

La PRESENTACIÓN de SEÑOR



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE: CANDLEMAS

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024, 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.

theredeemer.ca

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If you would like to support the ministry of this parish with a financial gift, scan the QR code to go to our online donation page. We thank you for your generosity.

President: Steven Mackison

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Opening Hymn: #124 (Common Praise) “Stay, My Child, My Body Sharing”

Redeemer Music Team



1. Stay, my child, my bo - dy shar - ing. Girl-hood's peace from me is torn;
2. Grow, my child, in bo - dy cho - sen by the God who made the earth;
3. Sleep, my child, for love sur-rounds us; we have not been left a - lone.
4. Wake, my child, the world is cry - ing, calls you, e - vil's power to cross;
5. Go, my child, God's grace pro - tect you, shape your liv - ing, fill your breath;



well I know a moth - er's fear - ing, hope mis - car - ried, joy still-born.
mine the an - swer, in con - fu - sion, young, un - rea - dy to give birth.
Though dis - grace and shame may hound us, Jo - seph stays and shields his own.
o - pens you to ear - ly dy - ing, moth - er-hood's most dread - ed loss.
by its power to re - sur - rect you, break the grip of fear and death.



Lul-la-by, lul-la-by, God has heard a moth - er's cry, lul-la - by.
Lul-la-by, lul-la-by, God a - waits a ba - by's cry, lul-la - by.
Lul-la-by, lul-la-by, Word of God in ba - by's cry, lul-la - by.
Lul-la-by, lul-la-by, pain of God in moth - er's cry, lul-la - by.
Lul-la-by, lul-la-by, hope for all in moth - er's cry, lul-la - by.

Text: Anna Briggs (1947 -).
Music: DANIEL'S. Daniel Charles
Damon (1955 -). Text and music
© 1992, Hope Publishing Co.

The Blessing of Candles

Priest: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. Alleluia!

People: **A light no darkness can extinguish. Alleluia!**

Priest: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts in the face of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him you give light to the world; in him, you kindle your light in our lives, by him we are guided on the paths of righteousness. Bless with your Holy Spirit these candles, that they may be to us signs of your grace in times of darkness. Enkindle in us the true faith that led Simeon to recognize you and the holy joy that led Anna to praise your name; this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Light and our Redeemer.

People: **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest: God of love,
you gave your Son
to be a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.
With Simeon and Anna
and all who hail redemption's happy dawn,
may we sing your praise and proclaim salvation
in Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Sylvia Keesmaat

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak - that prophet shall die."

Reader: This is the word that God has made known to us.

Malachi 3.1-4

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Refrain

Hap - py are the peo - ple whose strength is in you!

How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts!
 My soul has a desire and longing for your courts;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in you, O living God. **Refrain**

The sparrow has found her a house
 and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;
 by the side of your altars, O God of hosts,
 my God who reigns over me. **Refrain**

Happy are they who dwell in your house!
 they will always be praising you.
 Happy are the people whose strength is in you!
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. **Refrain**

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
 They will climb from strength to strength;
 the God of gods will be seen in Zion.
 O God of hosts, hear my prayer;
 hearken, O God of Jacob. **Refrain**

Behold our defender, O God;
 and look upon the face of your anointed.
 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room,
 and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
 than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. **Refrain**

You, God, are both sun and shield,
 you will give grace and glory.
 No good thing will you withhold
 from those who walk with integrity.
 O God of hosts,
 happy are they who put their trust in you! **Refrain**

A moment of silence is observed

Second Reading:

Sylvia Keesmaat

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader: This is the word that God has made known to us.

Hebrews 2.14-18

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Gospel Acclamation

Redeemer Music Team

The Gospel

Paige Souter

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.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 2.22-40

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

A moment of silence is observed

The Nicene Creed

Steven Mackison

Priest: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Catherine Emerson

Leader: As we gather in prayer, you are invited to add your petitions and thanksgivings, silently, or aloud. Repeating the words of Simeon, ‘*we have seen your salvation*’, our response is: **‘We put our hope in your unfailing love.’**

Leader: Lord, you are without equal. You see all of our troubles, all the wars and conflict that trouble our planet. We pray for the wounded and dying in Gaza. We pray for the thousands of families dealing with heart wrenching loss. It is incomprehensible for us to imagine their anguish. We pray for the Israeli and Palestinian hostages that they soon be restored to their families. We pray for a lasting ceasefire in the Middle East, in Ukraine and in South Sudan. Turn our weapons of war into ploughshares for peace.

A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Leader: We have seen your salvation.

All: **We put our hope in your unfailing love.**

Leader: We pray for peacemakers everywhere that they not grow weary in the face of resistance. May they rise up from every nation, from politicians to aid workers, from people of all faiths including us here in this room.

A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Leader: We have seen your salvation.

All: **We put our hope in your unfailing love.**

Leader: We pray for those living on street vents and bus shelters and encampments throughout the city. Uphold the broken, in body, soul and mind, who long for a place to call home. Help all those in dire straights, whose backs are up against the wall. Open our hearts and wallets to share the good we have with them. Open our eyes to see the good in them. Help us to see them as family.

A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Leader: We have seen your salvation.

All: **We put our hope in your unfailing love.**

Leader: We pray for the church. Help us to be present in the world the way Christ is, engaged in the struggles of others, as well as our own, with love, discernment, grace and humility. Teach us how to lean into your Holy Spirit to become merciful, faithful and kind.

A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Leader: We have seen your salvation.

All: **We put our hope in your unfailing love.**

Leader: We pray for those who are ill. We pray for those who care for people who cannot care for themselves. Give them the patience and encouragement they need. We pray for those who have recently died. We commit them to your faithful and everlasting care.

A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Leader: We have seen your salvation.

All: **We put our hope in your unfailing love. Amen.**

The Peace

Steven Mackison

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

People: **And also with you.**



1. Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
 2. The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
 3. still to the low - ly soul his pres - ence doth im - part, and
 4. Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be: give



se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
 dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King,
 for a dwell - ing and a throne choos - eth the pure in heart.
 us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

Text: St. 1, 4, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; st. 2-3, Mitre Hymn Book, 1836, alt. Music: Melody Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758); adapt. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870); desc. Derek Holman (1931-2019) ©.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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
forever and ever. Amen.**

Announcements

Departing Hymn: “First Born of Mary” (*John Bell*)

Redeemer Music Team

First-born of Ma - ry, pro - voc - at - ive prea - cher, it - in - er - ant tea -
- cher, out - sid - er's choice; Je - sus in - spires and dis - arms and confus -
- es who - ev - er he choos - es to hear his voice.

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The Dismissal

Priest: Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit,
serve the world God loves. Alleluia!

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

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday February 4 (Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas)

2:00 PM – Staying Connected (on Zoom only)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Sunday February 11 (The Last Sunday After the Epiphany: Transfiguration Sunday)

9:00 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

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

7:00 PM – Taizé Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)