



ROCK  
EUCHARIST

THE MUSIC  
OF DAVID  
BOWIE

SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 22  
2024,  
AT 7:00 P.M.

The Church  
of the  
Redeemer

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Toronto, ON  
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**Opening Song: “Changes”** (*David Bowie*)

*Led by the Musicians*

Still don't know what I was waitin' for  
And my time was runnin' wild  
A million dead end streets and  
Every time I thought I'd got it made  
It seemed the taste was not so sweet

So I turned myself to face me but I've never caught a glimpse  
How the others must see the faker, I'm much too fast to take that test

Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange. Ch-ch-changes  
Don't want to be a richer man  
Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange. Ch-ch-changes  
There's gonna have to be a different man  
Time may change me but I can't trace time

I watch the ripples change their size  
But never leave the stream of warm impermanence  
And so the days float through my eyes  
But still the days seem the same

And these children that you spit on  
As they try to change their worlds  
Are immune to your consultations  
They're quite aware of what they're goin' through

Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange. Ch-ch-changes  
Don't tell them to grow up and out of it  
Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange. Ch-ch-changes  
Where's your shame? You've left us up to our necks in it  
Time may change me but you can't trace time

Strange fascinations fascinate me  
Changes are taking the pace I'm goin' through

Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange. Ch-ch-changes  
Ooh, look out, you rock 'n' rollers  
Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes. Turn and face the strange. Ch-ch-changes  
Pretty soon now you're gonna get older  
Time may change me but I can't trace time  
I said that time may change me but I can't trace time

## **The Gathering of the Community**

*Please rise, as you are able*

*Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

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

### **Collect of the Day**

*Priest:* Almighty and everliving God,  
you revealed the incarnation of your Son  
by the brilliant shining of a star.  
Shine the light of your justice in our hearts and over all lands,  
and accept our lives as the treasure we offer  
in your praise and for your service;  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,

*All:* **Amen.**

### **The First Reading:**

*Please be seated*

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion - to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Isaiah 61.1-3

*All:* **Thanks be to God**

### **Sequence Song: "Rock'n'Roll Suicide" (David Bowie)**

*Led by the Musicians*

Time takes a cigarette, puts it in your mouth  
You pull on your finger, then another finger, then your cigarette  
The wall-to-wall is calling, it lingers, then you forget  
Oh oh, oh, oh, you're a rock 'n' roll suicide  
  
You're too old to lose it, too young to choose it  
And the clock waits so patiently on your song  
You walk past a cafe but you don't eat when you've lived too long  
Oh, no, no, no, you're a rock 'n' roll suicide

Chev brakes are snarling as you stumble across the road  
But the day breaks instead so you hurry home  
Don't let the sun blast your shadow  
Don't let the milk float ride your mind  
You're so natural – religiously unkind

Oh no, love! You're not alone  
You're watching yourself but you're too unfair  
You got your head all tangled up  
But if I could only make you care

Oh no, love! You're not alone  
No matter what or who you've been  
No matter when or where you've seen  
All the knives seem to lacerate your brain  
I've had my share, I'll help you with the pain  
You're not alone!

Just turn on with me and you're not alone  
Let's turn on and be not alone (wonderful)  
Gimme your hands 'cause you're wonderful (wonderful). Oh, gimme your hands

## **The Gospel**

*Please rise, as you are able*

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life.’

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

John 14.1-6a

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

**Homily:** Steven Mackison

*Please be seated*

*A moment of silence is observed.*

## The Prayers of the People

*Please rise, as you are able*

*Leader:* Let us pray to God, who bears the burdens we cannot.  
Holy One, help us to act with courage, to speak the truth with love.  
Empty our lives of all that separates us from you and one another,  
that the church may be  
God of abundant compassion,

*We pause and offer our own prayers silently or aloud*

*Leader:* When you take my burdens from me,

**All: I shall be released.**

*Leader:* We pray for the world. Sovereign One, we pray for all nations overshadowed by conflict, war, want, and injustice. Reconcile us to your creation and plant in our hearts the desire to cultivate peace in the world and in our lives.

*We pause and offer our own prayers silently or aloud*

*Leader:* When you take my burdens from me,

**All: I shall be released.**

*Leader:* We pray for the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the lost. Healing One, we pray for all who are facing a time of trial. Mend all that is broken in our fragile lives and restore us to wholeness:

*We pause and offer our own prayers silently or aloud*

*Leader:* When you take my burdens from me,

**All: I shall be released.**

*Leader:* We pray for those who have died. Risen One, receive them into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Let your embrace enfold those who mourn and assure them of your promise of eternal life with you.

*We pause and offer our own prayers silently or aloud*

*Leader:* When you take my burdens from me,

**All: I shall be released.**

*Leader:* Gracious God, in the depths of your compassion for us, you have given us the gift of your Son. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end.

**All: Amen.**

## The Peace

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

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

**Offering Song:** “Under Pressure” (*David Bowie/Queen*)

*Led by the Musicians*

Pressure pushin' down on me  
Pressin' down on you, no man ask for  
Under pressure that brings a building down  
Splits a family in two, puts people on streets

That's the terror of knowing what this world is about  
Watchin' some good friends screamin', "Let me out"  
Pray tomorrow gets me higher  
Pressure on people, people on streets

Chippin' around, kick my brains 'round the floor  
These are the days it never rains but it pours. People on streets. People on streets

It's the terror of knowing what this world is about  
Watching some good friends screaming, "Let me out"  
Pray tomorrow gets me higher, higher, high  
Pressure on people, people on streets

Turned away from it all like a blind man  
Sat on the fence but it don't work  
Keep comin' up with love but it's so slashed and torn  
Why, why, why? Love  
Insanity laughs under pressure we're breaking

Can't we give ourselves one more chance?  
Why can't we give love that one more chance?  
Why can't we give love, give love, give love, give love  
Give love, give love, give love, give love?

'Cause love's such an old-fashioned word  
And love dares you to care for  
The people on the edge of the night  
And love dares you to change our way of  
Caring about ourselves  
This is our last dance. This is our last dance  
This is ourselves. Under pressure. Under pressure. Pressure



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## **The Celebration of the Eucharist**

### **The Preparation of the Gifts**

*The table is set with bread and wine making the Eucharistic meal for the gathered community.  
Please join in with the musicians as this activity takes place.*

### **The Prayer over the Gifts**

*Priest:* Gracious God,  
accept the offering of your Church,  
the hearts of your people  
joined in praise and thanksgiving,  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving:** *(Episcopal Church, Enriching Our Worship 1, EP #2)*

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **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.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

*Priest:* 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.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

*Priest:* 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 say:

*All:* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Priest:* Glory and honor 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  
favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son,  
Jesus the holy child of God.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

*Priest:* 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.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

*Priest:* 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."

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**



*Priest:* 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.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

*Priest:* 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.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

*All:* **We could be heroes, just for one day.**

### **Common Prayer** (*St. Hilda paraphrase*)

*Priest:* Together we 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.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Priest:* We break this bread,

*All:* **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

*Priest:* Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

*All:* **If we have died with him, we shall live with him;  
if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.**

*Priest:* The gifts of God, for the people of God.

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

## Spiritual 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. Many are made one.

## Prayer of Reception

*One:* Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,  
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present to all your people  
in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.  
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love; Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy.  
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

*Bread and wine will be brought out to the community. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please ask.*

**Communion Song: "Heroes"** (*David Bowie / Brian Eno*)

*Led by the Musicians*

I, I will be king and you, you will be queen though nothing will drive them away  
We can beat them, just for one day. We can be heroes, just for one day

And you, you can be mean and I, I'll drink all the time  
'Cause we're lovers, and that is a fact yes we're lovers, and that is that

Though nothing will keep us together We could steal time just for one day  
We can be heroes for ever and ever What d'you say?

I, I wish you could swim Like the dolphins, like dolphins can swim  
Though nothing, nothing will keep us together  
We can beat them, for ever and ever Oh we can be Heroes, just for one day

I, I will be king and you, you will be queen though nothing will drive them away  
We can be Heroes, just for one day. We can be us, just for one day

I, I can remember (I remember) Standing, by the wall (by the wall)  
And the guns, shot above our heads (over our heads)  
And we kissed, as though nothing could fall (nothing could fall)

And the shame, was on the other side  
Oh we can beat them, for ever and ever. Then we could be Heroes, just for one day

We can be Heroes. We can be Heroes. We can be Heroes. Just for one day  
We can be Heroes. We're nothing, and nothing will help us  
Maybe we're lying, then you better not stay. But we could be safer, just for one day  
Oh-oh-oh-ohh, oh-oh-oh-ohh, just for one day

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Please rise, as you are able*

*Priest:* God of all the nations of the earth,  
guide us with your light.  
Help us to recognize Christ as he comes to us  
in this eucharist and in our neighbours.  
May we welcome him with love,  
for he is Lord now and for ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

*Priest:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

*All:* **Thank be to God. Alleluia!**

### **Closing Song: “Space Oddity”** *(David Bowie)*

*Led by the Musicians*

Ground control to Major Tom  
Ground control to Major Tom  
Take your protein pills and put your helmet on (ten)  
Ground control to Major Tom (nine, eight, seven, six)  
Commencing countdown, engines on (five, four, three, two)  
Check ignition, and may God's love be with you (one, lift off)

This is ground control to Major Tom  
You've really made the grade  
And the papers want to know whose shirts you wear  
Now it's time to leave the capsule, if you dare

This is Major Tom to ground control  
I'm stepping through the door  
And I'm floating in the most peculiar way  
And the stars look very different today

For here am I sittin' in my tin can  
Far above the world  
Planet Earth is blue  
And there's nothing I can do

Though I'm past one hundred thousand miles  
I'm feeling very still  
And I think my spaceship knows which way to go  
Tell my wife I love her very much, she knows  
Ground control to Major Tom  
Your circuit's dead, there's something wrong  
Can you hear me, Major Tom?  
Can you hear me, Major Tom?  
Can you hear me, Major Tom, can you?  
Here am I floating 'round my tin can  
Far above the moon  
Planet Earth is blue  
And there's nothing I can do

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The cover image by artist Himura-mechniza is courtesy of deviantart.com.

**We are grateful for our musicians this evening:**

Dylan Bell: bass, vocals

Mike Daley: guitar, vocals

Jill Daley: piano

Dean Drouillard: guitar, vocals

Dan Norman: keyboard, percussion, vocals