



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024, AT 9:00 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:
162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4
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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 <https://theredeemer.ca/news-events>

theredeemer.ca

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

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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.

Presider: Steven Mackison

Land Acknowledgement

During the season of Advent, we will begin the liturgy in silence. Therefore, all are encouraged to offer this prayer, acknowledging the lands on which we dwell, before the service begins.

We acknowledge with respect that we gather today to celebrate on many traditional lands. We give thanks for those peoples whose lands are home to Redeemer: the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nation, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We pray that as we celebrate this Advent, we may help to create those things for which we wait: hope for a truthful tomorrow, a justice-filled peace, the joy of hearts and lives reconciled, and the love which binds us all as one. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The community gathers in silence. The Priest rings a bell, then begins with the following Opening Sentences.

Opening Sentences

Steven Mackison

Priest: Among the poor, among the proud,
among the persecuted,
among the privileged,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Priest: In the private house, in the public place,
in the wedding feast,
in the judgment hall,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Priest: With a gentle touch, with an angry word,
with a clear conscience,
with burning love,

All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Priest: That the Kingdom might come, that the world might believe,
that the powerful might stumble,
that the hidden might be revealed,

All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Priest: Within us, without us, behind us, before us,
in this place, in every place,
for this time, for all time,

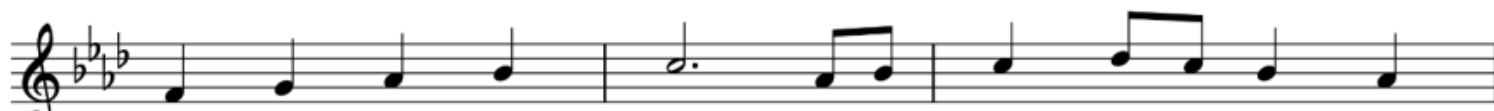
All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Opening Hymn: #105 (Common Praise) "Where Jordan Cuts the Wilderness"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Where Jor - dan cuts the wil - der - ness, a
2. There comes a day of har - vest - ing the
3. The her - i - tage of A - bra - ham means
4. Ex - ploit - ers of the poor and weak with
5. With wa - ter I bap - tize you now in



burn - ing voice now warns: "You brood of snakes, you
fruit of faith and love: the use - less culled, the
less than des - ert stones un - less we share our
rage and theft be done. Pre - pare the way of
read - i - ness for one whose Spir - it bathes, whose



hy - po - crites, pre - pare! Mes - si - ah comes.
e - vil purged, Pre - pare! Mes - si - ah comes.
need and wealth. Pre - pare! Mes - si - ah comes.
ho - li - ness, pre - pare! Mes - si - ah comes.
fire re - fines— pre - pare! Mes - si - ah comes."

Text: Brian Ruttan (1947-) ©. Music: MORNING SONG. Melody *Sixteen Tune Settings*, Philadelphia, 1812;
harm. C. Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Harm. © 1940, renewed 1981, The Church Pension Fund.

The Collect of the Day

Steven Mackison

Priest: God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Philippians 4. 4-7

Catherine Emerson

Reader: A Reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

One minute of silence is observed

Canticle: Song of Thanksgiving (#361, Common Praise)

Redeemer Music Team

1. Sure - ly it is God who saves me; I shall trust and
2. Make God's deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex -
have no fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his
alt - ed name. Praise the Lord who has done great things; all his
sav - ing help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter
works God's might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing;
from sal - va - tion's heal - ing spring; in the day of your de -
for with you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the
liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Text: Song of Thanksgiving (Isaiah 12.2-6); par. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944-). Para. © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Music: ECCE, DEUS, Alfred V. Fedak (1953-). © 1990 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

One minute of silence is observed

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.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 3.7-18

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

Homily: Paul MacLean

Prayers of the People:

Christina Chang

Leader: As we continue our Advent journey, may we open our minds and hearts to welcome Jesus in new and deeper ways into our lives and into the world.

Emmanuel, help us to keep a holy Advent. As we wait for your coming anew into our midst, help us to draw closer to you and to each other. Help us to see the blessings of your presence.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: With open hearts, we pray,

People: **Come, Lord Jesus**

Leader: With tear-stained cheeks, we see the suffering and pain in our communities. We pray for comfort and strength and healing for all in need. We hold close to our hearts refugees and displaced peoples, victims of violence, war, racism, and gender-based violence. May we be a community of welcome and rest.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: With open hearts, we pray,

People: **Come, Lord Jesus**

Leader: With hope filled hearts, we seek your peace and justice. We pray for an end to war and strife, for the protection of civilians, for soldiers, and for all who have died in conflicts. We pray for healing for the planet that is in peril. May we be advocates for peace and kin of creation.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: With open hearts, we pray,

***People:* Come, Lord Jesus**

Leader: With faith-filled spirits, we pray for our Redeemer Community and the Common Table. We pray for vision, faith, courage, and perseverance. May our community and ministry be a beacon of hope for all seekers who come to Redeemer, either online or in person.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: With open hearts, we pray,

***People:* Come, Lord Jesus**

Leader: With wearied souls, we pray for all those close to our hearts. We pray for those who are ill, isolated, homeless, afraid. May we be a source of comfort and care.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: With open hearts, we pray,

***People:* Come, Lord Jesus**

Leader: Emmanuel we long for you. We long for your kingdom. Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

***People:* Amen.**

The Peace

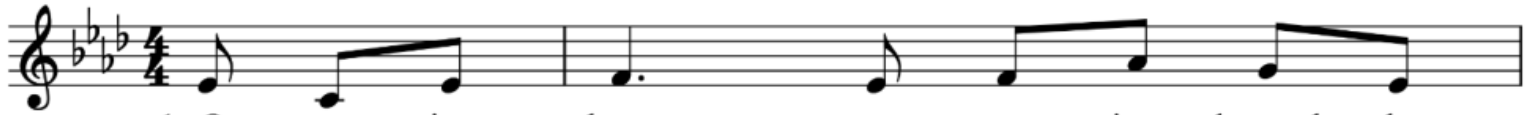
Steven Mackison

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

***People:* And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: #329 (Gather) "Within Our Hearts Be Born"

Redeemer Music Team



1. O an - cient love, pro - cess - ing through the
2. O home - less love, that dwells a - mong the
3. O gen - tle love, car - ess - ing those in
4. O suf - fring love, that bears our hu - man



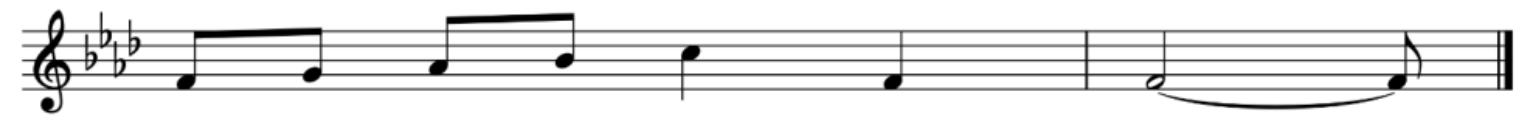
a - ges: O hid - den love, re - vealed in hu - man
stran - ger: O low - ly love, that knows the might - y's
sor - row: O ten - der love, that com - forts those for -
weak - ness: O bound - less love, that ris - es with the



form: O prom - ised love, the dream of seers and
scorn: O hun - gry love, that lay with - in a
lorn: O hope - ful love, that prom - is - es to -
morn: O might - y love, con - cealed in in - fant



sa - ges:
man - ger: O liv - ing Love, with - in our hearts be born, O liv - ing
mor - row:
meek - ness:



Love, with - in our hearts be borne.

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.

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.**



1. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
 2. No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
 3. No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
 4. Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
 No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
 No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
 Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King, Hal-le-
 No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
 No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
 Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,



lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal-le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch. Tune: Andraé Crouch © 1976, Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music/ASCAP

The Dismissal

Paige Souter

Priest: Go forth in joy and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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Prayers of the People written by Paige Souter. Cover art by Yani Feng.

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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, December 15 (Advent 3)

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

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

7:00 PM - Bach Vespers Cantata 191 (in the Church and through YouTube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Sunday, December 22 (Advent 4)

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

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

7:00 PM – Blue Christmas (in the Church and through YouTube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US

Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

3:00 PM – Cozy Christmas (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)

10:30 PM - Carols, Procession & Solemn Sung Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

10:30 AM - Christmas Day Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)