



TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:
162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4
office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 •
www.theredeemer.ca

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.

Steven Mackison, Presider

Margaret Rodrigues, Deacon

Bishop Riscylla Shaw, Preacher

Cantabile Chamber Singers – Cheryll Chung, Director

Morgan Yew, A/V Technician

Ann Cope, Liturgical Animator

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

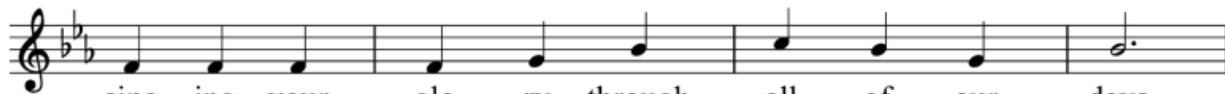
[facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO](https://www.facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO)

Opening Song: "God of Many Faces"

Please rise and sing



God of man-y fa - ces, we of - fer our praise,
God of man-y gen - ders, our world re - flects you,
God of man-y names, we in - vite you to show
God of man-y bod - ies, a - bide with - in ours,



sing - ing your glo - ry through all of our days.
sun - rise and sun - set u - ni - ting our hues,
us the new names that re - flect our true souls.
shift - ing more each day through time and through scars.



Hear ev - er grow - ing voi - ces, once fra - gile, now strong,
wo - ven in - to a ci - ty with jewels of all shades,
Breathe with your ho - ly spir - it to give us the Word
Come sanc - ti - fy our bod - ies, all fash - ioned by you,



car - ry - ing mel - o - dies in ex - pan - sive new songs.
hou - ses of ru - by and walls rowed with jade.
that will in - dwell dry bones, grant - ing new life once heard.
ho - li - er ev - ery - day, still be - com - ing more true.

Text: Amy Cerniglia. © 2019 Amy Cerniglia. Music: SLANE. Irish Melody, harm. Jack Schrader. Harmonization © 1989 Hope Publishing Co. Used with permission.

Opening Prayers

Priest: The grace of Jesus the Christ, and the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: Calm us, O God, as you stilled the storm.

All: **Still us, O God, keep us from harm.**

Priest: Let all the tumult within us cease.

All: **Enfold us, O God, in your peace.**

Priest: God of Mercy, hear our prayer for our transgender siblings, for our families, for ourselves, for all who live with painful experiences of loss, struggle and difficulties, and for those committed to helping them. We ask for strength for today, courage for tomorrow, and peace for the future. We ask these things in the name of your Christ, who shares our life in joy and sorrow, death and new birth, despair and promise.

All: **Amen.**

The First Reading:

Please be seated

Reader: A Reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Hear the word of Yhwh

The One who created you, Jacob,

The One who fashioned you, Israel:

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the seas, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, you shall not drown;

when you walk through fire you shall not be singed,

and the flame shall not burn you.

For I am Yhwh, your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your deliverance.

I give Egypt as ransom for you,

You are more precious to me than Assyria,

Because you are precious in my sight,

and honoured, and I love you.

... Do not be afraid, for I am with you.

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

Isaiah 43:1-5

People: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 139: "O God, you Search Me" (Bernadette Farrell)



1. O God, you search me and you know me. All my
2. You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
3. Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have
4. Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, Still I
5. For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, Gave me



thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I walk or lie down you are be -
cern my pur - pose from a - far. And with love ev - er - last - ing you be -
known its mean - ing through and through. You are with me be - yond my un - der -
search for shel - ter from your light. There is no - where on earth I can es -
life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the won - der of who I am, I



fore me: Ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
siege me: In ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
stand - ing: God of my pres - ent, my past and fu - ture, too.
cape you: E - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
praise you: Safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Text: Based on Psalm 139;
Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957.
Tune: Bernadette Farrell, b.
1957 © 1992, Bernadette
Farrell. Published by OCP.

The Gospel

Please rise, as you are able

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Don't let people intimidate you. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing is hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in darkness, speak in the light. What you hear in private, proclaim from the housetops.

Don't fear those who can deprive the body of life but can't destroy the soul....Are not the sparrows sold for pennies? Yet not a single sparrow falls to the ground without your Abba God's knowledge. As for you, every hair of your head has been counted. So don't be afraid of anything – you are worth more than an entire flock of sparrows.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 10:26-31

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

A moment of silence is observed.

Homily: The Rt. Rev'd Riscylla Shaw – Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

Please be seated

A moment of silence is observed.

Commemoration of the departed

Priest: We light this first candle to remember those transgender people we have loved and lost. We pause to remember their names, their faces, their voices, the memories that bind them to use in this season.

The first candle is lit

All: **May God's eternal love surround them.**

Priest: We light this second candle to redeem the pain of loss: the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health. We pause to gather up the pain of the past and offer it to God, asking that from God's hands we receive the gift of peace.

The second candle is lit

All: **Refresh, restore, renew us, O God, and lead us into your future.**

Priest: We light this third candle to remember ourselves. We pause to recall these past weeks and months: the hurt, the anger, the down times, the joy and sorrow of memories, the hugs and handshakes of family, friends, and those who help and care for us. We give thanks for all the support we have known.

The third candle is lit

All: Let us remember that after every night comes the dawn of a new day.

Priest: We light this fourth candle to remember our faith and the gift of hope that the story of Jesus offers to us. We remember that God who shares our life, promises us a place and time of no more violence, pain, and suffering.

The fourth candle is lit

All: Let us remember the One who shows us the way, who brings the truth and who bears the light.

The names of the departed are read aloud. You are invited to come forward to light a candle in remembrance of those who have struggled in this city, in Canada, and across the world, especially those you love but see no longer.

Song: “In manus tuas, Pater” (Taizé)

In ma-nus tu - as, Pa - ter, com - men-do spi-ri-tum me - um, in
ma-nus tu - as Pa - ter, com - men - do spi-ri-tum me - um. In

Priest: Hear us, O merciful God,
as we remember in love those whom we have placed in your hands.
Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold.
Enfold them in the arms of your mercy,
in the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

All: **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us now confidently ask God for the things we need.
For the children and young people struggling with their gender identities.
For ourselves in our personal journeys as we support each other and the trans
community in whatever way we can; God, hear our prayer...

All: **and in your mercy, answer.**

Leader: For our families and friends, that they may love, understand and support us; God,
hear our prayer...

All: **and in your mercy, answer.**

Leader: For trans people we have loved and known who have died, and for all the losses
that we know, that all may find new life in your everlasting promise; God, hear our
prayer...

All: **and in your mercy, answer.**

Leader: For all our friends, service providers, advocates and supporters, that they may
know love, peace, and happiness in you; God, hear our prayer...

All: **and in your mercy, answer.**

Leader: For the peace proclaimed by the Christmas angels to spread throughout the whole
world; God, hear our prayer...

All: **and in your mercy, answer.**

Leader: God of great compassion and love, listen to the prayers of your people. Grant to
all, especially the struggling and troubled ones in our neighbourhood, and in our
city, the blessing we ask in the name of Christ.

All: **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**



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.

Offering Song: #59 (Sing a New Creation) “Those Hearts that We have Treasured”

All sing



1. Those hearts that we have treasured, those lives that we have
2. They still give hope and comfort, they did not lose the
3. From hearts that we have treasured, from lives that we have



shared, those loves that walked beside us, those friends for
fight, they showed us truth and goodness, they shine in -
shared, from loves that walked beside us, from friends for



whom we've cared— their blessing rests upon us, their
to our night. Remember days of gladness, re -
whom we've cared, we've learned to treasure kindness, we've



ver, their spirits are set free.
ments that grief can not destroy.
er, we've learned that love abides.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Prayer over the Gifts

Priest: Gracious and righteous Lord,
we are united in the love of Jesus Christ.
Accept all we offer you this day,
and bring us, with all your faithful people
who have gone before us, into his eternal glory;
who is Lord, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving:



The Lord be with you. **And al-so with you.**



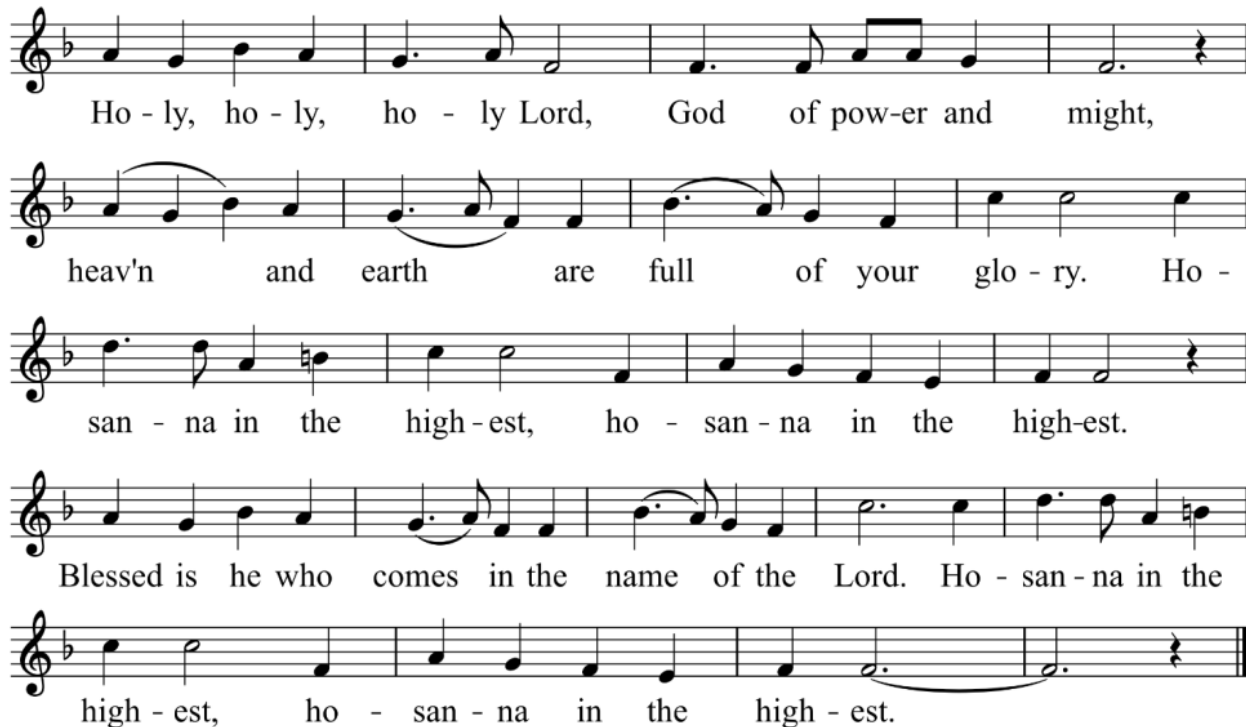
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**



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

Priest: Holy God of wonder,
you created light that shines
with the splendour of your glory.
Through Noah you made your promise
to love all humanity no matter what
by revealing the breadth of your compassion
in all the colours of the rainbow.
Therefore, in union with all you have created under heaven,
we raise our voices in this unending hymn:

Sanctus:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (1937-2010). © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

Priest:

Holy One,
through your people you revealed your will
that loving you alone leads us to love our neighbours.
When your people were rejected and neglected
you sent prophets to call them back to you
and to welcome all at tables where bread, wine, and friendship were blessed.

In Jesus of Nazareth,
you embraced all persons in their human dignity,
and you forgave us for our failure to see your image in all genders, all sexualities,
and in the beautiful diversity in which you fashioned us.

Through your beloved and chosen one
you suffered in solidarity with the rejected,
and you inspire us, in this moment,
to celebrate love in all its wonderful forms,
filling us with pride and gratitude
for being born as we are,
and for being made new in your endless grace.

Priest: On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave you thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in the remembrance of me.
As we are made one body in you,
so we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Priest: Send now your life-giving Spirit
upon this gathering of queer and straight, wondering and wonderful.
Shine in us and reveal the arc of your love
in the colours of our varied lives.

Sanctify this bread and wine
so that, as we are blessed in Christ here and now,
we may have the courage and strength
to reach out to those feeling unloved,
to advocate for those still facing rejection,
and to seek justice, reconciliation, and healing for all.

Unite us at this table of grace,
so that each of us knows that we are cherished by you,
and called to love each of your beloved.

God of diversity,
receive our offering as Jesus received each of us, with gratitude and joy.

Feed us with hope that we may continue our journey
of loving whom we love and seeking your justice
until all creation shines with your praise.

Creator of all, we pray to you
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

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: This is the bread which has come down from heaven.

People: **Those who eat this bread will live for ever.**

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.

*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.



*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.

Intinction is the practice of dipping the bread or wafer into the wine when receiving communion. This practice is not allowed in churches in the Diocese of Toronto, including the Church of the Redeemer, for health and safety reasons.

Communion Hymn: "For Those Who Suffered"

All sing



1. For those who suf - fered lives of sil - ent shame,
2. For those who found no peace in wor - ship pews,
3. For those who tossed on dark and rest - less nights,
4. For those who bear un - want - ed scars on skin,



for those whose plea - sure held their deep - est pain:
for those who suf - fered word and pow'r ab - used:
for those who slum - bered un - der al - ley lights:
for those who know no name for love but sin:



Dry off their cheeks, wipe up their tears. Grant them, Lord, e -
Make them your saints and draw them near. Grant them, Lord, e -
Lay them to rest, their bat - tles fought. Grant them, Lord, e -
Lord, bless these wounds, O ho - ly scars! Grant them, Lord, e -



ter - nal joy. O grant them, Lord, e - ter - nal joy.
ter - nal peace. O grant them, Lord, e - ter - nal peace.
ter - nal sleep. O grant them, Lord, e - ter - nal sleep.
ter - nal life. O grant them, Lord, e - ter - nal life.

Motet: “My Heart be Brave” (*Marques L.A. Garrett / James Weldon Johnson*)

My heart be brave, and do not falter so,
Nor utter more that deep, despairing wail.
Thy way is very dark and drear I know,
But do not let thy strength and courage fail;
For certain as the raven-winged night
Is followed by the bright and blushing morn,
Thy coming morrow will be clear and bright;
'Tis darkest when the night is furthest worn.
Look up, and out, beyond, surrounding clouds,
And do not in thine own gross darkness grope,
Rise up, and casting off thy hind'ring shrouds,
Cling thou to this, and ever inspiring hope:
 Tho' thick the battle and tho' fierce the fight,
 There is a power in making for the right.

Prayer after Communion

Please rise, as you are able

Priest: God of love,
 may the death and resurrection of Christ,
 which we celebrate in this eucharist,
 bring us, with the faithful departed,
 into the peace of your eternal home.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
 our hope and our salvation.

All: Amen.

Blessing

Bishop: May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation, so that you may wish for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

All: Amen.

Closing Song: #297 (Common Praise) "God Give us Life"

All rise and sing



1. God give us life when all a-round spells death and some have died; and
2. God give us love in heart and hand to hold the hurt - ing one, to
3. God give us skill, in - sight, and will to find, where none are sure, new
4. God give us faith, should all else fail and death un - sheath its sting. O
5. Then, in the end, make death a friend, and give us strength to stand and



none are clear that hope is near or fate can be de - fied.
free the an - ger, meet the need, and wait till wait-ing's done.
threads to mend the web of life, new means to heal and cure.
help us hear, through pain and fear, the songs that an - gels sing.
walk to where no eye can stare, but Christ can clasp our hand.

Text and music: John L. Bell (1949-). © 1989 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland). Used by permission of GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive agent.

Dismissal

Priest: Go with the spirit of love to seek justice and to live in peace with all creation.

All: **Thank be to God.**
