



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 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

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: Paige Souter

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

Paige Souter

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: #101 (Common Praise) "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er
2. He shall come down likes show - ers up - on the fruit - ful
3. Kings shall fall down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense
4. O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall



Son! Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be -
earth, and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to
bring; all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple
rest, from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all -



gun! He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
birth. Be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace the her - ald
sing. To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -
blest. The tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
go, and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
cend, his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
move. His name shall stand for - ev - er: that name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Music: CRÜGER. Melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); adapt. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

The Collect of the Day

Paige Souter

Priest: God of timeless grace,
you fill us with joyful expectation:
make us ready for the message that prepares the way,
so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy
we may eagerly await the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: Malachi 3.1-4

Heather Bennett

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

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

Song of Zechariah (Canticle 19) *(George Black)*

Redeemer Music Team

Refrain

The dawn from on high shall break up - on us.

Blessed be the Most High, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.
You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of your servant David. **Refrain**

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,
to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant. **Refrain**

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship you without fear,
holy and righteous before you,
all the days of our life. **Refrain**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before God to prepare the way,
to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins. **Refrain**

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **Refrain**

A period of silence is observed

The Gospel

Steven Mackison

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.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 3.1-6

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

Homily: Margaret Rodrigues

Prayers of the People:

Murray Bryant

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 in the chat box.

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 in the chat box.

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 in the chat box.

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 into Redeemer, either online or in person.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat box.

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 in the chat box.

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

Paige Souter

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

People: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: #106 (Common Praise) "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"

Redeemer Music Team



1. There's a voice in the wil-der-ness cry-ing, a call from the ways un-
2. O Zi-on, give voice to good tid-ings, as-cend to the heights and
3. But your word, O God, is faith-ful, your arm, O Lord, is
4. There's a voice in the wil-der-ness cry-ing, a call from the ways un-



trod: pre-pare in the des-ert a high-way, a high-way for our
sing! Pro-claim to a des-o-late peo-ple the com-ing of their
strong; you stand in the midst of na-tions, and you will right the
trod: pre-pare in the des-ert a high-way, a high-way for our



God! The val-leys shall be ex-alt-ed, the
King. The works of pride all per-ish, like
wrong. You will feed your flock like a shep-herd, and
God! The val-leys shall be ex-alt-ed, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
flowers they shall de - cay; the power and pomp of
fold the lambs to your breast; in pas - tures of peace you'll
lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed

plac - es where the Lord our God may go!
na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.
lead them, and give to the wea - ry rest.
plac - es where the Lord our God may go!

Text: Is.40.3-11; para. James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: ASCENSION. Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988). Used by permission of Eldred Bancroft. © Estate of Henry Hugh Bancroft.

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

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

Paige Souter

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.**

Departing Hymn: "Takin it to the Streets" (Michael McDonald)

Redeemer Music Team

You don't know me but I'm your brother
I was raised here in this living hell
You don't know my kind in your world
Fairly soon, the time will tell

You telling me the things you're gonna do for me
I ain't blind and I don't like what I think I see

**Takin' it to the streets
Takin' it to the streets
Takin' it to the streets
Takin' it to the streets**

Take this message to my brother
You will find him everywhere
Wherever people live together
Tied in poverty's despair

You telling me the things you're gonna do for me
I ain't blind and I don't like what I think I see

**Takin' it to the streets
Takin' it to the streets
Takin' it to the streets
Takin' it to the streets**

The Dismissal

Steven Mackison

Priest: Go forth in peace 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 8 (Advent 2)

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

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

Saturday, December 14

2:00 PM - Church of the Redeemer's annual "Christmas in the City" event to support The Common Table

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)