christ your Son. Through the prophets you teach us to hope for his reign of peace. Through the outpouring of his Spirit, you open our blindness to the glory of his presence. Strengthen us in our weakness. Support us in our stumbling efforts to do your will and free our tongues to sing your praise. For to you all honour and blessing are due, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Advent Litany

Refrain



The image shows a musical score for the Advent Litany Refrain. It is written for a piano and voice. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e, ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer saying,
O Wisdom from the mouth of the Most High! You reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

O Lord and Head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you have the law of Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

O Key of David and Sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of Righteousness, come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfill their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Common Prayer

Priest: Let us pray.

All: **God, who cares for us,
The wonder of whose presence fills us with awe,
Let justice, kindness and love shine in our world.
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.
Give us the food and the hope we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.
Protect us from pride and from despair
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.
In you is truth, meaning, glory and power,
while worlds come and go. Amen.**

All extinguish candles.

First Reading: Genesis 2.4-9

Please be seated

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Carol: Qilak (*Andrew Balfour*)

The aesthetic of this piece reflects the expanse of sky and the shimmering reflection of sun on snow. Balfour's composition hints at influences of Inuit throat singing and hauntingly echoes the vocables of traditional Ayaya songs of Southern Baffin Island. No melodies have been borrowed in the composition of this piece, it is entirely original. The text is English and Inuktitut South Qikiqaaluk dialect.

Qilak.

There is the sky.

Tunguniq.

Ayaya.

Qilak.

Second Reading: Essay on Adam (*Robert Bringhurst*)

There are five possibilities. One: Adam fell.

Two: he was pushed. Three: he jumped. Four:

he only looked over the edge, and one look silenced him.

Five: nothing worth mentioning happened to Adam.

The first, that he fell, is too simple. The fourth,

fear, we have tried and found useless. The fifth,

nothing happened, is dull. The choice is between:

he jumped or was pushed. And the difference between these

is only an issue of whether the demons
work from inside out or from the outside
in: the one
theological question.

Carol: "The Lamb" (*John Tavener*)

Little Lamb who made thee

Dost thou know who made thee

Gave thee life & bid thee feed.

By the stream & o'er the mead;

Gave thee clothing of delight,

Softest clothing woolly bright;

Gave thee such a tender voice,

Making all the vales rejoice!

Little Lamb who made thee

Dost thou know who made thee

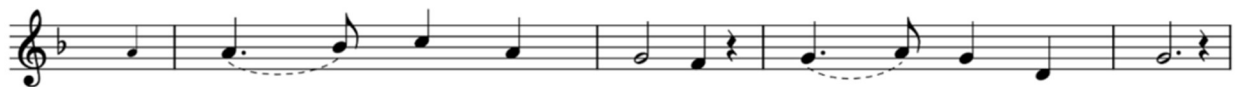
Little Lamb I'll tell thee,
 Little Lamb I'll tell thee!
 He is called by thy name,
 For he calls himself a Lamb:
 He is meek & he is mild,
 He became a little child:
 I a child & thou a lamb,
 We are called by his name.
 Little Lamb God bless thee.
 Little Lamb God bless thee.
 ~William Blake

Third Reading: Isaiah 9.2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Carol: #122 (Common Praise) “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Please rise and sing



1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2. Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3. An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there;
 4. What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign.
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow
 In the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the
 but his moth - er on - ly in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

in the bleak mid - win - ter long a - go.
 Lord God al - mighty, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 what I can, I give him give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: CRANHAM. Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934). © Oxford University Press.

Fourth Reading: Advent Credo (*Allan Boesak*)

Please be seated

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—
 This is true: For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life;

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—
 This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—
 This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful counsellor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—
 This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—
 This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young people shall see visions and your old people shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

Carol: “Unclouded Day” (*The Rev. J.K. Alwood, arr. Shawn Kirchner*)

Sung by the choir

O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies,
They tell me of a home far away,
And they tell me of a home
Where no storm clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

O the land of cloudless days
O the land of an unclouded sky,
O they tell me of a home
Where no storm-clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

O they tell me of a home
Where my friends have gone,
They tell me of a land far away,
Where the tree of life in eternal bloom
Sheds its fragrance through the unclouded day.

They tell me of a king in his beauty there,
They tell me that mine eyes shall behold
Where he sits on a throne
That is bright as the sun
In the city that is made of gold!

Fifth Reading: Annunciation (Robert Siegel)

She didn't notice at first the air had changed.
She didn't, because she had no expectation
except the moment and what she was doing, absorbed
in it without the slightest reservation.

Things grew brighter, more distinct, themselves,
in a way beyond explaining. This was her home,
yet somehow things grew more homelike. Jars on the shelves
gleamed sharply: tomatoes, peaches, even the crumbs

on the table grew heavy with meaning and a sure repose
as if they were forever. When at last she saw
from the corner of her eye that gold fringe of his robe
she felt no fear, only a glad awe,

the Word already deep inside her as she replied
yes to that she'd chosen all her life.

Hymn: #117 (Common Prayer) "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming"

Please rise & sing



1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,
2. I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind;
3. O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,



of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dour the dark - ness ev - ery - where;



It came, a blos - som bright a - mid the cold of win - ter,
To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a Sav - iour,
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and death now save us,



when half spent was the night.
when half spent was the night.
and share our ev-ery load.

Text: St. 1-2, German (15th cent.); tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859);
tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925). Music: Melody Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchen
gesang, Köln, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

Sixth Reading: Luke 21.25-36

Please be seated

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

Homily: Steven Mackison

Carol: “Magnificat” (*Dale Trumbore*)

Sung by the Choir

My soul doth magnify the Lord
said Mary, under circumstances
which make it something of a startling
utterance. Not I accept the will of the Lord.
Not I bow before the Lord.
Not even I give thanks to the Lord.
No, Mary, this young woman,
presumably unfamiliar with angels

or divine voices of any kind,
 let alone those pronouncing
 that salvation would grow inside
 her ordinary flesh—this woman
 who may be innocent, but hardly seems naïve—
 says something remarkable.
 My soul magnifies the Lord.
 Who I am, what I do, how I choose
 makes God bigger. As if God
 were to slip between microscope slides
 and appear in never-before-seen detail.
 Which is, of course, exactly
 what happens. Somehow,
 in being magnified God gets small,
 small enough to sleep amongst the straw
 and the scent of farm animals.
 God magnified becomes particular,
 tangible, urgent as a hungry child.
 And Mary, like so many women
 before her and after, puts the baby
 to her breast, where they both grow
 vast in one another's eyes.
 ~Lynn Ungar

Hymn at the collection: #109 (Common Prayer) "When the King shall come again"

Please rise and sing



1. When the King shall come a - gain, all his power re - veal - ing,
2. In the des - ert, trees take root, fresh from God's cre - a - tion;
3. Strength - en fee - ble hands and knees; faint - ing hearts, be cheer - ful!
4. There God's high - way shall be seen where no roar - ing li - on,



splen - dour shall an - nounce his reign, life and joy and heal - ing;
 plants and flowers and sweet - est fruit join the cel - e - bra - tion;
 God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fear - ful.
 noth - ing e - vil or un - clean, walks the road to Zi - on:



earth no long - er in de - cay, hope no more frus - tra - ted,
riv - ers spring up from the earth, bar - ren lands a - dorn - ing.
Deaf ears, hear the sil - ent tongues sing a - way their weep - ing;
ran - somed peo - ple home - ward bound all your prais - es voic - ing,



this is God's re-demp-tion day long - ing - ly a - wait - ed.
Val - leys, this is your new birth; moun-tains, greet the morn-ing!
blind eyes, see the life - less ones walk - ing, run-ning, leap - ing!
see your Lord with glo - ry crowned, share in his re - joic - ing!

Text: Christopher Idle (1938 -). © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Melody Piaë Cantiones, 1582.

*During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to make a financial offering to further the mission and ministry God calls us to in the church.
Alternately, a debit/credit donation may be made via Square at the back of the church.*

Please support the ministries of Church of the Redeemer



Or place your gift in the offering plate as it is passed
Your support allows us to be witnesses to God's love on our corner of
Bloor and Avenue Road—now, and in the future.
Thank you for joining us today.

Concluding Prayers

Blessing



1. Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven to earth come down, fix in
 2. Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er; let us all thy grace re-ceive; sud-den-



us thy hum-ble dwell-ing; all thy faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art
 ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er - more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be



all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
 al-ways bless-ing, serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray and praise thee



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.



3. Fin-ish, then, thy new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less let us be; let us see thy



great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in thee, changed from glo-ry in-to



glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns be-fore thee,



lost in won-der, love, and praise.

Dismissal

Priest: Let us bless the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary: Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel* (*Andrew Carter*)

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WORSHIP WITH US

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US

Sunday, December 10 (Advent 2)

9 AM - on Zoom

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

7 PM - Taizé

Tuesday, December 12

6 PM - Blue Christmas, a service for those who live with sadness at this time of year
– in the Church and on Zoom

Saturday, December 16

1 PM - Church of the Redeemer's annual "Christmas in the City"
event to support The Common Table

Sunday, December 17 (Advent 3)

9 AM - on Zoom

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

7 PM - Bach Vespers Cantata 61 "Nun komm der Heiden Heiland"
- in the Church and through YouTube

Sunday, December 24 (Advent 4)

9 AM - on Zoom

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

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US

Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

5 PM - Family Nativity Story & Sung Eucharist

- in the Church and through YouTube

7:30 PM - Rockin' Christmas Eve - Traditional Carols and the Rock Eucharist Band

- in the Church and through YouTube

Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

10:30 PM - Carols, Procession & Solemn Sung Eucharist

- in the Church, and through YouTube

Sunday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

10:30 AM - Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

- in the Church and through YouTube